

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
April 22, 2014

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., in the County Manager's Conference Room, Administration Building, Henrico County Government Center, Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, Henrico, Virginia.

Members of the Board Present:

Patricia S. O'Bannon, Chairman, Tuckahoe District
Frank J. Thornton, Vice Chairman, Fairfield District
Richard W. Glover, Brookland District
David A. Kaechele, Three Chopt District
Tyrone E. Nelson, Varina District

Other Officials Present:

John A. Vithoukaskas, County Manager
Joseph P. Rapisarda, Jr., County Attorney
Barry R. Lawrence, CMC, Assistant to the County Manager/Clerk to the Board
Tanya B. Harding, Deputy Clerk to the Board/Administrative Assistant
Joseph A. Casey, Ph.D., Deputy County Manager for Administration
Jane D. Crawley, Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Timothy A. Foster, P.E., Deputy County Manager for Community Operations
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mrs. O'Bannon called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Mr. Vithoukaskas advised the Board that staff will continue scheduling work session updates from organizations the County supports through the budget's non-departmental category. An update from Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden is scheduled for the Board's May 27 special meeting.

Update on The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen

Mr. Vithoukaskas noted Kathryn ("K") Alferio, President of The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen, had placed an informational packet on The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen at each of the Board member's seats prior to the start of the meeting. He recognized Ms. Alferio, who provided an oral update on The Center. Ms. Alferio thanked the Board for this opportunity to report on happenings at The Center, which opened 15 years ago. She pointed out she has been with The Center for the past five years.

Ms. Alferio noted The Center currently hosts two performance series, the oldest being Center Season, which features theatre, music, and dance by national and international performers. She pointed out The Center would not have become a reality without the foresight of the County. Ms. Alferio thanked Mr. Thornton for his suggestion that The Center team up with the Henrico Police Athletic League's (PAL) after-school program to develop a creative outlet for students. This partnership was established in February 2013 and serves close to 100 students with 18 weeks of art enrichment activities at Harvie Elementary School and Maude Trevett Elementary School. Ms. Alferio also referred to The Center's partnership with the Henrico County Public Schools Vocational/Technical Educational Program, where woodworking students helped re-create the gift shop; and to an additional partnership with the Virginia Randolph Educational Center, whose students have worked on various projects at The Center, including the assembly of tabletop bookshelves that the students can take home with them along with books thanks to financial assistance from Capital One. She also discussed The Center's contributions to the revitalization of Regency Square mall, where art exhibits have been placed in empty storefronts and art classes are being offered.

Ms. Alferio noted the second performance series hosted by The Center, 2nd Stage, which is a first Friday event featuring different genres of music by local and regional performers. Low-cost caterers also benefit from this event, which now routinely has sold-out audiences. Ms. Alferio made reference to the annual Bluegrass Marathon Jam, which attracted more than 7,000 persons to The Center earlier this year and raised \$27,000 for the Fisher House. She then elaborated on the Lifetime Arts creative aging program offered at The Center in partnership with Senior Connections, The Capital Area on Aging, which targets persons age 55 and older.

Ms. Alferio alluded to The Center's corporate partners and other activities taking place at The Center, including wedding rentals and gift shop sales. She pointed out the County maintains the outside of the building and oversees landscaping. Ms. Alferio cited The Center's major challenges as rising insurance costs and the need for new computers and noted most of the gift shop inventory is on consignment from local artists. She highlighted the recycled art birthday parties for children hosted by The Center, the upcoming performance season, and future plans to offer art opportunities at Libbie Mill in partnership with Gumenick Properties. Ms. Alferio thanked Mr. Nelson for putting her in touch with Donna Dean, who will appear at an upcoming concert benefiting the Center. Ms. Alferio closed her presentation by emphasizing how the Center's volunteers, staff, donors, and board members all believe the arts make a difference in the community. She thanked the Board and Mr. Vithoukias for their support of The Center.

Mr. Glover remarked that The Center evolved from an idea he had to use a former County school building, which now houses The Center, to stage Henrico Theatre Company productions. Ms. Alferio noted the Henrico Theatre Company is the only community theatre company in the Richmond metropolitan area and puts on four shows a year at The Center using amateur actors. She confirmed for Mr. Glover the Latin Ballet is still located at The Center. He complimented Ms. Alferio on the job she is doing as The Center's president. Mrs. O'Bannon thanked Ms. Alferio for her presentation and materials relating to The Center.

Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services Reaccreditation

Mr. Vithoukas pointed out Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services (MH/DS) goes through reaccreditation every three years. He recognized Mike O'Connor, Director of MH/DS, who narrated a slide presentation on this item. Mr. O'Connor began his presentation by offering a quick overview of the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities International (CARF), which is a private, nonprofit accreditor of providers in the areas of behavioral health and related medical services. He noted his agency began the accreditation process in 2000 to assist its model of continuous improvement. Mr. O'Connor then explained who the 1,400 CARF surveyors are; CARF's Behavioral Health Standards Manual, which contains approximately 1,600 separate standards; CARF survey outcomes; and the eight MH/DS programs and seven agency locations that are involved in accreditation. He identified the four members of the CARF survey team who were on site in Henrico January 27 - 29, 2014, evaluating the staff and its programs and soliciting feedback from visitors and customers on the services they receive from MH/DS. Mr. O'Connor summarized what the surveyors had to say about MH/DS and noted they had fewer recommendations for MH/DS than any of the programs they have reviewed. The surveyors cited MH/DS for excellent leadership, an excellent strategic planning process, cultural competence, excellent and transparent financial management, a performance improvement program, and quality staff that cares about the people served. CARF also cited MH/DS as the "model of a government agency" in the areas of mental health services for adults with serious mental illness, prevention, and employment services. Mr. O'Connor pointed out two of his staff members have become CARF surveyors. He thanked the Board and Mr. Vithoukas for their support of his agency and Mrs. Crawley for her assistance with the reaccreditation process.

Following his presentation, Mr. O'Connor clarified for Mr. Kaechele the types of facilities that are evaluated by CARF. In response to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. O'Connor acknowledged the accreditation process is fairly expensive.

The Board recessed for dinner at 5:51 p.m. and reconvened at 6:16 p.m.

In response to questions and comments from Mr. Nelson and Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Vithoukas and Mr. Rapisarda commented on concerns raised in recent e-mails from a Tuckahoe District resident, Steven Roberts, regarding the County's decision not to link the Facebook page developed by volunteer public access cable television producers to the County's website. Mr. Kaechele also participated in this discussion.

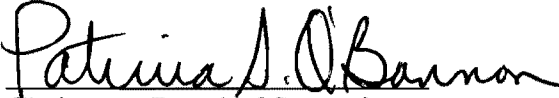
Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Mr. Vithoukas reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. meeting. He explained five proclamations were listed on the agenda but the proclamation recognizing Law Enforcement Officers Week would be presented by Mrs. O'Bannon during a special ceremony being held that week rather than at the Board meeting. Mr. Vithoukas clarified for Mr. Kaechele the persons who would be accepting the Tourism Week proclamation in the Board Room. He clarified for Mr. Nelson how staff would present the public hearing items concerning real estate and personal property tax levies and clarified for Mrs. O'Bannon that solar energy improvements to a home qualify for

partial tax exemptions under the County's Residential Investment Tax Abatement Program, assuming the program's other criteria are met. Mrs. O'Bannon noted the chief executive officer of the Home Building Association of Greater Richmond had sent the Board a letter expressing concerns with the proposed increase in sewer and water connection fees. Mr. Vithoulkas responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele pertaining to Henrico County's home and land values compared with those in neighboring localities.

Mr. Vihoulkas explained the distinction between the budget adoption and appropriations processes and how the Board will appropriate funds for the upcoming fiscal year if the General Assembly fails to adopt a state budget by June 30. He responded to a question from Mr. Glover relating to the frequency of roof replacement for the Administration Building. There was discussion by Mr. Nelson, Mr. Glover, and Mr. Vithoulkas of changes made by the Board last year to the Real Estate Advantage Program (REAP) and how citizens have been adjusting to these changes. Mr. Vithoulkas and Mr. Rapisarda clarified for Mr. Thornton that localities cannot prohibit firearms in public buildings under current state law. Mr. Vithoulkas responded to questions from Mr. Kaechele regarding the County's personal property and machinery and tools tax rates. In response to questions and comments from Mr. Glover and Mr. Kaechele, Mr. Vithoulkas briefly updated the Board on current upgrades to the County's water reclamation facility.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.


Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia