

**BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEETING**

10:55 A.M., September 28, 2020

Digital Meeting Only

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency and the need to provide social distancing and prohibit large gatherings, the meeting was held electronically in accordance with the State of Emergency Declared by the Governor and the 2020 amendments to the Appropriations Act. The meeting was held via Google Meet.

Members Present

Sonny Abbasi
Claudia Cotton
Susan Dewey
Sean Farrell
Andrew Friedman
Richard Gregory
Sylvia Hallock
Mark Jackson
Abigail Johnson
Keith Johnson
Monique Johnson
Brett Meringoff

Members Absent

Mimi Elrod
Patricia “Patty” Shields

Call to Order

Mr. Sonny Abbasi, Vice Chair of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting of the Board to order at 10:55 a.m. It was noted that the meeting was being recorded.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Mr. Kyle Flanders of the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (DHCD) Policy Office. Mr. Flanders reported that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Meringoff and properly seconded by Mr. Farrell to approve the minutes of the June 26th, 2020 Board of Housing and Community Development meeting. The motion passed. (Yeas: Abbasi, Dewey, Farrell, Friedman, Gregory, A. Johnson, K. Johnson, Meringoff; Nays: None; Abstentions: Cotton, Hallock, Jackson, M. Johnson; No-Votes: None)

Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, welcomed new Board members Claudia Cotton, Sylvia Hallock, Mark Jackson, and

Monique Johnson. Mr. Johnston also congratulated the newly reappointed Mr. Richard Gregory. Each Board member gave a brief introduction of themselves.

Mr. Johnston opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Board. Mr. Meringoff nominated Mr. Abbasi for the position of Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Farrell. Hearing no further nominations, the floor was closed. Mr. Abbasi was elected as Chair. (Yeas: Abbasi, Cotton, Dewey, Farrell, Friedman, Gregory, Hallock, Jackson, A. Johnson, K. Johnson, M. Johnson, Meringoff; No-Votes: None)

Mr. Abbasi opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Board. Mr. Abbasi nominated Mr. Meringoff for the position of Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Farrell. Hearing no further nominations, the floor was closed. Mr. Meringoff was elected as Vice Chair. (Yeas: Abbasi, Cotton, Dewey, Farrell, Friedman, Gregory, Hallock, Jackson, A. Johnson, K. Johnson, M. Johnson, Meringoff; No-Votes: None)

Mr. Abbasi appointed Mr. Friedman as the Chair of the Housing and Community Development Committee. Mr. Abbasi appointed Mr. Meringoff as the Chair of the Codes and Standards Committee. Mr. Abbasi appointed Mr. Meringoff to the Statewide Fire Prevention Code Development Committee. Mr. Abbasi asked members to contact Director Johnston and himself if they are interested in pursuing leadership appointments in the future.

Report of the Housing and Community Development Committee

Mr. Friedman, Chair of the Housing and Community Development Committee, indicated that the Committee adopted a modification to the Enterprise Zone regulations. This modification comes as a standing motion from the Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farrell. The motion passed. (Yeas: Abbasi, Cotton, Dewey, Farrell, Friedman, Gregory, Hallock, Jackson, A. Johnson, K. Johnson, M. Johnson, Meringoff; No-Votes: None)

Code Cycle Update

Ms. Cindy Davis, Deputy Director of the Division of Building and Fire Regulations gave an overview of the Code Development Cycle.

Reports and Information	<p>Ms. Susan Dewey, Chief Executive Officer of Virginia Housing, gave updates on changes to the Rent and Mortgage Relief Program, a report on a state housing tax credit program, and the name change from Virginia Housing Development Authority to Virginia Housing.</p> <p>Mr. Gregory and Mr. Johnson provided updates from the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB).</p> <p>Mr. Johnston updated the Board on a study DHCD and Virginia Housing are working on looking at housing affordability and availability, the Stay Home Virginia website, and the Rent and Mortgage Relief Program.</p>
Unfinished Business	<p>There was no unfinished business.</p>
New Business	<p>There was no new business.</p>
Board Matters	<p>There were no additional Board matters.</p>
Future Board Meeting Dates	<p>Mr. Johnston noted that the next Board meeting will take place on October 19th, at 10:00 a.m.</p>
Adjournment	<p>Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.</p>