

**BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEETING
11:00 A.M., April 2, 2018
Glen Allen, Virginia**

Members Present

Mr. John Ainslie
Mr. John Patrick “J.P.” Carr
Ms. Susan Dewey
Mr. Sean Farrell
Ms. Helen Hardiman
Ms. Abigail Johnson
Mr. David Layman
Mr. Shekar Narasimhan
Mr. Earl Reynolds
Mr. Steve Semones
Mr. Tommy Shields

Members Absent

Mr. Jeff Sadler
Ms. Patricia Shields

Call to Order	Mr. John Ainslie, Chairman of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting of the Board to order.
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	No comments were made by the public; the public comment period was then closed.
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2018, meeting of the Board; the motion passed.
Report of the Housing and Community Development Committee	Mr. Shekar Narasimhan stated that the Housing and Community Development Committee met prior to the Board meeting to discuss the periodic review of the Enterprise Zone regulations with a presentation from DHCD staff on the public comment period. Mr. Narasimhan reported there was a unanimous vote to recommend to retain the Enterprise Zone regulations. The motion was seconded and passed.
Resolutions	Mr. Ainslie presented a resolution in honor of James “Robby” Dawson for approval by the Board. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the resolution; the motion was

unanimously approved.

Legislative Update

Mr. Johnston provided an update to the Board in regards to the recent legislative session. He stated that currently, there is not an approved state budget and the General Assembly will return for a special session on April 11, 2018. Mr. Johnston also provided an update to two bills, HB 431 and HB 609, which will likely require regulatory updates to the Enterprise Zone Regulations and the Statewide Fire Prevention Code and the Uniform Statewide Building Code, respectively.

VHDA Report

Ms. Susan Dewey indicated that the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) had been monitoring how federal tax reform may impact the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program; one proposed version of tax reform would have done away with Private Activity Bonds and mortgage credit certificates. While that version of tax reform did not move forward, the value of tax credits has been reduced. The recently approved federal budget included an approximate 12.5% increase for the program but it may not totally offset the loss of value for the tax credits. Ms. Dewey also noted that VHDA is in the process of updating the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) as part of the LIHTC program which they will be holding a series of forums for comment through 2018 for changes to take effect in 2019.

VFSB Report

Mr. Farrell stated that the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) had met in Virginia Beach on February 23, 2018. He stated that Mike Reilly was the new Executive Director for the Department of Fire Programs and that Rob Farrell was the new State Forrester. Mr. Farrell added that as of the Board meeting there had been 21 fire fatalities in the Commonwealth this year. The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2018, in Richmond.

Report of the Director

Mr. Johnston introduced new staff that had joined DHCD since the last meeting. He also discussed a new federal program called the Opportunity Zone Program. The program will allow investors to receive federal tax benefits on unrealized capital gains by investing in qualified census tracts, otherwise known as Opportunity Zones. DHCD Staff has worked with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) to recommend

nominations for opportunity zones to the Governor's office which will then be submitted to the U.S. Department of Treasury. Mr. Johnston also provided a code change process update; he noted that the regulations that had been approved in October were still awaiting approval from the Governor's office to be published. Upon publication, the final adoption period would begin. Mr. Johnston shared several grant announcements made by the Governor since the last meeting of the Board.

Unfinished Business	There was no unfinished business to be discussed.
New Business	There was no new business to be discussed.
Board Matters	There were no Board matters to be discussed.
Future Meetings	Mr. Ainslie directed board members to review the dates of the upcoming meetings with the next meeting of the Board to be held on May 21, 2018.
Adjournment	Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.