

**Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Minutes of Meeting
October 10, 2002**

Members/Alternates Present

Rebecca M. Ringley (M), Chairman..... County of New Kent
Angela L. LaCombe (M), Vice Chairman Town of Ashland
John E. Gordon, Jr. (M), Treasurer..... County of Hanover
Roy J. Harrison, Jr. (M), Secretary County of Powhatan
Chris W. Archer (M)..... County of Henrico
Gregory R. Baka (M) County of Henrico
Edward B. Barber (M) County of Chesterfield
Joseph E. Brooks (M) City of Richmond
W. R. Britton, Jr. (A) County of Charles City
Malvern R. Butler (M) County of Goochland
Mark S. Daniel (M) County of New Kent
Richard W. Glover (M)..... County of Henrico
Harvey L. Hinson (A) County of Henrico
Michael L. Holmes (M) County of Charles City
Renny B. Humphrey (M) County of Chesterfield
Joseph T. Lacy, Jr. (M) County of Goochland
Kelly E. Miller (M) County of Chesterfield
Robert R. Setliff (M)..... County of Hanover
M. D. "Pete" Stith (A)..... County of Chesterfield
James T. Taylor (A) County of Goochland
Frank J. Thornton (M)..... County of Henrico
Arthur S. Warren (M) County of Chesterfield

Members Absent

Richard W. Ayers (M) County of Powhatan
John G. Dankos, Jr. (M)..... County of Hanover
James B. Donati (M) County of Henrico
Russell J. Gulley (M) County of Chesterfield
Gwen C. Hedgepeth (M)..... City of Richmond
William Russell Jones, III (M)..... City of Richmond
David A. Kaechele (M)..... County of Henrico
John L. McHale (M) County of Chesterfield
Delores L. McQuinn (M) City of Richmond
Patricia S. O'Bannon (M) County of Henrico
George K. Roarty (M)..... County of Chesterfield
J. T. Jack Ward (M) County of Hanover

Others Present

Brad Armstrong Virginia Performing Arts Foundation
John R. Amos RRPDC Legal Counsel (Amos & Amos)

Staff Present

Paul E. Fisher Executive Director
Katherine E. Barrett Executive Secretary
Jo A. Evans Assistant Executive Director
Daniel N. Lysy Director of Transportation
Jackie S. Stewart Director of Planning and Information Systems
Peter M. Sweetland Finance and Contracts Administrator
Patricia A. Villa Communications Coordinator

Call to Order

Chairman Rebecca Ringley called the regularly scheduled October 10, 2002 meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Certification by Commission Executive Director of Meeting Quorum

Mr. Fisher certified that a majority of the members (18) were present to constitute a quorum.

B. Request for Additions or Changes in Order of Business

There were no requests for additions or changes in the order of business.

C. Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2002 RRPDC Meeting

There being no corrections or additions, on motion of Mr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Holmes, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the September 12, 2002 meeting.

D. Open Public Comment Period

There were no requests to address the Commission at this time and Chairman Ringley closed the public comment period.

E. Approval of August 2002 Financial Report

Mr. Gordon presented the financial report for August 2002. There being no corrections, on motion of Mr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Holmes, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously accepted for audit the financial report for August 2002.

F. Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's report at this time.

G. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Fisher briefly discussed the following items:

1. At the September 12 Commission meeting, Mr. Fisher discussed the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) grant process which had changed this year compared to prior years. At that time, Mr. Fisher reported that the DHCD was going to be contributing 75 percent of the PDC grant up front in September, and deferring payment of the remaining 25 percent until April 2003. Subsequent to that, Mr. Fisher received a contract amendment from the DHCD where they advised that they would be paying the PDC 25 percent up front and the remainder on the basis of 12 equal monthly installments. Given the State budget situation, that could evolve even more. Mr. Fisher noted that he would keep the Commission advised of the status of the grant from the State.
2. At the last meeting, Ms. Humphrey asked Mr. Fisher to look into the status of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) activity. Following that meeting request, Mr. Fisher stated that he met with Denny Morris, Executive Director of the Crater Planning District Commission, who has a great deal of experience from the 1993 and 1995 round of BRAC in dealing with the process and the Congressmen. Mr. Fisher indicated it was a very informative meeting. Mr. Morris gave Mr. Fisher two reports—one prepared for Ft. Lee and one for Defense General Supply Center by the Virginia Employment Commission this past summer. The one for Ft. Lee has already been released by Congressman Forbes, and the one for the Defense General Supply Center has not yet been released.

Congressman Forbes and Congressman Cantor are taking the strategic lead on how to deal with those two bases and the potential 2005 BRAC. Mr. Fisher will be in contact with the Congressional staffs and Crater PDC to see what, if any, assistance they will need from the Richmond Regional PDC.

3. Mr. Fisher reported that he had a meeting last night with Ms. Humphrey and Mr. Barber, and Mr. Humphrey commented that when she comes to the PDC meetings she may not have had an opportunity to meet all of the members. Therefore, Ms. Humphrey suggested that the PDC put together a directory of PDC members with photographs and biographies. Mr. Fisher distributed a copy of the requested directory of PDC board members which is on the PDC web site.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Presentation on Richmond Performing Arts Foundation Downtown Development Plans

Mr. Brad Armstrong, President and CEO of the Virginia Performing Arts Foundation presented a summary and update on the Foundation project which is vital to the interest of the region. Mr. Armstrong's presentation dealt with the following four areas:

1. Performing arts as a real economic and cultural engine;
2. How things have come together in this region in a very unique way at a unique point in time that culminated in this project;
3. What that project is;
4. Update on progress during the past year, including fundraising progress.

Mr. Armstrong stated that the Performing Arts Foundation was formed in August 2001 to be the umbrella organization to own and operate the complex of performing arts facilities.

The Foundation, chaired by James Ukrop, plans to create a complex consisting of four facilities: the new Virginia Performing Arts Center (expanded Carpenter Center) located on the block of Sixth and Seventh Streets, Broad Street and Grace Street; the expanded Empire Theatre located at the corner of Broad Street and Jefferson Street; the updated Landmark Theatre located at the corner of Main Street and Laurel Street; and the renovated National Theatre located at the corner of Seventh Street and Broad Street. The Virginia Performing Arts Center is to be built on the site of the former

Thalhimers building and connected with the Carpenter Center. Completion of renovations and new construction is projected for sometime in 2007. The total cost of the project is expected to be \$105 million. To date, the Foundation has raised \$7.7 million of which \$3 million went to purchase the Thalhimers building. One-half of the capital campaign plans is expected to come from public money. The Foundation is asking for \$30 million from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Richmond City Council has approved the Broad Street Community Development Authority (CDA) to provide parking, new streetscapes and significant new infrastructure to the area around the Virginia Performing Arts Center. The CDA will issue \$80 million in bonds to finance the demolition of Sixth Street marketplace, and the installation of underground utilities capable of servicing the new federal courthouse, the Miller & Rhoads Hotel, the Performing Arts Center and the expanded Marriott Hotel. It will create 1,203 new parking spaces with the construction of two new parking decks at the intersections of Fifth and Broad Streets and Sixth and Grace Streets. It will also refurbish more than 2,000 existing parking spaces. The bonds will be repaid by the parking facilities and special assessments to the property owners within the boundaries of the CDA.

Following general discussion, Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Armstrong for a very informative presentation.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation and Acceptance of RRPDC FY 2002 Audit

Mr. Gordon, Chairman of the Audit Committee, distributed a draft copy of the audit, and reported that the Committee met, reviewed the audit and recommends acceptance of the audit.

There being no questions or comments, on motion of Mr. Butler, seconded by Ms. Humphrey, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously accepted the audit.

B. Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Submit a Virginia Division of Legislative Services Grant Application

Mr. Fisher stated that the Richmond Regional Environmental Technical Advisory Committee, comprised of local staff from each of the region's nine local governments, has been discussing the need to implement a region-wide media campaign related to non-point source

pollution, particularly aimed at anti-litter campaigns, entering the region's streams and water bodies. Local staff have raised the concern that this type of stream pollution has been on the increase. Local staff believes that greater economies of scale will be achieved if such a campaign is implemented region-wide rather than by individual localities, and that such a campaign can help achieve some of the phase II public education requirements for the localities required to meet new federally mandated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) standards.

Mr. Fisher stated that planning district commission staff are proposing to request \$10,000 in funds from the Virginia Division of Legislative Services, Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund Advisory Committee. The main element of the grant is to run public service announcements in conjunction with local radio traffic reports. The grant funds will be dedicated to airing the ads while staff time to coordinate the effort will be provided as an in-kind contribution. The grant funds will not be used to supplement personnel costs.

Ms. Humphrey asked is this project would be limited to litter. Mr. Fisher said it was primarily for litter and roadside trash.

Ms. Humphrey referred to Mr. Fisher's comment regarding non-point source pollution—it's not just roadside litter. Ms. Humphrey suggested that the advertising group talk about some water quality issues which is of value to the citizens as well.

On motion of Ms. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Glover, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Virginia Division of Legislative Services has promulgated a request for proposals for the grants to private not-for-profit conservation organizations, schools and universities, and governmental agencies whose projects will affect water bodies that are located within the Chesapeake Bay watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission is the eligible entity under the grants to private not-for-profit conservation organizations, schools and universities, and governmental agencies whose projects will affect water bodies that are located within the Chesapeake Bay watershed; and

WHEREAS, The Richmond Regional Environmental Technical Advisory Committee has met and requested planning district

commission assistance in developing and implementing a region-wide media campaign to promote the reduction of trash, litter and other similar pollutants into the region's streams and waterways; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission authorizes the executive director to apply for a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Virginia Division of Legislative Services for the purpose of developing and implementing a region-wide media campaign to promote the reduction of trash, litter and other similar pollutants into the region's streams and waterways.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Announcements

There were no announcements at this time.

B. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports at this time.

C. For Your Information

Mr. Fisher noted correspondence included in the agenda containing informational items.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Ringley adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Paul E. Fisher
Executive Director

Rebecca M. Ringley
Chairman