

COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
February 9, 2016

The Henrico County Board of Supervisors convened a special meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at 5:45 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:**

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

**Other Officials Present:**

John A. Vithoukas, County Manager  
Rhysa G. South, Senior Assistant County Attorney  
Tanya B. Harding, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk to the Board  
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  
Douglas A. Middleton, Deputy County Manager for Public Safety/Police Chief  
Randall R. Silber, Deputy County Manager for Community Development  
Tamra R. McKinney, Director of Public Relations & Media Services

Mr. Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

Mr. Vithoukas briefly referred to the items listed on the agenda for this special meeting.

**Advocate for the Aging Overview**

Mr. Vithoukas introduced Jelisa Turner, the County's Advocate for the Aging. He reminded the Board this is a new position within the Department of Human Resources that was approved in the current year's budget. Mr. Vithoukas pointed out Ms. Turner has a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, where she majored in sociology, and a master's degree in Gerontology from the University of South Carolina. She previously worked with the elderly population throughout Central Virginia. Ms. Turner will be reaching out to Board members to receive their input.

Ms. Turner narrated a slide presentation titled *EngAGE in Henrico County: Navigating Through the Services and Resources Available to Older Henrico Citizens*. She began by explaining the

mission of the County's new senior advocacy program, which is as follows: promote and support older adults and their families in their quests for wellness and self-sufficiency through a coordinated community-based network of services, opportunities, benefits, senior-oriented special events, and collaborative efforts that meet the needs of citizens; serve as an advocate on behalf of older adults in the community; and help local governmental departments plan and prepare for changing demographics. Mrs. O'Bannon noted she receives a lot of calls from citizens expressing concerns that meals received through the Meals on Wheels program are not very appetizing. Ms. Turner agreed to relay these concerns to advocacy staff at both FeedMore and Senior Connections.

Ms. Turner continued her presentation by identifying areas of Henrico with the highest concentration of person 60 and older, the types of care coordination that are being offered, common questions that have been asked through the County's community resource line, community engagement activities, and areas of assistance, including housing, transportation, and safety; workforce and finance; and health and wellness. She responded to comments and questions from the Board regarding existing programs in the community available to senior citizens, outreach opportunities for the County, how she receives referrals, and the ways she will be disseminating information to the public. Mr. Vitoulkas noted Ms. Turner will be very active and visible in the community and pointed out her position is still evolving.

Ms. Turner resumed her presentation by reviewing specific first quarter projects that are on the horizon, which will include several community seminars and events directed at senior citizens. Mr. Glover voiced concerns that some of the planned events, particularly the first annual Senior and Caregiver Expos scheduled for March 24 at Deep Run Recreation Center, are being held in areas of the County that do not have the highest concentrations of senior citizens based on demographic data provided by Ms. Turner earlier in her presentation. Ms. Turner acknowledged Mr. Glover's concerns and said she is looking for facilities in other areas of Henrico to hold future events. She also mentioned there are plans to hold a second expo in eastern Henrico later in the year.

Ms. Turner returned to her presentation by elaborating on an expanding kinship care group and a support group for grandparents and other relatives who are raising a child under the age of 18. She explained that the mission of an expanding Henrico Council on Aging is to be a well-informed and interconnected network of service providers for disabled and older adults living in Henrico. Ms. Turner concluded her presentation by highlighting some of her outreach efforts in cooperation with other County agencies and community organizations.

Mr. Vitoulkas reiterated the purpose of Ms. Turner's presentation was to introduce her to the Board, explain her role with the County, and assure Board members she will be following up individually with them to discuss and address issues of concern relating to older citizens in their districts. Mr. Branin suggested the County compile a mailing list of all senior citizens who reside in Henrico so they can receive the new quarterly newsletter produced by Ms. Turner and related information she will be developing for this age group and their caregivers.

The Board recessed for dinner at 6:31 p.m. and reconvened at 6:39 p.m.

Mr. Vithoukas announced Ms. Crawley will be retiring from the County on April 29 after 37 years of service. The Board congratulated her on her upcoming retirement.

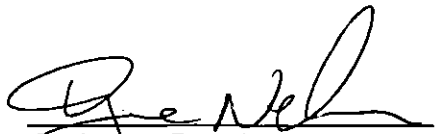
Mrs. McKinney advised the Board that a new *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reporter, Elliot Robinson, will begin covering the County and meetings of the Board at the end of the month. Mr. Robinson is coming to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* from *The Daily Progress* in Charlottesville, where he is currently Associate City Editor.

Mr. Vithoukas noted Richmond City Council voted the previous evening to approve the Broad Street Rapid Transit (BRT) project. The Board will consider a resolution at its next meeting authorizing Mr. Vithoukas to sign a development agreement for this project. Mr. Foster reminded the Board that the agreement will involve the City, the County, and GRTC Transit System. The County will contribute \$400,000 to the project, which will be managed by the Virginia Department of Transportation. The County's participation has allowed the City to apply for and receive federal TIGER grant funding for the project.

### **Regular Meeting Agenda Items**

Mr. Vithoukas reviewed the agenda for the 7:00 p.m. regular meeting, beginning with the one rezoning case listed on the agenda for public hearing. He advised the Board that two individuals had signed up to speak during the public comment period, one to express concerns regarding having Pocahontas on the Henrico County flag and the other to reiterate concerns presented to the Board last year regarding the use of bull hooks on elephants during circus performances. While Mr. Vithoukas was highlighting the general agenda items, he and Chief Middleton responded to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon pertaining to costs associated with the radio communications system replacement that would not be covered by lease revenue bonds financed through the Economic Development Authority. Mr. Foster responded to a question from Mrs. O'Bannon relating to the location of the River Road Sewage Pumping Station access road for which staff was recommending an award of contract to repair deteriorated sections.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Henrico County, Virginia