CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date: December 7, 2020

Action Required: Approval of Resolution

Presenter: John Blair, Acting City Manager

Staff Contact: Kyna Thomas, Chief of Staff/Clerk of Council

Title: Disposition of City Council-appointed Boards and Commissions

Background

Charlottesville City Council met on October 6, 2020, in a work session to discuss City Council-appointed boards and commissions.

The City Council appoints members to over thirty Council-established boards and Councilors serve on an additional thirty-plus boards. Several Councilors expressed a desire to evaluate all boards and commissions to consider:

- Whether the board purpose is still relevant to City goals and initiatives.
- Whether Council participation on the board is necessary.
- Whether the board serves to advise Council or staff.
- Whether changes to board make-up would need to be considered.
- Staff capacity to support board and commission meetings.
- Ensuring transparency for benefit of the public.

Discussion

Council agreed on the following actions:

Dissolve

- Belmont Bridge Steering Committee
- Hydraulic Road Planning Advisory Panel
- Streets That Work/Code Audit Steering Committee after completing its task

Re-evaluate Council participation at a later date

- Historic Resources Committee

Table

- Police Civilian Review Board discussion pending General Assembly decisions

Transition to staff-advisory entity

- Parking Advisory Panel
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
- PLACE Design Task Force
- Water Resources Protection Program Advisory Committee

Director of Communications Brian Wheeler advised that during the Covid-19 State of Emergency, one virtual meeting per month would be supported for all boards and commissions, and an additional six monthly slots for a maximum of three hours each could be accommodated for subcommittee meetings on a first-come, first-served basis.

Alignment with Council Vision Area and Strategic Plan

This action is in line with Section 5.4 of the City's Strategic Plan for Fostering Effective Community Engagement. The wide array of seats on the city's boards and commissions offers significant opportunity for community engagement. By periodically reviewing the alignment of boards and commissions, City Council helps to promote effective and meaningful use volunteer, staff, public and Council time in working to achieve city goals.

Budgetary Impact:

None

Alternatives:

City Council could delay action.

RESOLUTION

Disposition of City Council-appointed Boards and Commissions

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Charlottesville previously established specific entities pursuant to its authority conferred by Virginia Code Section 15.2-1411; and

WHEREAS, the Council convened an October 6, 2020 work session to determine if these entities should still exist or be appointed by the Council; and

WHEREAS, after its deliberations, the Council determined that the status of several entities needed to be revised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville that the following boards or committees are dissolved: Belmont Bridge Steering Committee, Hydraulic Road Planning Advisory Panel, and Streets That Work/Code Audit Steering Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following boards or committees will transition from public bodies appointed by City Council to staff-advisory committees: Parking Advisory Panel, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, PLACE Design Task Force, and Water Resources Protection Program Advisory Committee.