

**COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL MEETING
February 28, 2012**

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 4:30 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:

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

Other Officials Present:

Virgil R. Hazelett, P.E., 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
George T. Drumwright, Jr., Deputy County Manager for Community Services
Angela N. Harper, FAICP, Deputy County Manager for Special Services
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development
John A. Vithoukas, Deputy County Manager for Administration
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Glover called the meeting to order at 4:46 p.m.

Mr. Hazelett briefly reviewed the agenda and noted that he was requesting removal of one of the listed items, Urban Mixed Use District Ordinance Revisions, because it needed more work by staff and was not ready for presentation to the Board.

African-American Trailblazers Poster

Mr. Hazelett recognized Neil Luther, Director of Recreation and Parks, whose staff presented each of the members of the Board and Mr. Hazelett with a poster featuring 12 notable Henrico African-Americans who were identified by the 2011 Commemoration Advisory Commission's African-American Committee as Henrico trailblazers. Mr. Luther noted that the posters are being distributed to each of the County's elementary school classrooms and middle school and high school libraries. They were also distributed to the public at recent Black History Month events held at the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center.

Mr. Thomson thanked Mr. Luther and his staff as well as the Board, Mr. Hazelett, and 2011 Commemoration Advisory Commission Chairman Patricia O'Bannon for the posters and for promoting African-American history within the County. He suggested that the County recognize not only deceased trailblazers but those who are still living. Mr. Nelson asked for clarification of the distribution of the posters and pointed out that he was pleasantly surprised to see his great grandmother as one of the trailblazers featured on the poster. Mrs. O'Bannon explained the criteria used by the Commission in selecting trailblazers for recognition and Mr. Hazelett advised the Board that different criteria can be considered in the future if the Board wishes to have further discussions on this matter.

Brook Road Neighborhood Park Master Plan

Mr. Hazelett recognized Mr. Luther, who provided an overview and brief history of the 6.13-acre site of this proposed neighborhood park, which is located on Brook Road north of its intersection with Hillard Road in the Fairfield District. The site was used as a trailer park prior to being flooded during Hurricane Gaston in 2004. The County purchased the property from the private owner in September 2006 and provided funding through the Capital Improvements Program to develop a master plan of the site. The Division of Recreation and Parks has solicited input from the community in developing the master plan, and the Department of Community Revitalization has worked with residents of the Brook Road corridor to ensure that the property serves as a gateway and reinforces the history of the area.

After completing this introductory overview, Mr. Luther narrated a slide presentation that offered an aerial view of the property; alternate views highlighting the property's characteristics and natural features; the community green space master plan of the park prepared by the County's consulting firm; and prototypes of an historical interpretation plaza, visitor's center/shelter, rail fencing, and entrance gate proposed for the park and currently used in other community parks within the County's park system. The concept plan developed by the consulting team calls for largely passive usages of the park and also includes a children's garden, enhanced plantings, a managed meadow, covered benches, a pedestrian path, and 47 parking spaces. Mr. Luther pointed out that much of the discussion between County staff and the community centered on the portion of the property fronting Brook Road. Consistent with the County's revitalization efforts along Brook Road, the master plan provides for streetscape improvements. In response to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Luther explained that the proposed visitor's shelter will be rented to community groups on a first-come, first-served basis. He clarified for Mr. Kaechele that all but 1.1 acres of the site are floodplain.

Mr. Emerson concluded the presentation on this item by advising the Board that the recommended next steps are scheduling a public hearing by the Board on the master plan of development for the park and also scheduling Board action on the Planning Commission's determination on February 9, 2012 that the park site is substantially in accord with the County's comprehensive plan. Hearing no objections from the Board, Mr. Hazelett stated that staff will schedule these items for the Board's March 13, 2012 regular meeting.

2011 Annual Crime Report

Mr. Hazelett recognized Doug Middleton, Chief of Police, who distributed to the Board copies of the *Henrico Police Division Annual Report 2011*. After providing a brief introduction to this item, Chief Middleton recognized the following members of his staff who were present: Tom Leary, Assistant Chief of Police for Administrative Operations; Jun Fitzgerald, Assistant Chief of Police for Investigative Operations; Fred Boiling, Assistant Chief of Police for Patrol Operations; Steve Alloway, Assistant Chief of Police for Special Operations; Kathy Sobczak, Controller; Captains Chris Alberta, Humberto Cardounel, Clarence Hunter, Pete MacRae, Carl Mueller, and A.J. Scott; and Lieutenants Doug Barker, Richard Cosby, Dirk Engels, Jeff Holmes, John Huff, Shawn Maxwell, Eric Owens, Doug Perry, and Cindy Wood.

Chief Middleton narrated a slide presentation and began by noting the Division of Police commenced "Operation 360 - An All Points Crime Initiative" in June 2011, a concept that spearheaded the Division's transition into the use of intelligence-led policing. Chief Middleton explained the Division's Intelligence Operations Patrol (IOP) was formed to work primarily on anticipating risks and improving public safety. He defined intelligence-led policing as a contemporary model for situating the intelligence function within the overall mission of the police organization. Chief Middleton elaborated on this model and remarked that his staff has a crime briefing each week where a report is generated to help them identify specific geographic areas where the department needs to focus more of its time and resources. He then shared slides that provided five-year comparative statistics within the County for calls for service, arrests, and non-violent and violent offenses. Chief Middleton concluded by reviewing the County's crime rates and statistics over the past 20 years and its offense totals by magisterial district during the past five years. He expressed a desire to partner with the Board of Supervisors and commented that his staff will gladly attend community meetings.

Mr. Hazelett directed the Board to pages 35 - 40 of the Division's annual report, which lists more detailed crime statistics by magisterial district. Chief Middleton advised that information contained in the report will be posted on the County's web site. He referred to his friendship and close relationship with Richmond Police Chief Bryan Norwood. In response to a question from Mr. Glover, Chief Middleton elaborated on the County's Part I crime trends as reported in his presentation and on page 43 of the annual report.

Mr. Glover noted Henrico citizens' pride in the Division and expressed appreciation for its professionalism and visibility in Henrico neighborhoods. Chief Middleton explained how the department has softened its approach in the community and implemented a change in its uniform policy so that officer attire is now less formal. In response to a question from Mr. Thornton, Chief Middleton elaborated on how the Division has been responding to recent increases in larcenies and burglaries in eastern Henrico. He noted he will be attending a town meeting hosted by Mr. Thornton on March 19 where citizens will be able to voice their concerns and the Division will have an opportunity to share information. In response to a question from Mr. Kaechele, Chief Middleton discussed the challenges of controlling underage drinking and the invaluable role of school resource officers in addressing this challenge. Mr. Nelson thanked Assistant Chief Boiling and Capt. Hunter for allowing him to ride with them in his district and providing him with a firsthand opportunity to see how Henrico police personnel interact with the community. In

response to questions from Mr. Nelson, Chief Middleton elaborated on the Division's crime fighting strategies for particular types of crime such as larcenies and the level of training received by school resource officers to handle threats or acts of violence on school property.

The Board recessed for dinner at 5:42 p.m. and reconvened at 5:57 p.m.

Richmond Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau (RMCVB) Update

Mr. Hazelett recognized Jack Berry, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Richmond Metropolitan Convention & Visitor's Bureau (RMCVB). Mr. Berry acknowledged the presence of Emie Vanarsdall, who was recently appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve on the RMCVB Board of Directors, and then shared a three-minute tourish video that his agency developed in cooperation with the Greater Richmond Partnership and Virginia Tourism Corporation. In response to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon, he informed the Board that the cost of the video was \$150,000. A packet of promotional pamphlets developed by RMCVB was distributed to the Board and Mr. Hazelett.

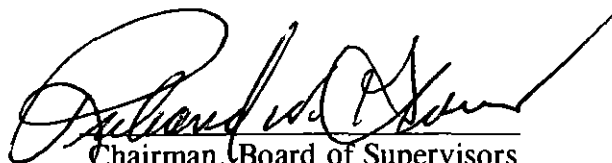
Mr. Berry then narrated a slide presentation titled "Tourism Marketing Highlights." He noted that RMCVB's goals are putting heads into beds, delivering visitors to attractions, booking meetings and conventions, and providing shoppers for retail. Mr. Berry explained the current travel trends show that families are taking shorter vacations, planning more impulsively, and taking more frequent vacations that are closer to home. During his presentation, Mr. Berry reviewed the respective missions of the Virginia Tourism Corporation and RMCVB; the impact of visitor spending in the region; the equal division within the region among the various travel segments; RMCVB Board priorities; hotel/motel sales trends and room growth; how history is a hard sell; growth in revenue per available room (REVPAR) during the past nine years within the Commonwealth's major urban areas; the role of the Greater Richmond Convention Center; visitor plans to return to the region; hosted national conventions; tourism product development such as Civil War trails, NASCAR, and the historic Route 1 corridor; major events and conferences drawing national audiences; innovative partnerships; target leisure markets; travel statistics among different generations; marketing publications and strategies; the social media landscape; sports tourism, including The Jefferson Cup and Richmond Strikers; bringing the Richmond region to life online; visitors centers; press tours; and national media coverage. At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Berry thanked the Board for its continued support over the past 29 years.

In response to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon, Mr. Berry elaborated on the role of the Virginia Tourism Corporation in providing research and survey information to RMCVB. There was extended discussion by Mr. Berry and the Board concerning the importance of the national Jefferson Cup soccer tournament to the region and the logistics of both the Jefferson Cup and a new tournament established by the Richmond Strikers for teams that cannot get into the Jefferson Cup. Mr. Berry also responded to questions from the Board relating to the distribution market of the video that was shown earlier, the pending departure of the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Tourism Corporation, and how the County and the region can enhance marketing of its historic attractions. There was further discussion of the Jefferson Cup tournament and heightened competition from Atlanta and other locations around the country to host the tournament. Mr. Berry alluded to the challenges of keeping this tournament within the Richmond region and Mr.

Hazelett commented that in order to do so the County will need to consider adding more artificial turf soccer fields.

Mr. Hazelett briefly reviewed the items listed on the Board's 7:00 p.m. meeting agenda and noted that the members of the Board would be receiving at the meeting the *Financial Trend Monitoring System* document for fiscal years 2001-2011, which is prepared by the Department of Finance Office of Management & Budget and provides an evaluation of financial and economic indicators. Mr. Thomson raised concerns brought to his attention by a constituent regarding pending state legislation that would change identification requirements for Virginia's voters. There was discussion by Mr. Hazelett, Mr. Rapisarda, and the Board of the ramifications of this legislation for Henrico voters. Mr. Thomson suggested that it would be helpful to have new election law provisions explained to the Board in a work session after the General Assembly convenes. In response to concerns raised by Mr. Glover, Mr. Hazelett advised the Board that he will be meeting with Mr. Vithoulkas and Legislative Liaison Mike Schnurman at the conclusion of the 2012 General Assembly Session to re-evaluate the format of Mr. Schnurman's weekly legislative updates to the Board

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Richard W. Hazelett
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Henrico County, Virginia