

Economic Opportunities Commission
November 14, 2018
meeting

Call to order: 7:09p
Adjourn: 8pm

Attendance:

Present

Hope Nelson
Greg Parks
Maani Stewart
Kelly Stone
Geof Caldwell
Jessica Lurz
LaDonna Sanders
LaVon Curtis
Canek Aguirre

Not present

Anne Sclater
Sal Biberaj
Gila Harris
Genevieve Fields

Elections

- 4 new city council members & new mayor were elected

HQ2 Discussion

- Presents concern on the impact of affordable housing in the region; but there were some housing elements involved in the agreement that were factored in to help offset impact on housing
 - Agreement includes an estimated \$200M over 10 years for housing
 - There's a 25 page document that's available to the public that explains the deal between state of VA & Amazon --- will be accessible on city website
 - Alexandria e-news (city's e-alert system) has details
- Virginia Tech campus will be coming to Alexandria which will have impact on housing as well; estimated 7500 students will be concentrated into the Route 1 corridor

Public Hearing w/ State Representatives

- Hearing next tuesday, 7pm @ city hall about upcoming legislative session in RVA; a relevant issue for us:
 - Importance of investing in housing trust fund to build affordable housing units
 - EOC can draft & write a letter to send to them in advance of the meeting if no EOC members can attend

Minutes

- Geof motioned, Lavon 2nd for Oct. minutes approval

Membership

- LaDonna stepping down, will work with Councilman Chapman to find replacement
- 3 applicants
 - Colter Hansen is present at meeting
 - Interests are in low-income/economic & environmental issues
 - Cat. 3 candidate
 - All in favor
 - Jose De Jesus Frias
 - Geof talked to 3 of 4 references --- Jose comes highly recommended
 - All in favor
 - Timothy J Beaty
 - No references reached--two current members know of him and recommend for the commission.

Open discussion

- December meeting will be to talk about the draft of Needs Assessment
- Women's commission report will be ready in coming weeks; Community Health Assessment is in the works
- Across the board, housing has been identified as the biggest issue for the city
- Geof had meeting with the Aging Commission --- he's been invited to several of their meeting; suggested that we invite them to one of our 2019 meetings
- Chair's meeting was attended by Kelly
 - Anne w/ csb, Jeff w/ aging, LaVon children & youth, Lesa @ social services advisory board will most likely reach out to the commission
- Environmental commission will be having meeting with AHHAC during 1st week of Dec.
- Next meeting will be at City Hall (downstairs); will need to come in thru the main
 - Geof is inviting the commission to his house for light supper before the meeting