

RICHMOND REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
September 12, 2013

Members (Alternates) Present

Parker C. Agelasto.....	City of Richmond
Timothy M. Davey	Chesterfield County
Steve A. Elswick	Chesterfield County
Evan Fabricant.....	Hanover County
Daniel A. Gecker, Secretary.....	Chesterfield County
Richard W. Glover	Henrico County
Kathy C. Graziano.....	City of Richmond
James M. Holland.....	Chesterfield County
Dorothy Jaeckle.....	Chesterfield County
Bonnie-Leigh Jones.....	Henrico County
David A. Kaechele	Henrico County
Angela Kelly-Wiecek, Chairman	Hanover County
Kelli Le Duc (A).....	New Kent County
Lynn McAteer	City of Richmond
Tyrone E. Nelson.....	Henrico County
Patricia S. O'Bannon.....	Henrico County
C. Harold Padgett	Hanover County
Ken Peterson, Vice Chairman	Goochland County
W. Canova Peterson	Hanover County
Edward W. Pollard	New Kent County
Charles R. Samuels.....	City of Richmond
Randall R. Silber (A).....	Henrico County
Frank J. Thornton	Henrico County
Carson Tucker	Powhatan County
David Williams, Treasurer	Powhatan County

Members Absent

L. Ray Ashworth	City of Richmond
Jonathan T. Baliles	City of Richmond
Karin Carmack	Powhatan County
Russell J. Gulley.....	Chesterfield County
Floyd H. Miles.....	Charles City County
John H. Mitchell	Henrico County
Faye O. Prichard.....	Town of Ashland
C. Thomas Tiller.....	New Kent County
Arthur S. Warren	Chesterfield County

Others Present

John Amos RRPDC Legal Counsel
Katherine Busser Capital One
Stacy Whitehouse Office of the Governor

Staff Present

Robert A. Crum Executive Director
Jo A. Evans Assistant Executive Director
Julie H. Fry Executive Secretary
Sulabh Aryal Associate Planner
Anne Darby Senior Planner
Billy Gammel Associate Planner
Barbara Jacocks Principal Planner
Jin Lee Senior Planner
Daniel N. Lysy Director, Urban Transportation
Jackie Stewart Director, Planning
Sarah Stewart Senior Planner
Peter M. Sweetland Finance and Contracts Administrator

Call to Order

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek called the regularly scheduled September 12, 2013 RRPDC meeting to order at approximately 9:10 a.m. in the RRPDC board room. She then led members in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Certification by Commission Executive Director of Meeting Quorum

Mr. Crum certified that a quorum of members was present.

B. Requests for Additions or Changes to the Order of Business

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked if there were any additions or changes to be made to the agenda and recognized Mr. Crum.

Mr. Crum said he would like to request that, based on input received during this morning’s RRPDC Executive Committee meeting, New Business Item B, Collaborative Governance Initiative, be removed from the agenda.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked if there was a motion to delete New Business Item B from the agenda as requested by Mr. Crum. Ms. Graziano so moved and the motion

was seconded by Mr. Williams. There was no additional discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

There were no other requests to change the agenda, and the agenda was accepted as amended.

C. Open Public Comment Period

There were no requests from the public to address the Commission, and Chairman Kelly-Wiecek closed the public comment period.

D. Chairman's Report

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek noted that she did not have a report to offer.

E. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Crum brought members' attention to the staff activity report for July and August, which is included in the agenda book under Tab 1 and details work being advanced by staff on behalf of the localities. He said staff will be happy to address any questions on what is included in the report.

Mr. Crum said there has been a proposal to work with the MPO Executive Committee and MPO Board to change the format of the MPO membership and how it operates. Mr. Crum noted that some of the changes are far-reaching. The MPO Chairman, Mr. Williams, has asked Mr. Crum to attend Boards of Supervisors meetings in each of the jurisdictions to provide information on the proposed changes and to receive feedback on the proposal. He said he has reached out to all CAOs and managers in the jurisdictions with a request to make the presentation. Mr. Crum reported that he attended the Board of Supervisors meeting in Hanover County last night. He said he hopes to be able to attend meetings in each jurisdiction over the next two months.

Mr. Crum said the changes are being proposed to allow the MPO Board to function more as a regional leader in transportation planning and decision making. He said he believes there is a need for a regional transportation planning and policy making leader in the Region. Mr. Crum said he's looking forward to providing this presentation in each jurisdiction.

Mr. Crum reported that the RRPDC is involved with a new initiative being brought forward by Dr. Eugene Trani, of Richmond's Future. Dr. Trani has been following all of the work that has been done in the Region with regard to the Port of Richmond. Many of the investments in the Port have funneled through the MPO. The City of Richmond has also been working to improve the area around the Port and create a more vibrant economic development zone. Area counties are also interested in increasing the amount of freight that comes into the Port.

Mr. Crum said that Dr. Trani has created a Logistics Task Force, which offers a big opportunity for the Region. The Task Force members include about twenty of the Region's business leaders who are in charge of logistics for their companies. Mr. Crum said this will allow RRPDC the opportunity to learn about how logistics can provide new ways to move more freight into the Port of Richmond. More traffic into the Port offers more opportunity for increased job growth in warehousing, transportation processing, and logistics. This will positively impact the entire Region. The first meeting of the Task Force will be held in October, and Mr. Crum will provide a report on that meeting to the RRPDC Board.

Mr. Tucker asked if Mr. Crum will be making the presentation on the proposed MPO changes to other organizations such as the Capital Region Collaborative, the Richmond Metropolitan Authority, and Richmond's Future. He said it will be important for such organizations to realize that the MPO is ready to step into this transportation leadership position.

Mr. Williams (who serves as MPO Chairman) said that is an excellent recommendation and asked Mr. Crum if he had any thoughts on the suggestion. Mr. Crum said he would be pleased to make the presentation to those organizations. He said he would like to meet with the nine jurisdictions first and then move on to the other regional groups.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek said she would like to offer congratulations to Mr. Elswick and Ms. Prichard, who were both appointed to serve on the Bridging Richmond board, representing the Large and Small Jurisdictions Committees, respectively.

F. Regional Interest Items

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek said this is the time during the meeting when members are asked to take about thirty seconds to mention something positive going on in their locality.

- Goochland County has been sponsoring a local triathlon over the past few years that has grown in size each year; this year there were participants from other areas of the state as well as from other states; the Chairs of the Board of Supervisors and the School Board as well as the County Sheriff and Deputy Superintendent of Schools participated this year
- Goochland County also sponsors a professional golf tournament at the Goochland Country Club (now an LPGA tour event); there was record attendance this year
- Goochland County hosts three farmers markets that operate on weekends during the summer and fall
- congratulations to Henrico County for acquiring the new Lumber Liquidators distribution center; selection of the Henrico County site was influenced by other activities across the Region including the Vitamin Shoppe distribution center coming to Hanover County and Amazon in Chesterfield County

- an article is included in “Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine” on the UCI World Road Cycling Event coming to Richmond and the impact it can have on the Region’s bicycling community and the need to maintain cycling infrastructure to bring in additional tourism dollars
- a round table discussion was held on Monday with Chesterfield County and City of Richmond officials and staff on the federal TIGER grant awarded to the localities; these funds will be used in a joint effort between the localities to make improvements along the shared Hull Street corridor (4.7 miles); all localities should work together to research similar grants along shared corridors; the grants provide seed money with the expectation that the localities will be able to continue to maintain projects going forward
- the Government Accounting Services Board is working to rescind the Virginia Retirement System for teachers funding mechanism that will mandate local jurisdictions to pick up this portion of retirement contributions for teachers
- results from the ULI Reality Check will be presented today at 4:00 p.m. at the Williams Mullen location downtown; everyone should have received an invitation to attend
- about 70 international artists will be at the GRTC bus barn at Robinson and Cary Streets over the next three days to paint the buildings; the sites are open to the public
- a need to build more bike infrastructure has been identified in the City of Richmond, specifically bike racks; funds have been set aside for racks and a jobs program has been suggested; the funds were matched dollar for dollar by the state for a workforce development program; a site will be provided rent free to use as a training facility to teach workers how to build the bike racks; work is underway to see if materials for the racks can be donated; the VCU School of Arts is having a competition to design the racks
- New Kent County hosted motorcycle races at Colonial Downs last weekend; this weekend at Viniterra an event will be hosted called Classics on the Greens which will showcase antique cars and offer wine tasting at the adjacent winery
- New Kent County Fair will begin on September 20
- Richmond hosts a farmers market at Forest Hill Park every weekend; the 43rd Street Festival is this weekend; the Folk Festival is set for October 11-13
- upcoming UCI cycling event is a great opportunity to showcase the Region; Washington, DC has applied to host the summer Olympics in 2024; the Richmond Region could be in line to host many of the Olympic venues; signage should be installed at all gateways into the Region announcing that the Region is hosting the 2015 UCI cycling event
- Powhatan County has been cooperating with Goochland, Henrico, and Cumberland Counties along with the Department of Corrections on an upgrade of regional water infrastructure which is having a positive impact on the environment and funding needs to complete the project
- James River cleanup will take place from Scottsville to Hopewell this weekend; please contact James River Advisory Council for cleanup locations and volunteer opportunities

- last week's NASCAR race in Henrico County was very well attended; Henrico County invited the administrators from Chesterfield County and the City of Richmond to attend as the county's guests; they were all introduced to those in attendance prior to the start of the race
- about 300 jobs will be created when the Lumber Liquidators distribution center is up and running
- Henrico County EMS received a grant award with MCV to do a plasma replacement study
- Hanover County comprehensive plan was passed last night; the plan will open discussions to attract well planned economic development opportunities

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek thanked members for sharing their information.

G. Environmental and Intergovernmental Reviews

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked Mr. Crum to provide information on this item.

Mr. Crum noted that one of the responsibilities of the RRPDC is to receive these reviews and circulate them to the appropriate agencies and jurisdictions for their comments. These reviews include proposals from state agencies. Projects that receive federal funding are required to have intergovernmental reviews completed.

Mr. Crum said these reviews will be included in the agenda book on a monthly basis as an information sharing item to allow members to see what types of reviews are being undertaken in their own and neighboring jurisdictions.

Under Tab 2, the reviews for July and August are grouped by topic and indicate which jurisdiction is involved in the review. No action is required on this agenda item; it is included for members' information only. Staff will be glad to address any questions related to the reviews.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek said the Executive Committee recommended approval of the items listed on the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes – July 11, 2013
- B. Approval of June and July Financial Reports
- C. Approval of Annual Contract Between RRPDC and the Department of Housing and Community Development

There was no request to have any of the items removed from the Consent Agenda for additional discussion and on motion made by Ms. Graziano and seconded by Mr. Williams, the Consent Agenda was approved unanimously as presented.

III. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to bring before the Board.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Day to Serve Resolution of Support

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek introduced Ms. Stacy Whitehouse, Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and Deputy Director of Appointments, and asked Ms. Whitehouse to provide additional information on the Governor's Proclamation encouraging all Virginia citizens to participate in a Day to Serve.

Ms. Whitehouse provided some additional handouts to members on Day to Serve. She said Day to Serve is a regional effort that began last year with the governors of Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland along with the mayor of Washington, DC. The goal was to bring this region together to enhance community service in the communities and to help communities identify projects that would benefit from assistance provided by local businesses, organizations, and residents.

Ms. Whitehouse provided some examples of projects undertaken in other towns and cities around the state. The Day to Serve timeframe is September 15 – 29.

Ms. Whitehouse also provided a copy of a press release from the Governor's office regarding a back pack program which provides food for a child to use over a weekend. Many children only have access to food during the week when they are in school, and the back pack program is a way to help fill the weekend gap when food may not be readily available. About 10,000 children are currently in this program. Of the approximately one million citizens who are served by area food banks, 42 percent of these are children.

A website has been set up to post events and to offer volunteer opportunities. Ms. Whitehouse said she has enjoyed connecting with area PDCs to promote Day to Serve activities.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek thanked Ms. Whitehouse for her presentation.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked if there was a motion to adopt the enclosed resolution of support for Day to Serve. Mr. Tucker so moved and the motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. There was no additional discussion and the resolution of support for Day to Serve was approved unanimously.

B. Collaborative Governance Initiative

Item removed from agenda per action taken by members earlier in the meeting.

C. Virginia Local Disability Program

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked Ms. Evans to present this agenda item.

Mr. Crum remarked that with changes made to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), all agencies and jurisdictions which participate in VRS have a deadline to make a decision on disability benefits. He said Ms. Evans will provide additional information on the changes and members are encouraged to provide feedback.

Ms. Evans reported that on January 1, 2014, agencies and jurisdictions participating in VRS will be required to offer disability benefits to employees. A new hybrid retirement plan was enacted by the General Assembly last year. Disability benefits were added for employees. VRS employers need to decide if they will participate in the disability plan through VRS or if they will provide comparable benefits through a private insurer.

The Hybrid Retirement Plan will become effective on January 1, 2014. This will affect all new employees hired after that date as well as any current VRS employees who opt to transfer to the Hybrid Plan. The Plan contains a defined benefit component and a defined contribution component.

The Plan contains the Virginia Local Disability Plan (VLDP) to provide disability benefits. State law now requires that disability benefits be provided to employees. At this time, only state employees covered under VRS have a disability benefit. All other employees have the option of using sick leave or of retiring if they become disabled. VLDP was established to assist disabled employees to return to work.

The types of disability covered would occur from illness or injury and may be work or non-work related. A short term disability period lasts for 125 days (six months) and long term disability is the time period after those first six months.

The new state law requires the employer to pay disability benefits for the short-term period (six months) regardless of whether the employer is in the VLDP or not. After six months, VRS pays the long term disability benefit.

Short term benefits are determined by

1. How long the person has been employed (under the Hybrid Plan)
 - a. eligible after 1 year of employment unless the disability is work-related, which is covered from the first day of employment
2. Type of disability
 - a. work-related benefits are reduced by Workers' Comp
 - b. maternity is covered for six weeks following delivery

3. Length of disability
 - a. income reduced on sliding scale – 100%, 80%, 60%

Ms. Evans provided a chart to illustrate the income replacement rate, based on length of employment, for non-work disability.

Ms. Evans also offered information on employer costs, regardless of whether the employee is covered under VRS or VLDP. Using the median RRPDC income rate, the cost to provide non-work injury/illness short-term benefits (six months) to a 15-year employee (income replacement, health insurance, VRS contribution, taxes) is about \$31,050.

Mr. Crum added that for an organization such as RRPDC, which is grant funded, the agency will not be able to bill work hours to a grant if the employee is out of work.

Ms. Evans said that employees are eligible for disability benefits for work-related disability from their first day on the job. Income replacement is reduced by the amount of Workers' Comp payments:

- 100% - 66 2/3% = 33 1/3%
- 80% - 66 2/3% = 12 1/3%
- 60% - 66 2/3% = 0% (no disability payment)

The employer costs for work-related injury/illness short-term benefits (six months), using the median RRPDC income rate for a 15-year employee, would be \$12,840 (including income replacement, health insurance, VRS contribution, taxes).

For long-term benefits, costs are paid by VLDP and private plans. RRPDC would continue to pay premiums for the coverage.

Ms. O'Bannon asked if any information on costs from private insurers had been obtained. Ms. Evans said more information will be presented to members at the October meeting on rates. Today she is providing general information for discussion. Ms. Evans noted that there are two private insurers which have offered plans for consideration. Private plans must provide comparable benefits to what the state will provide.

Ms. Evans said that factors to consider include:

- cost of short-term benefits is not a factor in the decision of whether to stay in VLDP or to opt out
- no plan provides short-term benefit coverage as this must be paid for by the employer
- this is basically an unfunded mandate from the state
- grant-funded positions are not reimbursable

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked if this is the same for either plan – that grant-funded positions are not reimbursable. Ms. Evans said that was correct.

Ms. Evans said self-funding is not a viable option because that will involve more outlay from the employer.

Other factors to consider:

- decision is irrevocable
- more private insurers will enter the market, impacting premiums
- VLDP premium is higher and will be reset every two years
- private insurer premium rates are good for 2-3 years; lower than VLDP
- short-term benefits are not covered under any plan
- one of the two long-term private plans identified has additional benefits, such as retrofitting facilities to allow an employee to return to work

Ms. Evans said a decision to opt out must be made by November 1, and a resolution stating that the agency wants to opt out must be provided to VRS by that deadline. The decision is irrevocable. Information on private insurers has been obtained from VACo and VML. To date, about 50 agencies/jurisdictions have opted out. If more opt out, which seems to be the trend, the General Assembly may decide to tweak the VLDP to make it more appealing.

Ms. Evans said the Board will be asked to make a decision during the October meeting on whether RRPDC should opt out of the VLDP. She said she would be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek thanked Ms. Evans for her presentation. She asked if changes are made to the plan once the General Assembly sees how many agencies/jurisdictions opt out, whether another opportunity will be given to opt into VLDP. Ms. Evans said general consensus among others she's spoken with is that there may be another opportunity to opt in if the General Assembly does make changes that will make the plan more palatable.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek clarified that staff is recommending that RRPDC opt out of VLDP, and she directed members to a resolution that is included in the agenda book for review.

Mr. Pollard said he believed RRPDC should not opt out as a private insurer's plan might eliminate a benefit that is needed. He said if the state plan does not work, then a decision could be made to opt out.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek thanked Mr. Pollard for his remarks and asked for clarification on whether a decision – to stay with VLDP or to opt out – is irrevocable. Ms. Evans said that was correct.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked if all agency employees would move into a plan as a group. Ms. Evans said there would be two classes of employees affected. All new hires after January 1, 2014, will be required to go into the Hybrid Plan. Current employees may opt to go into the Hybrid Plan. No current RRPDC employees have made the decision to transfer to the Hybrid Plan.

Mr. Fabricant said he was concerned that a private insurer would cap the amount of benefits paid to an employee. Ms. Evans said the private insurer must provide comparable benefits to the state plan so there could be no cap.

Mr. Fabricant asked who set the 1-year employment requirement before benefits could be effective for non-work related disability. Ms. Evans said that was part of the state law. She said she is aware of a private insurer which said that requirement may be negotiable in their policy. Ms. Evans said the private plan would need to be better than what the state offered. Customizing the plan would also affect the premium.

Mr. C. Peterson asked if the standards were already set by the state or if they were still in flux. Ms. Evans said they were set; the law was passed in 2012. She said potential changes may be made if the General Assembly reacts to what they are seeing in the market as agencies/jurisdictions opt out. Any changes would be made when the General Assembly goes into session.

Ms. O'Bannon summarized that the state is requiring certain benefits and is offering a plan for a set premium. Private insurers must provide the same plan but can alter their premium. State rates may rise and an agency cannot opt out if rates go up. Private insurers may compete to make the premiums less, but the coverage would be the same or better than what is being offered by the state. Ms. Evans said that was correct. At this time, about 50 political subdivisions have opted out of VLDP.

Mr. Kaechele said he would suggest that contact be made with the other jurisdictions to see what decision they are going to make. He noted that Henrico County is going to opt out. He asked if the current VRS plan offered disability benefits. Ms. Evans said the current VRS plan does not offer disability benefits except for Virginia state employees. Political subdivisions that currently offer disability benefits either have a private plan in place or require that employees use accrued sick leave or take a disability retirement.

Mr. Fabricant said it makes sense for the RRPDC to opt out. However, he asked if it would be better to wait until more information on private insurer premiums can be provided during next month's meeting before a vote is taken on whether or not to opt out.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek said members do have the option to wait until next month, and she asked Ms. Evans if premium information can be presented at that time. Mr. Crum said the proposals from the private insurers should be available prior to next month's meeting.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek said delaying the vote will also give members a chance to discuss this in their own jurisdictions if they have not done so already. She asked if there was a motion to delay the vote until the October meeting.

Mr. Fabricant made a motion that a vote on whether or not RRPDC should opt out of VLDP be delayed until the October meeting, during which time staff will provide additional information on private insurer plans and premiums. Mr. C. Peterson seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek asked Ms. Jacocks to provide information on this agenda item.

Ms. Jacocks said the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) has been developed over the past 18 months with the cooperation of a CEDS Strategy Committee. Members of this committee included various economic development staff members from the local jurisdictions along with business leaders and representatives from the Region's non-profit organizations. Ms. Jacocks provided a listing of members.

Ms. Jacocks said the CEDS document was created to be a tool for the jurisdictions to use in their planning processes. Information in the report will be updated annually.

- framework and vision
- demographics
- regional economy
- distressed areas
- education
- workforce development
- community infrastructure
- focal areas and sites
- strategies

Ms. Jacocks also provided information on other key findings identified during the report development process, including median age of residents in the Region; summary of industry clusters and types of jobs anticipated to be needed; number of open jobs and job seekers by jurisdiction; and location of distressed areas.

The regional climate for job creation shows strengths and opportunities as:

- location
- diversity of employment base
- higher education
- lack of traffic congestion, ease of travel

Weaknesses and challenges within the climate for job creation include:

- strain on resources to implement; conservative approach
- lack of confidence/leadership, common agendas, silos of information

- disparity of wealth, opportunity, and choice

Ms. Jacocks also provided information on a strategy example with regard to logistics around the Port of Richmond and the RIC/White Oak educational collaboration strategy. Information was also provided on findings regarding regional infrastructure.

Ms. Jacocks noted that adoption of the CEDS document can lead to the Region being eligible to receive grant funding from the US Economic Development Authority (EDA). As an example, Easton, Maryland recently received \$1.65 million to support the construction of a new wastewater system for the proposed Shore Health System's Regional Medical Center Campus. This investment is part of a \$3.3 million project estimated to create 250 jobs, save 2,100 jobs, and leverage \$240 million in private investment.

Another recently funded EDA project is \$932,000 to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to fund the renovation of existing buildings in downtown Pembroke for the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Entrepreneurship Incubator. This investment is part of a \$1,166,083 project estimated to create 115 jobs and leverage \$1.15 million in private investment.

Ms. Jacocks reviewed the proposed schedule for review and adoption of the CEDS report:

- August 14: draft sent to CEDS Strategy Committee for review
- September 12: update report given to RRPDC Board
- September 10 – October 10: individual meetings with local economic development staffs and CEDS committee members
- October (TBD): CEDS Committee provides final input and approval
- November 14: RRPDC Board review and approval
- December 14: submission to EDA

Ms. O'Bannon asked if copies of the report will be made available. Ms. Jacocks said she had a limited number of copies available today for any members who wish to have one.

Mr. Tucker noted, with regard to the slide on Climate for Job Creation, the bullet point on lack of confidence and leadership, that there is a great potential for the Region to make major strides in workforce development and job creation despite the leadership vacuum. He said if current leaders did not step up to the plate, he did not know who would. Mr. Tucker said he knew his statements were blunt, but unless there was leadership in the Region, it would not make any difference in how many college graduates were retained or how many new companies were attracted to the Region. He said this is not the first report he's seen with the same conclusions. There must be aggressive leadership to drive the recommended agendas or the Region will be in the same place in five years as it is now.

Ms. O'Bannon asked if the report was saying there are no leaders in the Region. Ms. Jacocks said that was not what was being said. She said many of the conversations she has had with CEDS members indicate that there is a very conservative approach to making changes within the Region.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek suggested that there are some people who believe there should be a regional entity to make decisions and implement the decisions on a regional basis. There are others who say each locality should be left alone to make its own decisions and policy. She said that the workable solution is probably some place in between those two camps. This could be what is meant by that lack of leadership. Other regional groups, such as the Capital Region Collaborative and the Greater Richmond Partnership, are addressing these concerns. However, there is no authoritative entity to move the recommendations forward.

Mr. Fabricant said leadership within the community is also needed; there are those in the general public who choose not to become involved.

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek suggested that the best way to address the disparity mentioned on the same slide is through economic development. There seems to be a lack of knowledge among those who are lower on the economic scale as to what may be available to help them move forward.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no additional business to bring before the Board.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Kelly-Wiecek adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:50 a.m.

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Angela Kelly-Wiecek
Chairman