

BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Regular Meeting
MEETING
10:35 A.M., May 13, 2019
Glen Allen, Virginia

Members Present

Sonny Abbasi
J.P. Carr
Susan Dewey
Mimi Elrod
Sean Farrell
Andrew Friedman
Richard Gregory
Abby Johnson
Earl Reynolds
Jeff Sadler
Steve Semones
Patty Shield

Members Absent

Helen Hardiman
Keith Johnson

Call to Order

Mr. J.P. Carr, Chairman of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

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.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2019, meeting of the Board; the motion passed.

Report of the Housing and
Community Development
Committee

Mr. Andrew Friedman, Vice-Chairman of the Housing and Community Development Committee presented the recommendation of the committee that the Annual Action Plan be approved by the Board. There was no discussion on the item. The recommendation of the committee passed.

Mr. Friedman presented a recommendation of the Housing and Community Development committee that changes to Enterprise Zone regulations be adopted by the Board. There was no discussion on the item. The recommendation of the committee passed.

Regulation Reviews

Mr. Flanders gave a brief overview of the periodic reviews of regulation being considered by the Board.

There was no discussion on the periodic review of the Virginia Standards for Individual and Regional Code Academies. A motion was made and properly seconded to retain the regulation without amendment. The motion passed.

There was no discussion on the periodic review of the Solar Energy Criteria for Tax Exemption. A motion was made and properly seconded to retain the regulation without amendment. The motion passed.

Mr. Flanders advised the Board that while there had not been comment provided regarding the Public Participation Guidelines, there was a change to state code that should be incorporated into the regulations. Mr. Flanders advised that the change would not affect existing processes and could be accomplished via the Fast Track process. A motion was made and properly seconded to recommend proceeding with amending the regulation to incorporate the legislative change. The motion passed.

Amusement Technical Board Advisory Committee Vacancy

Mr. Jeff Brown, Director of the State Building Codes Office, reported that there was a vacancy on the Amusement Device Technical Advisory Committee. He noted that two resumes had been received for this vacancy: Mr. David Bowie of Busch Gardens and Mr. Wayne Fuqua of Kings Dominion. Mr. Brown stated that staff supported the committee's recommendation of selecting Mr. Fuqua to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Sonny Abbasi inquired about the rationale for choosing Mr. Fuqua over Mr. Bowie. Mr. Brown offered that both applicants were well qualified for the position and had similar resumes. Mr. Fuqua was recommended by the departing committee member of whom he would be replacing.

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Wayne Fuqua to the vacant position. The motion passed.

Code Cycle Update

Ms. Cindy Davis, Deputy Director of Building and Fire Regulation at DHCD noted that several workgroup meetings had been consolidated due to the low number of submissions to consider. Ms. Davis noted that there had been approximately 20 submissions to cdpVA (online code development forum) to this point. Mr. Carr inquired as to when the Board could expect to receive these submissions for consideration. Ms. Davis stated that staff hopes to have these changes ready for Board consideration by September or October.

Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, informed the Board that the emergency regulation on cooling that the Board adopted in the previous meeting was now awaiting approval at the Governor's Office.

Mr. Flanders informed the Board that the Notices of Intended Regulatory Action considered in March were now out for public comment.

VHDA Report

Ms. Susan Dewey, Executive Director of the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), reported that the VHDA was investigating ways to incorporate various innovative housing solutions into their programs. These solutions will be explored at the upcoming HousingX Conference.

VFSB Report

Mr. Friedman noted that there had been no new meeting for the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) since the last Board meeting.

Mr. Carr noted that Mr. Friedman would be stepping away from the Fire Services Board and asked Board members to contact him if they were interested in serving in this role

Report of the Director

Mr. Johnston introduced the new Legislative and Board Affairs Coordinator at the DHCD, Cody Anderson. He offered a thank you to all staff and board members in accordance with Public Service Month, Community Development Month, Business Appreciation Month, and Building Safety Month. Mr. Johnston announced to the Board that the DHCD had recently launched its new website, and thanked staff for the considerable work done on the project.

Mr. Johnston announced that the DHCD had recently partnered with Virginia Community Capital on the Virginia Opportunity Zone Marketplace. Mr. Johnston announced to the Board an increase in funding to the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI), up to \$19 million.

Mr. Johnston thanked Chairman Carr for his service as Chair of the Board, noting that he was subject to term limits and that a new chair would need be elected at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Dewey asked if the DHCD had done any research into remote attendance options for future Board meetings.

Mr. Johnston and Mr. Flanders responded that the DHCD had explored remote meeting options with the GO Virginia Board and the Commission on Local Government. Mr. Johnston and Mr. Flanders noted that were a number of additional requirements in order to allow remote participation in Board meetings.

Mr. Sean Farrell inquired about the system for electing a new chair for the Board. Mr. Johnston relayed that, as Secretary to the Board, he would open the next meeting, at which point, he would open the floor for nominations for the next chairman.

New Business

There was no new business to be discussed.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.