

Board Matters

March 16, 2023

Fairfax County Housing Symposium - March 15, 2023

Chairman McKenna thanked staff for their tremendous work on another successful Housing Symposium, which is a partnership between the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) and the George Mason University School of Business. Chairman McKenna acknowledged Brandy Thompson and Linda Hoffman for their hard work and preparation for the sessions; Anna Shapiro for her presentation during one of the sessions; and Vin Rogers, who was a part of the original idea and pushed this event forward. Chairman McKenna extended a special thanks to Commissioner Maribojoc, for his role as a partner with George Mason University, as well as, Tom Fleetwood, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for his leadership.

Chairman McKenna noted that it was great to be back in person for the fourth year of the housing symposium, and that there was standing room only for parts of the day. Chairman McKenna mentioned that individuals she had spoken to had positive responses and highly valued the event.

Director Fleetwood, in return, thanked Chairman McKenna and Commissioner Maribojoc for their leadership, patience, and helping grow the housing symposium into something that is advancing the dialogue of affordable housing within Fairfax County. Director Fleetwood also gave special thanks to all Commissioners who were able to attend and to staff for their hard work.

Request to amend the Approved 2023 FCRHA Scholarship Program

Commissioner Feng asked how to proceed, within Robert's Rules of Order, with amending the FCRHA 2023 Scholarship program item approved at today's, March 16, 2023, FCRHA meeting. The scholarship item approved the use of \$50,000 annually for individuals who reside in housing supported by the FCRHA, beginning calendar year 2023.

Commissioner Feng is requesting to amend the item from automatically renewing annually, to include a sunset rule, that the program will be reviewed in five (5) years. Deputy County Attorney, Cynthia Bailey, will explore and collaborate with Commissioner Feng, providing guidance regarding reconsideration rules for an approved item.

Wesley Housing Development Project, Fairfax City, Virginia

Commissioner Feng extended a special thanks to Anna Shapiro, Deputy Director, Real Estate, Finance & Development, and Julie Chen, Senior Real Estate Manager, with Real Estate and Finance, for their patience and time, providing a detailed overview of the various aspects of the Wesley Housing Development project.

Congratulations and Farewell to Commissioner Maribojoc

Chairman McKenna announced a bittersweet moment, that today, March 16, 2023 is the last meeting for Commissioner Maribojoc, as he will be moving on to serve as a member of the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

Commissioner Maribojoc thanked his fellow Commissioners, as well as staff, for the last two and a half years, as he has seen a lot of diligent and good work accomplished. Commissioner Maribojoc noted that stepping down from the FCRHA was somewhat unexpected; however, the BZA is an opportunity to serve the County in another capacity.

Commissioner Maribojoc stated that George Mason University is a strong and willing partner on housing issues. Commissioner Maribojoc noted that housing is also something that he is interested in, personally, and that the George Mason University Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship, School of Business, will continue to be supportive as it relates to education.

Chairman McKenna summed up the sentiments and farewells from the Commissioners by stating that Commissioner Maribojoc will be greatly missed, and everyone wished him well in his future endeavors as a member of the BZA.

50 Units of Permanent Supportive Housing for Adults with Serious Mental Illness.

Director Fleetwood informed the Commissioners that HCD staff is in the process of negotiating an agreement with the Commonwealth of Virginia for the FCRHA to administer 50 units of supportive housing for adults with serious mental illness in order to promote wellness and prevent and end homelessness. These units will be administered by the Rental Assistance Division and a formal award announcement will be made in the coming months. This opportunity is a testament to the outstanding work and services that staff provides on behalf of the FCRHA.

Introduction of Patricia McCay, Assistant County Attorney

Cynthia Bailey, Deputy County Attorney, took the opportunity to introduce her colleague, Patricia (Patti) McCay, Assistant County Attorney. Through an office reorganization, Patti and her team will be joining forces to support the FCRHA. Patti's team brings experience with procurement, finance, budgeting, and bond work, which is a natural alignment with the work of the current County Attorney "Dream Team."

Happy Saint Patrick's Day Wish

Commissioner Kennedy wished everyone a Happy Saint Patrick's Day and shared a warm thought that relates to housing, "*may your home never be big enough to include all of your friends*".