

**BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEETING
March 21, 2016
Richmond, Virginia**

Members Present

Mr. Anthony Clatterbuck
Mr. Roger McLellon
Ms. Susan Dewey
Mr. Tommy Shields
Mr. Shekar Narasimhan
Mr. John Ainslie
Mr. Brian Mullins
Mr. Steve Semones
Mr. Rick Witt
Mr. Robby Dawson

Members Absent

Mr. Robert Kaplan
Mr. Jim Petrine
Ms. Patricia Shields
Mr. J. P. Carr

Call to Order

Mr. Anthony Clatterbuck, Chairman of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting of the Board to order.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Ms. Elizabeth Rafferty of the Department's Policy Office. Ms. Rafferty reported that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Public Comment

The following members of the public spoke to the Board in regards to recommendations from a workgroup to remove administrative provisions in the Virginia Fire Code to reflect only enforceable language. The concerns raised by these speakers included timing, stakeholder input, and unintended consequences.

- Mr. Glenn Dean (Virginia Department of Fire Programs)
- E. Keith Chambers (President of Central VA Fire and Arson Association, Chief Deputy Fire Marshal, Chesterfield Fire & EMS)
- George Hollingsworth (First Vice President, Virginia Fire Prevention Association & Fire Marshall, Fairfax County)
- Melvin Carter (Director of Virginia Department of Fire Programs)
- Henry Rosenbaum (Chief Fire Marshal, Henrico County)
- Charles E. (Ed) Altizer, P.E. (State Fire Marshal)
- Captain Earl Dyer Jr. (Deputy Fire Marshal, City of Richmond)

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- Approval of Minutes A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting of the Board. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.
- NOIRA Ms. Cindy Davis presented the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to update the State Building Code, Fire Code, Industrialized Building and Amusement Devices. Ms. Davis gave an overview of the schedule and notified the board that the anticipated final publication date for the regulations will be March 2018. Mr. Clatterbuck reminded the Board members that these dates are subject to change.
- A motion was made to approve each NOIRA. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed for each code.
- cdpVA Ms. Cindy Davis presented the cdpVA online code change module. She advised that DHCD is collaborating with the International Code Council to customize Virginia's submission process for code changes. Virginia is the first state to use an online code change module.
- Tannerite Proposal Mr. Bill Shelton presented a proposal on binary explosive (Tannerite) targets. The proposal would clarify how to identify and treat binary exploding devices in the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code. DHCD staff was directed to research this topic and establish a proposed timeline for regulation of binary exploding targets outside of the regular code update cycle that is now underway.
- Mr. Robby Dawson made a motion to publish a separate NOIRA to amend the specific section of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code addressing binary exploding targets with the effective date to be determined. This motion was not seconded.
- A motion was made to approve moving further discussion of binary exploding targets to the May 2016 Board meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.
- Fire Code Edit Ms. Cindy Davis presented documents on the Fire Prevention Code edit process that was started at the request of the BHCD. Ms. Davis provided additional packets to the Board regarding the history of the SFPC, the edit process, formation and participation in the workgroup as well as correspondence from the Fire Services

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Board. Ms. Davis noted that a series of workgroups regarding the Fire Code will begin April 6, 2016.

Mr. Robby Dawson made a motion to have the Fire Services Board lead the effort to determine what is enforceable and make recommendations for changes to the Fire Code. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shekar Narasimhan.

Mr. Justin Bell from the Office of the Attorney General advised he was not sure it was legal for the BHCD to direct the FSB to recommend changes to the Fire Code. The board moved to vote on whether they have the legal authority to direct the FSB to recommend changes to the Fire Code.

Roll call on vote as follows:

Yay:
Shekar Narasimhan
Mr. Robby Dawson

Nay:
Mr. Steve Semones
Mr. Tommy Shields
Mr. Brian Mullins
Mr. John Ainslie
Mr. Rick Witt
Mr. Roger McLellon

A motion was made for the DHCD Agency Director to look at the Fire Code schedule and process and report back to the BHCD in May. The current sub-workgroup process would continue. The motion was seconded and passed. There was only one opposed, Mr. Robby Dawson.

Public Comment

The following members of the public spoke to the Board

- Mr. Shaun Pharr (Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington) Mr. Pharr indicated that the process in VA to update the Building and Fire Code is rich and transparent.
- Charles E. (Ed) Altizer, P.E. (State Fire Marshal) MR Altizer indicted he felt the Board should move quickly in regards to the binary exploding target issue raised.
- George Hollingsworth (First Vice President, Virginia Fire

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Prevention Association & Fire Marshall, Fairfax County)
Mr. Hollingsworth indicated he has attended the fire code edit workgroups and is unclear of the objective of the workgroup.

Action Plan Items

Ms. Lisa Atkinson, Deputy Director of Community Development, DHCD and Ms. Lyndsi Austin, Associate Director of Housing Policy, DHCD presented to the Board the DHCD action plan items. This included a consolidated plan that is submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development every five years with strategic goals, priorities and a spending plan for funds spent. The submission date is May 18, 2016. Funding will be available in July 2016. Other action items included the National Housing Trust Fund, HOPWA, HOME and campaign to end Homelessness. The Housing Trust Fund funds will be available for use in summer of 2016.

VHDA Report

Ms. Susan Dewey, Executive Director of the Virginia Housing Development Authority, reported on two initiatives. VHDA has a mortgage credit certificate (MCC) on a tax return and a first time homeowner grant. The MCC will ensure that 20% of mortgage can be a credit and can still claim a deductible on tax return. The first time homeowner grant provides a 3% grant for first time homebuyers of 80% or less income.

VFSB Report

Mr. John Ainslie reported that the last meeting was held in Virginia Beach in February 2016. He noted that 15 civilians have died due to fire or arsenal reasons in the state for 2016. Two reports were approved by the VFSB board in two counties; Rockingham and Isle of Wight.

Report of the Director

Mr. Shelton reported that Virginia was selected as one of the states to receive National Disaster Resiliency Funds. The funds will go towards initiatives in the Hampton Roads area; specifically Norfolk to help offset sea level rise and plan for future flooding. Mr. Shelton mentioned the Housing Trust Fund and that it received 11 million in the budget. He reported that DHCD has been in talks with the Fire Marshal's office about collecting fees outside of the regular regulatory process.

Ms. Rafferty gave a legislative update from the General Assembly. She mentioned a new initiative, Go Virginia which is set to pass in

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the General Assembly. Ms. Rafferty reported that the Housing Trust Fund received 11 million, Enterprise Zone received an additional million each year of the biennium and Broadband received 3 million. The Heathy Food Initiatives failed to pass in the General Assembly.

Unfinished Business	There was no unfinished business to be discussed.
New Business	Mr. Clatterbuck indicated that the new IRS allowed mileage rates have decreased.
Board Matters	Ms. Rafferty reviewed the process for reappointment to the Board for members whose term is expiring.
Future Meetings	The next meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, May 16, 2016.
Adjournment	Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.