

**BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEETING
October 25, 2021
10:27 A.M.
Virginia Housing Headquarters
Richmond, VA**

Members Present

Sonny Abbasi
Claudia Cotton
Susan Dewey
Sylvia Hallock
Abigail Johnson
Keith Johnson
Monique Johnson
Brett Meringoff
Mark Jackson
Paykon Sarmadi
Patty Shields
Sean Farrell

Members Absent

Andrew Friedman
Richard Gregory

Call to Order

Mr. Sonny Abbasi, Chair of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting of the Board to order at 10:27 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

Mr. Abbasi opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. William Penniman, representing the Sierra Club, spoke regarding the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action. He indicated recommendations on the appropriate statutory authority citations for the Uniform Statewide Building Code

Mr. Bob Shippee, representing the Sierra Club, spoke of the importance of implementing House Bill 2227 and encouraged the full adoption of the International Energy Conservation Code.

Delegate Kaye Kory provided brief comments during a later portion of the meeting. Delegate Kory noted to the Board the provisions of HB 2227 regarding energy efficiency.

Consent Agenda	A motion was made by Mr. Johnson and properly seconded by Ms. Abby Johnson to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2021 Board of Housing and Community Development meeting. The motion passed. Mr. Sean Farrell abstained.
Report of the Codes and Standards Committee	<p>Mr. Brett Meringoff, Committee Chair, presented the committee recommendations of approval of the Notices of Intended Regulatory Action. The recommendations came as standing motions.</p> <p>Mr. Keith Johnson seconded to approve the NOIRA for the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC). The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Mr. Sean Farrell seconded to approve the NOIRA for the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC). The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Mr. Sean Farrell seconded to approve the NOIRA for the, Industrialized Building Safety Regulations (IBSR). The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Mr. Mark Jackson seconded to approve the NOIRA for the Virginia Amusement Device Regulations (VADR). The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Code Cycle Policy	<p>Ms. Cindy Davis, Deputy Director of Building and Fire Regulation at DHCD presented the Stakeholder Code Change Submission Policy. Ms. Davis noted Mr. Sean Farrell had also provided recommended amendments.</p> <p>Mr. Sean Farrell made a motion to approve the policy as amended. Mr. Keith Johnson seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.</p>
Code Change Cycle Update	Ms. Davis presented updates regarding the start of the code change cycle noting the tentative schedule had changed. There was discussion regarding upcoming study groups and subworkgroups.

Reports and Information

Ms. Susan Dewey, Chief Executive Officer of Virginia Housing, updated the Board on funding scheduled to be received by Virginia Housing from the American Rescue Plan Act. Funding from the Act will be utilized to prevent foreclosure and displacement of homeowners and Virginia's Plan has been submitted for review to the US Treasury. Ms. Dewey also noted upcoming updates to the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. Ms. Dewey provided an update on the Housing Opportunity Tax Credit noting that the Virginia Housing Board of Commissioner's would consider rules and regulations for the program at their October meeting. Ms. Dewey also noted Virginia Housing's REACH grants for Planning District Commissions (PDCs) and Public Housing Authorities (PHAs).

Mr. Keith Johnson presented an update from the Virginia Fire Service Board (VFSB). He noted the Board met in September. He also note that the VFSB has approved a draft version of a new Memorandum of Agreement between the VFSB and the BHCD. Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, noted that the MOA was received by staff and a plan for review and discussion will be brought forward in the future in discussion with the Chair.

Mr. Johnston noted that Sandra Powell will become the new Senior Deputy of the Housing and Community Development Division. Mr. Johnston noted that DHCD budget proposals are currently available on the Department of Planning and Budget website. Mr. Johnston also noted that Virginia hosted the Appalachian Regional Commission annual meeting this year in St. Paul and Abingdon.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Abbasi thanked Ms. Monique Johnson for her service. Mr. Abbasi updated the Board on his leadership position appointments indicating that the Codes and Standards Committee would have Mr. Meringoff as Chair and Ms. Claudia Cotton as Vice-Chair. Mr. Friedman will continue as Chair of the Housing and Community Development Committee. Mr. Meringoff will continue as Chair of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code

Development Committee with Mr. Abbasi and Mr. Farrell continuing as committee members. Ms. Cotton will become the representative to the Virginia Fire Services Board. Ms. Abby Johnson will continue as the representative to the Virginia Housing Board of Commissioners per a previous vote of the Board.

New Business

There was no new business.

Board Matters

There were no further board matters.

Future Board Meeting
Dates

Mr. Johnston noted that the December Board retreat is being moved to March and that the next meeting will be in January.

Adjournment

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