

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON Monday, August 19, 2013, AT 6:00 p.m. IN THE Second Floor Conference Room.

THE PROPOSED AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

Closed session as provided by Section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR

BY Paige Barfield

### **SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – August 19, 2013**

Council met in special session on this date with the following members present: Mr. Huja, Ms. Smith, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris.

On motion by Ms. Galvin, seconded by Ms. Smith, Council voted, (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris; Noes: None), to meet in closed session for (1) Discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for appointment to City boards and commissions, as authorized by Va. Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (1); (2) Discussion of the acquisition of real property on Emmet Street near its intersection with Hydraulic Road for public street purposes, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the City's negotiating strategy, as authorized by Va. Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (3); and, (3) Consultation with legal counsel for legal advice regarding the negotiation of the terms and conditions of a cost sharing agreement with the Albemarle County Service Authority for the costs of the Rivanna Pump Station, as authorized by Va. Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (7).

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Smith, Council certified by the following vote (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris; Noes: None), that to the best of each Council Member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session.

### **COUNCIL CHAMBERS – August 19, 2013**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Council met in regular session on this date with the following members present: Ms. Smith, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris.

## **AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

Ms. Smith read a proclamation for Women's Equality Day. Ms. Kobby Hoffman was present to accept the proclamation and thanked Council for their support.

Ms. Szakos read a proclamation in honor of the 20th Anniversary of the Women's Four Miler Training Program.

Mr. Huja announced the Our Town meeting this Thursday, August 22 from 6-8pm at City Space for the North Downtown neighborhood.

Mr. Huja said the City is accepting applications for the Human Rights Commission. The deadline for applying is August 25. Also, the EEOC has monthly hours in Charlottesville every second Thursday of the month. Call 970-3333 if you have an employment complaint.

The Charlottesville Housing Affordability Grant program is now accepting applications. Apply by Sept 2, 2013. Call the Commissioner of Revenue's office at 970-3160 for more information.

On motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja was appointed to the CCS Capital Improvement Program Committee as the Council representative. (Ayes: Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris; Noes: None; Abstain: Mr. Huja.)

Mr. Norris said he would like to explore City recognition of same sex marriages lawfully entered into in other states for the purpose of providing benefits. This was added to Other Business.

Ms. Galvin announced that the WRPP Advisory Committee is accepting applications.

City offices will be closed on Monday, September 2 in recognition of Labor Day. CAT will operate on a holiday schedule; trash and recycling services will operate normally.

Ms. Szakos reminded everyone that Wednesday is the first day of school. It is important to be safe driving in the mornings and pay attention, especially near bus stops. Also, the new UVA students are arriving Saturday, and undergraduate classes start on August 27.

Ms. Smith said The Skin is Just the Cover is a book by Mr. Alex Zan, one of "Charlottesville's Twelve". This is a story of integration and will be given to all 4th graders in October. She thanked Mr. Zan and the DOR action team members for their hard work on this project. Ms. Colette Blount, facilitator of the DOR action team, thanked Charlene Greene for coordinating book copying. Copies will be available for the public within a week.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. John Heyden, Westwood Rd., gave his opinion about race relations and personal responsibility.

Mr. Khalil Reid, 208 Fairway Ave., said he is disappointed in the availability of the City's affordable housing.

Ms. Lena Seville, Altavista Ave., said the Cville Bus Riders have discussed CAT's proposed changes and believe there are improvements to the original plan. Bus stop location information is currently available only online, but it should be available at the Downtown Transit Center for those who do not have internet. Preston Avenue needs to maintain two buses.

Mr. Steven Bach, 1208 Meriwether Street, requested improvements at the Ridge/West Main/Water/South Street intersection, particularly at the northwest corner where the new hotel is planned. This is a pinch point for motorcycles and bicycles. Five feet should be shaved off the corner so the bike lane can be started at the corner. The time for improvement is now.

Mr. Brandon Collins, 418 Fairway Ave., said systemic and institutional racism is still a problem in this town. Also, he encouraged City review of the Housing Authority and is pleased to hear this is in the works.

Ms. Nancy Carpenter, Denali Way, said she supports Ms. Seville's comments about the CAT study. She would also like to support her for the potential CAT Advisory Board. Transportation and affordable housing are important issues to the low wealth community. There are too many unused parking spaces in the area, and this space could be used for affordable housing.

Mr. John Pfaltz, 1503 Rugby Rd., said Mr. Jones's stretch objectives should be made public soon. He said sufficient funds should be allocated in the upcoming budget to cover unfunded retirement liability.

Mr. James Quinn, River Ct., said he has issues with the Human Needs Assessment being presented to Council this evening. It is good to demand more of our nonprofits, but it is not good to rely on them solely to determine the needs of the community. We should ask the community members who use services, not the providers of those services. We need to demand that organizations prove their successes.

Ms. Cathy Welch, 2924 Idlewood Dr., said the approval of CAT's new Route 11 is fast, reliable and pleasant as promised. This should not be viewed as a County route because it benefits City residents as well. The County is not contributing as much as they should. Routes like this are important.

Ms. Annette Willcox, 1400 Monticello Rd., said there should be a bus stop at Pen Park.

## **COUNCIL RESPONSES TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Szakos said she understands Mr. Reid's frustrations about affordable housing. Most housing is privately owned, and the City cannot set rents. The effects of the City's efforts are gradual. She said the Transit Center should have a large poster with the bus route and stops. She

was interested in revisions at the Lewis & Clark intersection, but she could not quite follow the suggestion. She said Council has addressed the City Manager's stretch objectives. She said she is perplexed by the figures Mr. Pfaltz continues to bring forth about the Retirement Fund. She is delighted about Route 11 and would also like to examine a Pen Park bus stop.

Mr. Norris asked staff to look into Mr. Bach's comments. He said he is also interested in exploring what can be done to improve the Ridge Street/West Main intersection. Ms. Galvin said this is a key component of the West Main intersection project. He asked staff to follow up on other intersections mentioned in Mr. Bach's memo. He thanked Ms. Seville for her comments on transit and said it would be helpful to spell out where the bus stops are.

Ms. Smith said she looks forward to the CAT discussion, and there will surely be tweaks that need to be made. She thanked Mr. Quinn for coming and said she shares some of his concerns.

Ms. Galvin said the West Main Improvement Project is a multi-faceted team that will address multi-modal transportation planning. She said Mr. Quinn raised points we need to consider and thanked him for his insight. She said even though we may not agree with what people say, there must be a tolerance for free speech.

Mr. Huja said he supports Mr. Bach's ideas for bike infrastructure and will follow up on those concerns. Also, he supported Ms. Seville's application to the CAT Advisory Committee. Also he supports Mr. Quinn's comments.

Mr. Jones said a more detailed report on his stretch objective will be on the September 3 Council agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA\* (Items removed from the consent agenda will be considered at the end of the regular agenda.)**

Ms. Smith said she wants a report on the land trust efforts and what we have contributed.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the agenda was approved on the whole. (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Smith, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Norris; Noes: None)

**a. Minutes for July 15**

Minutes July 15

**b. APPROPRIATION: Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the City of Promise - \$97,500 (2nd reading)**

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the City of Promise

**c. APPROPRIATION: Grant for Construction of McIntire Park Railroad Trail Bridge - \$761,950 (carried)**

Grant for Construction of McIntire Park Railroad Trail Bridge

- d. **APPROPRIATION: Funds from CCS1 to the Buford Science Labs Project - \$7,500 (carried)**

Funds from CCS to the Buford Science Labs Project

- e. **APPROPRIATION: Reimbursement from Paragon Solutions, Inc. for the Buford Science Labs Project - \$695 (carried)**

Reimbursement from Paragon Solutions, Inc. for the Buford Science Labs Project

- f. **APPROPRIATION: Charlottesville/Albemarle Adult Drug Treatment Court Grant Award - \$182,500 (carried)**

Charlottesville/Albemarle Adult Drug Treatment Court Grant Award

- g. **APPROPRIATION:  
City of Charlottesville Phone System Upgrade - \$380,478 (1st of 2 readings)**

City of Charlottesville Phone System Upgrade

- h. **APPROPRIATION: Virginia Commission of the Arts Challenge Grant - \$5,000 (carried)**

Virginia Commission of the Arts Challenge Grant

- i. **APPROPRIATION: Check and Connect Student Engagement Continuation Grant - \$75,000 (carried)**

Check and Connect Student Engagement Continuation Grant

- j. **APPROPRIATION: 2013 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant - \$7,500 (carried)**

2013 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant

- k. **APPROPRIATION: Proceeds of 1306 Nunley Street Property Sale by the Thomas Jefferson Community Land Trust - \$127,432.46 (carried)**

Proceeds of 1306 Nunley Street Property Sale

- l. **RESOLUTION: CHF Assistance for Building Goodness Foundation - \$8,500**

CHF Assistance for Building Goodness Foundation

- m. RESOLUTION: Washington Park Pool Bath House Renovation Funding Transfer - \$15,000**

Washington Park Pool Bath House Renovation Funding Transfer

- n. RESOLUTION:  
Authorizing Bond Issuance on Behalf of Region 10 CSB3, Inc. - Fluvanna  
Authorizing Bond Issuance on Behalf of Region 10 CSB, Inc. - Louisa**

Authorizing Bond Issuance on Behalf of Region 10 CSB3, Inc. - Fluvanna/Louisa

- o. ORDINANCE: Franchise Agreement with Sprint (2nd reading)**

Franchise Agreement with Sprint

- p. ORDINANCE: Permit Parking Zone Ordinance Update (2nd reading)**

Permit Parking Zone Ordinance Update

- q. ORDINANCE: Street Closing - Parker Place (Unaccepted) (2nd reading)**

Street Closing - Parker Place (Unaccepted)

**PUBLIC HEARING / ORDINANCE: DOMINION POWER EASEMENT FOR UNDERGROUNDING LINES AT GREENLEAF AND MCINTIRE PARKS (carried)**

Dominion Power Easement for Undergrounding Lines at Greenleaf and McIntire Parks

Mr. Gensic presented to Council. A representative from Dominion Power was also present. This is at Virginia Dominion's request and cost to reduce outages.

Ms. Smith said this movement is very promising, and she would like to see undergrounding everywhere. The Dominion representative said undergrounding is not the answer to everything. Ms. Smith asked if there is a list of problematic areas. He said the company is looking at the Meadowcreek and Ivy Gardens areas because they have a lot of trees. Mr. Huja said the City can help with easements where possible.

On motion, the public hearing was opened. Having no speakers, the hearing was closed.

Ms. Galvin asked Mr. Gensic if he knows of iTree software, which calculates the monetary value of trees. Mr. Gensic said we use this with our canopy analysis.

On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the ordinance carried.

**RESOLUTION:** ADOPTION OF THE 2013 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Adoption of the 2013 Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Creasy presented to Council. She gave an overview of the recent meetings held on the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Norris presented a suggested change stemming from collaboration with Ms. Galvin. The suggestion combines existing section 1.1 in the Housing chapter and incorporates it into a revised section 5.4, which gives language that addresses improving access for lower-income households to public amenities. The change was moved by Mr. Norris and seconded by Ms. Galvin.

Ms. Smith said she does not see why we need to delete section 1.1 and believes something is lost by morphing them together. Section 5.4 is about improving access, and Section 1.1 is more about assuaging negative impacts. She said she would vote in favor if Section 1.1 remains intact.

Ms. Galvin said the issue with Section 1.1 is that it seemed to decouple isolation with concentrated poverty.

Ms. Szakos said she supports Section 5.4 and sees no problem with Section 1.1

Mr. Norris said he does not want anything in our Comprehensive Plan that enshrines the possibility of red lining affordable housing.

Ms. Galvin suggested adding the following language to Section 1.1: "consider the effect of housing decisions on the larger geography of the City and its associated infrastructure". Mr. Huja said Section 5.4 is a good addition, and he also supported Ms. Galvin's revision of Section 1.1. Ms. Szakos also supported the secondary language.

Mr. Norris said Ms. Smith's concern about concentrating poverty in schools is not actually addressed in Section 1.1, and it addressed in Section 5.4. Ms. Smith said it needs to be about all neighborhoods.

Ms. Szakos said we need to pay attention to infrastructure and requested that Section 1.1 include associated infrastructure. Mr. Norris accepted Ms. Szakos' amendment.

On motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the proposed amendment passed. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja; Noes: Ms. Smith.) Ms. Smith said she would not support the amendment because she believes it will promote concentration of poverty.

Ms. Szakos gave some editorial changes to staff. She also asked for updated water and sewer charges for 2013. She noted the Economic Sustainability goals section should say "as a framework for Citywide policy" because the plan has not yet been adopted. She asked to add

“and nearby properties” to the Martha Jefferson site redevelopment sentence in the same section. On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the suggested changes passed (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja; Noes: Ms. Smith).

Ms. Smith said the median family income figures clash and asked staff to revise. Under Utility Fees, she suggested rephrasing “maintenance costs only” to “maintenance costs and other income”. She said goal three under Environment did not capture the staff recommendation, which read “protect, increase and provide an interconnected system of green space and buffers that support habitat for wildlife, improve water quality and....” Also, she said she is concerned that public works employees do not have the same level of safety equipment as the fire department. She would like to consider addressing that at some point.

She asked why neighborhoods are included in the small area plan drawings. She understood representing corridors, but not parts of the neighborhoods. Ms. Creasy said staff wants to make sure the neighborhoods stay informed of things that are occurring. Ms. Galvin said this implies that certain neighborhoods would not want to be included in particular plans. Ms. Smith said she would like assurance that neighborhoods are not being targeted for the same kind of redevelopment the entrance corridors are being targeted for. Ms. Creasy said that is definitely not the intended effect; this provides staff with a tool for identifying known concerns and facilitating discussions with the neighborhoods.

Ms. Szakos said she supported the green infrastructure proposal but not replacing the “only”. Ms. Smith requested removing “only”; Ms. Szakos agreed. On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the proposed changes were passed. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja, Ms. Smith; Noes: None).

Ms. Smith asked to change the word “must” be considered to “should” be considered under Housing Goal 1. Mr. Norris said if we are not going to insist our Comprehensive Plan fall in line with our percentage goal, then the goal is useless. Mr. Huja seconded the motion. The motion was defeated. (Ayes: Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja; Noes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos.)

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the Comprehensive Plan was approved. (Ayes: Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja; Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos; Noes: None.)

Mr. Huja requested hard copies of the finalized plan.

## **RESOLUTION: CAT PROPOSAL & ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION**

### **CAT Proposal & Advisory Board Recommendation**

#### **CAT Advisory Board Recommendation**

Mr. Jones presented the CAT proposal to Council. He gave an overview of the study background and reviewed proposed route changes.

Mr. Norris thanked CAT for replacing the Belmont Park route.



Mr. Jones said this will be on the website for those who wish to view it.

Ms. Szakos asked if a stop at Pen Park was being considered for Route 11. Mr. Jones said this will be evaluated when the infrastructure is there. Ms. Szakos asked for a time estimate. Mr. Jones said this should occur in the next eight months or so.

Ms. Smith said the quarter mile shading is helpful and asked to add City boundaries to the map. She thanked CAT for being at the Bike Walk Play JPA event. Ms. Smith said she is pleased they are working with the City's IT department on mobile applications and data tracking. Ms. Smith asked for bus service near Jefferson School.

Mr. Huja said half hour service during peak routes is helpful and thanked him for a more direct, improved route schedule.

Ms. Smith asked where people can go to locate current bus stops. Mr. Jones said the information is on the web, and staff will provide posters once the new routes have passed.

Ms. Szakos asked about budgetary requirements and clarified that the budgetary impact is just for this year.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Smith, the CAT Proposed Plans were approved. (Ayes: Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja; Mr. Norris, Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos; Noes: None.)

Ms. Galvin thanked CAT for improvements to the predictability of the system, which will increase ridership. Ms. Szakos asked CAT to remember people who cannot access the web when providing information. Mr. Norris asked how much the night service for Route 10 at Pantops costs. Mr. Jones estimated \$60,000-\$65,000. Mr. Norris asked where the funding is coming from to implement these changes. Mr. Jones said staff will come back to Council at a later time with proposals for funding sources. Ms. Galvin said we should begin a conversation about extending CAT service to Martha Jefferson.

Mr. Jones presented the CAT Advisory Board proposal to Council. The board would comprise of a cohesive group of representatives that would meet on a regular basis, make recommendations, and help with budgetary and operational improvements.

Mr. Norris said the board should include a robust number of members who are actually transit users. Ms. Galvin said Bike/Ped members should be included on the board. Ms. Galvin said PLACE may be involved when planning bus stops. Mr. Huja said all graphics should have some coordination with PLACE. Ms. Smith said taxis could be a group that becomes involved at some point.

Council supported the idea and asked Mr. Jones to return with a rewritten resolution that incorporates their suggestions.

## **REPORT: PLACE DESIGN TASK FORCE ANNUAL UPDATE**

### **PLACE Design Task Force Annual Update**

Ms. Andrea Douglas, PLACE Chair, presented to Council. Mr. Richard Price, PLACE Secretary, also addressed Council. They gave an overview of the activities of the PLACE Design Task Force.

Ms. Szakos thanked PLACE for their work. She said it is important to engage community assets to design our community. She said the City may be too small for the organizational chart PLACE proposed.

Mr. Norris said we do not always do the best job of identifying local assets when working to design our community. He thanked PLACE for their report.

Ms. Smith said Council is interested in how the public engagement piece can be translated to Charlottesville. There is no replacement for having diversity on the main team.

Mr. Huja said he believes it is important to have design expertise in the City but does not think it requires a separate department.

Ms. Galvin questioned whether adding staff at this time in the face of all there is to do is the right approach.

## **RESOLUTION: HUMAN SERVICES NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

### **Human Services Needs Assessment**

Ms. Gretchen Ellis presented to Council. She gave an overview of the methodology used for the Human Needs Assessment, reviewed areas of greatest need, overviewed adult and children pathways to self-sufficiency, and reviewed recommendations for ABRT, funding and further planning.

Mr. Norris asked about the second funding recommendation and how it connects to the information presented. Ms. Ellis said the recommendation did not come from the Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE) but from other members of the work group.

Ms. Erika Viccellio, with the Mental Health Coalition, said the recommendation was made because mental health is a top priority for adults.

In response to an inquiry from Ms. Szakos, Ms. Mary Frances Porter said they will identify what outcomes the partners will measure and examine both consumer and provider feedback, as well as collective impact.

Ms. Szakos asked who will conduct the process. Ms. Christine Nardi, CNE, said evaluations of the coalitions and programs will be done by CNE staff and Ms. Porter, who has evaluation expertise. Ms. Smith asked if the toolkit gives training to nonprofits on how to structure a program and determine whether it is effective. Ms. Porter said the process creates tools for them to design their own outcome measurements from the start.

Ms. Smith said she hoped the Needs Assessment will assess the fundamental needs of our community instead of offering splintered services. Ms. Ellis said this is what the network hopes to achieve. We hope to help people navigate the available resources.

Ms. Szakos said the peer-to-peer task force seems to be the way to go, but we should address this during the next budget cycle.

Ms. Galvin said she is concerned that there was not a competitive RFP process. Ms. Ellis said because the money was already allocated, it was not required. She said the idea was proprietary. Ms. Galvin said there is a perception issue.

Mr. Norris said giving childcare assistance will help eight children for one year, and this may not be making a substantial impact.

Mr. Sarad Davenport said a barrier to connecting people with services can be resolved by peer-to-peer networks.

Mr. Murphy said Council may want to deliberate whether they want to spend money on the "how" or the "what".

On motion by Ms. Galvin, seconded by Ms. Szakos, Council accepted the following recommendations: explore best practices in peer support networks; identify, map, and engage existing networks; determine gaps in network coverage; develop a model job description to identify peers and model curricula for training peers; and recommend means to expand and coordinate networks, including opportunities for ongoing education, information, and feedback mechanisms. (Ayes: Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris; Noes: None.)

Ms. Szakos asked if the recommendation for childcare would have come forward had the Barrett Learning Center not been closing at the time. Ms. Ellis said she would bring this conversation back to the steering committee and return with a revised recommendation.

Ms. Galvin said we need to devise a systemic resolution instead of putting money towards helping a select few.

Ms. Szakos moved to go forward with the \$15,000 allocation for the Center for Nonprofit Excellence pilot evaluation plan tool. Mr. Huja seconded the motion. Ms. Smith said she is voting against it because it would be better to make this decision in a bigger context. The resolution passed. (Ayes: Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja; Noes: Mr. Norris; Ms. Smith.)

Ms. Szakos moved to support the ABRT recommendations; Ms. Galvin seconded. The motion passed. (Ayes: Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris; Noes: None.)

Ms. Ellis said staff will return with a recommendation in four weeks.

**APPROPRIATION:** FY 2014 STORMWATER UTILITY BUDGET  
APPROPRIATION - \$1,138,734 (carried)

FY 2014 Stormwater Utility Budget Appropriation

Ms. Riddervold presented to Council. She reviewed staff recommendation for approval and appropriation.

On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the motion carried.

**RESOLUTION:** ALLOCATION OF CHARLOTTESVILLE HOUSING FUNDS TO  
CRHA FOR PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS - \$300,000

Allocation of Charlottesville Housing Funds to CRHA for Playground Improvements

Mr. Tolbert presented to Council. Staff is undertaking a review with CRHA, and the quality of playgrounds has proved to be an issue. Staff recommends reallocating \$300,000 of the CRHA redevelopment money for playground improvements. Mr. Daly was also present to answer questions.

Mr. Huja said he visited some of these playgrounds this morning, and they are in bad shape.

Mr. Norris asked Mr. Daly if we can impart knowledge about maintaining playgrounds in the City to CRHA. Mr. Daly said we have examined playground units with Housing Authority staff and will be training their staff on how to identify and repair simple safety violations. Mr. Norris asked if they have looked into the Kaboom Organization, which provides discounted playground equipment. Mr. Daly said the equipment we are purchasing is heavily discounted.

Mr. Norris asked where we are in the redevelopment process. Mr. Jones said we are examining capacity and determining what needs to take place and how to take next steps. Staff plans to report to Council in October.

Mr. Huja said the City maintains playgrounds for schools and asked why we could not do the same for the Housing Authority. Mr. Daly said we may be able to do so with a MOA.

Ms. Smith asked how close the Michie Drive playground and the new park playgrounds will be to one another. Mr. Daly said it will be about 500 yards, but in both cases children have to cross the street. Ms. Smith said it seems that we are segregating public housing neighborhoods. Ms. Szakos said she views this more as an extension of their yard.

Ms. Szakos said she hopes we can upgrade the basketball court equipment. Mr. Daly said we may be able to do so if we realize cost savings on the project. Mr. Huja asked staff to look at the courts at Westhaven.

On motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the motion passed unanimously. (Ayes: Ms. Galvin, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris; Noes: None.)

**APPROPRIATION:** ADU PLAZA CONTRIBUTION - \$487,490.59 (carried as revised)

ADU Plaza Contribution

Ms. Kathy McHugh presented to Council. Staff is requesting appropriation of funds for the Section 3 employment program, AHIP's Block-by-Block program, and AHIP's Emergency Repair Program.

Ms. Tierra Howard presented to Council on the comprehensive training program for Section 3 employment opportunities.

Ms. Szakos asked about the living wage portion of the report, which quotes an outdated rate of \$10.52. Mr. Jones said this is still accurate for temporary employees. Ms. Szakos confirmed that this is similar to the summer internship program. She asked if we have assurance that this would not displace current workers. Mr. Jones said this program will serve to supplement current workers, not to replace them.

Ms. Galvin asked how many residents would take part in the program. Ms. Howard said nine individuals. Ms. Galvin asked why private sector partners such as the Chamber and UVA have not been involved with planning at this stage. Ms. Howard said the Steering Committee suggested focusing on one employer as a model and then expanding the program if it worked. Ms. Galvin said encouraging participation in the private sector as soon as possible would be a boost to the program.

Ms. Smith asked how many units the 5% represents. Mr. Tolbert said it would have been about 12 units. He said we are pleased to receive cash from this deal, because many developers say they are renting to low income residents when they are really students. Staff is working on a mechanism to address this.

Mr. Norris asked why communication has not been good with the HAC. Mr. Tolbert said staff has a policy against discussing specific allocations for legal reasons. Mr. Norris asked what other funding sources we have explored. Mr. Tolbert said we do not know of any. Ms. Howard said we did apply for the DMB Bamaworks grant, but that was for \$10,000, which will not cover what staff needs for this initiative.

Ms. Szakos said these folks are eligible for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, and there are a lot of families waiting to move into public housing who cannot get housing in the meantime. She said this will move people into a higher level of housing and allow others to

move into a level appropriate to their situation, so she is comfortable with the allocation coming from housing.

Mr. Huja said he thinks this money should be used for affordable housing and not Section 3. We should find money for Section 3 some other way.

Mr. Norris said absent a direct, tangible connection to housing, he will not be able to support this.

Ms. Szakos moved to approve with the understanding that this will be amended for the second reading. Ms. Galvin seconded.

Mr. Norris said he understands the rationale behind not bringing specific recommendations to the HAC, but he wants input from the HAC on how they see using housing funds in a way that will accomplish the same goal.

Ms. Szakos requested the second reading be delayed to the first meeting in October so the HAC will have time to meet beforehand.

Ms. Smith asked staff to bring back information on the level of need from AHIP.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Norris said the Richmond City Council is considering an ordinance that would recognize same sex marriages legalized in other states for the purposes of extending employment benefits for same sex couples.

Ms. Szakos said she is interested in exploring this further.

Mr. Huja said his understanding is that this ordinance is dependent upon the state passing the law. Mr. Norris said we would have to cross that bridge when we came to it.

Ms. Galvin said the U.S. Military just passed a similar motion.

Council asked the City Attorney to explore this further and bring the issue back to Council for consideration.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Lena Seville, Altavista Ave., said she was not pleased with the PLACE Design Task Force's efforts at community engagement.

Mr. Brandon Collins, 418 Fairway Ave., said the CRHA playground issue may be an eye opener for how difficult it is for PHAR and the Housing Authority to get things done. Please consult with PHAR going forward with the CDC.

Mr. Scott Bandy, 1639 Cherry Ave., said he was not aware we had a stormwater utility department.

**COUNCIL RESPONSE**

Ms. Galvin said PLACE meets every month, the second Thursday of the month from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m., and the subcommittees were meeting as the members were available.

Meeting adjourned.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gaige Rice". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Clerk of Council