

MAY 2022 LTRB MTG RPT FROM BOARD MEMBER WATERS-FIVE (5) ITEMS

ITEM #1-MAR 2022 MINUTES CORRECTIONS (holdover from Apr see email dtd April 4, 2022 2:06 PM to Bd Mbrs)

LANDLORD-TENANT RELATIONS BOARD

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

ZOOM CALL

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bonnie Naugle at 7:03PM.

B. **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elliott Waters, Razvan Cernucan, Geri Baldwin, Bonnie Naugle, Elijah St. Dennis, Katherine O'Connell, DeShauntra Martin.

C. **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

D. **GUESTS PRESENT:** Anna Dvorchik, Co-Chair, Friends of Mental Health

E. **STAFF PRESENT:** Melodie Seau, Gwendolyn Lassiter, Kim Cadena (Zoom Technical Support), Samuel Gates (Zoom Technical Support), Alison Coleman, DCHS, Bill Rooney, DCHS

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Elliott Waters moved to approve the agenda as presented. Elijah St. Dennis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING:** Elliott Waters moved to approve the minutes after amending to note that Jessica Giroux was not present for the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Elijah St. Dennis and passed unanimously.

4. **ANNUAL APARTMENT MANAGERS' SEMINAR:** Melodie Seau said that the City annually offers an apartment managers' seminar co-sponsored by the Office of Housing and the Landlord Tenant Relations Board. Friends of Mental Health has contracted for a curriculum that would be something like Mental Health First Aid Training specifically for landlords and property managers. Ms. Seau said that the City offers Mental Health First Aid Training for the public, and she recommended that anyone who has not taken the training do so, as it is free and offers excellent and helpful information on interacting with people with mental illness. Ms. Seau introduced Anna Dvorchik, Co-Chair of Friends of Mental Health, to discuss the training in development.

A. Bill Rooney clarified that Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour training for the general public that can be accessed through the City website. Mr. Rooney said the training is offered regularly and is something like CPR for mental health. The training teaches people how to respond in a mental health crisis.

B. Ms. Dvorchik said that she is an attorney and has assisted tenants pro bono to keep them from losing housing or subsidies in situations involving mental health issues with tenants. Ms. Dvorchik said that there were people prior to the pandemic who

were able to control symptoms of mental illness, but that they are not as well controlled now, and there is a need for mental health training for people who work in landlord-tenant situations. Ms. Dvorchik said Friends of Mental Health recognized this need and set aside funding to develop the training working with Legal Services of Northern Virginia and other service providers.

C. The training would include explanation of fair housing and landlord tenant laws as well as training in de-escalation techniques and practices and sharing of available resources. The training would be in two parts and would include resources and tools to bring down tensions and allow landlords to be more sensitive to the needs of consumers of mental health services.

D. The training will be provided by zoom, with a second half with breakout sessions. Elliott Waters asked about the nature of the relationship between the City and Friends of Mental Health. In response to a question from Mr. Waters, Ms. Dvorchik said that Friends of Mental Health is a 501(c)3 organization incorporated in 1983 to work with the City's Community Services Board to assist with services that aren't available through the City. Examples are financial needs or paying for cleaning services for people who have been hoarding. In response to a question from Ms. Naugle, the training is tailored to the individuals as a work session and is difficult to be shared as a recorded resource.

E. After discussion and questions from members of the LTRB, Chairperson Naugle thanked the presenters.

5. STAFF UPDATE OF LANDLORD TENANT LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS:

Ms. Seau discussed bills that have progressed in the Virginia General Assembly as well as those that have died or been held over to 2023.

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/202202/LTRBoard_March2022LegislativeReport.pdf

6. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

A. Vice Chair Waters called the Board's attention to three items from his report to the Board and said that he had a fourth item to add. He said that the first item contains some thinking taking place in the public square/ municipalities addressing the critical shortage of housing.

B. Mr. Waters shared his testimony on the **ParcView Housing Proposal** he provided at The City Council Public Hearing on March 12, 2022. advocated for establishing a tenant advisory council.

C. Vice Chair Waters advised the Board that he had provided publications from legislators and encouraged Board members to **sign up to receive reports from their legislators, if they so desire.**

D. The fourth item was in the form of a proposed motion for information only this month and for discussion and vote next month (April):

In accordance with the processing plan (*info sharing in Mar/discussion in Apr followed by vote in Apr*), I _____ move that the LTRB go on record as requesting Planning and Zoning staff in collaboration with the Office of Housing staff verify the content in the article penned by Dr. Krystyn Moon entitled, “The African American Housing Crisis in Alexandria, Virginia, 1930s–1960s” and if verified that a formal report of recommended corrective action be made and submitted through appropriate channels to include the Human Rights Commission, City Attorney and City Council within a reasonable timeframe and that a courtesy copy be provided to the LTRB, if authorized.

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/202202/LTRBoard_March2022ViceChairReport.pdf

E. Chairperson Naugle said that she and Katie O’Connell were reviewing the by-laws. She asked that others with suggestions for the by-laws convey that information to her. Chairperson Naugle said that she hoped to have something to the Board next month.

7. STAFF REPORT: The Alexandria Housing Development has purchased Park Vue, a 196-unit building on the corner of Mt. Vernon Avenue and Four Mile Road.

8. OTHER BUSINESS: Katherine O’Connell said she had applied for the Human Rights Commission but has not heard back yet.

A. Chairperson Naugle said that she forgot to read the COVID-19 information at the beginning of the meeting.

B. Chairperson Naugle made the following required announcement:

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, the March 2, 2022, meeting of the Landlord Tenant Relations Board is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020, or Section 4-0.01(g) in HB29 and HB30, enacted by the 2020 Virginia General Assembly (Virginia Acts of Assembly Ch. 1283 and 1289), to undertake essential business. All of the members of the respective public bodies and staff are participating from remote locations through Zoom Webinar. These meetings are being held electronically, unless a determination is made that it is safe enough for the meetings to be held in person in Conference Room 2000, at 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA. Electronic access will be provided in either event. The meetings can be accessed by the public through: Zoom hyperlink, broadcasted live on the government channel 70, and streaming on the City’s website.

C. Vice Chair Waters asked for a map or chart depicting committed affordable housing in the City of Alexandria. He also asked staff about the advisability of conducting tenant workshops in the City since workshops are held for landlords.

9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:26PM.

ITEM #2 MOTION – BEST PRACTICES (holdover from Apr Mtg see email dtd April 4, 2022 2:06 PM to Bd Mbrs)

MOTION promoting advisory council use (more fully), as a best practice in good governance

Given the clear understanding that the City of Alexandria, Virginia has a strong commitment to citizen/resident participation in good governance as evidenced by the number of citizen/resident boards, commissions and committees established by its City Council, I _____ move that the Landlord Tenants Relations Board (LTRB):

A. recommend that City Council adopt a policy which encourages establishing advisory councils, as a best practice in the City of Alexandria, and that

B. public/private non-governmental entities be encouraged to form advisory councils on a voluntary basis with the clear understanding that any/all advice offered is non-binding as is the case with existing non-statutory City boards, commissions, and committees, but that

C. any/all advice rendered to recipients of the advisory council's advice [especially the decision-making body or agent], would be given serious consideration in addressing matters viewed as problems or challenges in a manner deemed both reasonable as well as transparent.

Focus: Advisory Councils are an affordable means to create trust, confidence, efficiency and effectiveness

Note: If deemed appropriate, suggest the Landlord Tenant Relations Board seriously consider seeking permission to conduct a forum or asking City Staff in collaboration with City Council to introduce and explain this policy to residents, especially landlords and tenants in keeping the purpose a similar forum was hosted on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008 at the William Ramsay Recreation Center.

Source: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2008/sep/16/alexandria-bulletin-sept-18-24/>

The forum agenda addressed a variety of issues “that may affect renters in the City of Alexandria. State Senator Patricia Ticer and Councilman Ludwig Gaines will discuss Virginia landlord-tenant relations law, the Virginia legislative process, and the City’s initiatives to create and preserve affordable rental housing. Ronald Minionis, Managing Attorney of the Alexandria Office of Legal Services of Northern Virginia, will make a presentation on “The Ten Most Important Things Tenants Need to Know in Virginia.” Staff from the Alexandria Office of Housing and Bureau of Code Administration will provide information on services available to renters in Alexandria. The forum is free and open to the public, and no registration is required. Refreshments will be provided by Mango Mike’s Restaurant, Comcast, and Shopper’s Food Warehouse in Landmark Plaza. For additional information, call the Office of Housing at 703.746.4990. The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the City’s Human Rights Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act”.

Source: Release date: 2008-09-12 please visit alexandriava.gov/News

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION FOR MOTION

- 1.** Background **2.** Context/Basis for Motion **3.** Proposed Staffing Coordination

1. BACKGROUND

A. Building landlord-tenant partnerships that work: Like most growing municipalities, the City of Alexandria located in the Commonwealth of Virginia is experiencing challenges related not only to new construction but maintaining or enhancing existing construction – some historic. Given the existing challenge and the fact that the City of Alexandria prides itself on promoting constructive community engagement [*in-person or virtual*] to help ensure the voices and perspectives of city residents are heard there are various boards, commissions and committees tasked with advising the City leadership – those elected and those appointed – on a range of vital civic concerns. The City has set an outstanding example in not only in seeking advice from residents through its community engagement program but has formed a number of boards, commissions, committees to ensure the

diverse voices are heard prior to voting on or approving matters. This motion seeks to encourage public/private non-governmental entities to do likewise – by choice. Each year a number of concerns are brought to the attention of public/private officials affecting the quality of life and in many cases the health and wellness of people residing in residential apartments without input from tenant advisory groups. That said, there is ample research as well as experience to show that when tenants are given a voice in the landlords decision making, it can lead to “buy-in” which in turn leads to building healthy relationships evidenced in trust, confidence along with greater efficiency plus effectiveness in governance. Councils of advice work when formed and supported. Moreover, they are cost effective given that almost all are comprised of volunteers willing to give or their time and expertise for the common good of all. Replicating advisory councils at the public/private non-governmental residential level as part of an overall business practice to solve challenges at the residential level with tenant participation is an idea whose time has come rather than wait for a crisis where tension and finger pointing are likely to occur. This motion should be viewed as a preventive measure much like preventative medicine. Finally, a great argument can be made contending that advisory councils can work at the residential community level- all one need do is look at how the practice is working in our HUD housing. To be clear, I am not saying that advisory councils are the “perfect solution” to the all matters, rather I am saying the cost/benefit of having and encouraging the formation of voluntary advisory councils who provide “non-binding” advice is a no brainer idea whose time has come to a small city capable of doing great things when parties are committed to finding solutions that enhance the quality of life, human relationships and the environment to include property maintenance at affordable prices.

B. Traditional role of advisory councils: The role of a *non-governing* advisory board is not to make decisions, but rather to provide current knowledge, critical thinking and analysis to help public/private leadership in the City make wise/informed decisions – voluntarily. Simply put, the responsibility of the advisory board of which I speak like a governance board or board of directors in terms of composition (*with diverse and inclusive participants*) is different in terms of expected outcomes.

Note: The premise being tapped into here is a best practice of establishing, maintaining and strengthening healthy relationships in diverse inclusive ways and means promotes a strategic good manifested as well managed governance.

(1). The Purpose of an Advisory Council

Before forming an advisory council, it’s crucial ... to decide what the advisory board’s purpose will be. Common purposes for forming advisory councils are:

- (a). Providing technical expertise or advice in specific areas such as technology, science, health, policy, law, marketing, public relations, etc.
- (b). Helping spearhead a special project from planning to completion
- (c). Fundraising for a specific project
- (d). Providing an independent sounding board for the board of directors
- (e). Serving as an advocate for the organization
- (f). Fulfilling several roles for a nonprofit program where the organization serves as the fiscal agent
- (g). Serving in an honorary role
- (h). Offering services as a spokesperson for the organization

While the purpose of an advisory council varies based on the organization’s needs, *all advisory councils should have a clear understanding of their purpose, guidelines and limitations.*

(2). Basics of Advisory Councils

(a). Advisory councils are a group of individuals that effectively supplement ...skills and abilities to help guide the organization toward its stated mission.

(b). Advisory councils don't typically have any authority. In most cases, the board of directors retains the ultimate governing authority. The primary [role of an advisory board](#) is to provide ...key information and to make recommendations to them on certain matters.

(c). As a collective body that's likely to have strong opinions, it's important ...to provide some type structure for their advisory councils so that their meetings are useful and productive.

It's helpful for advisory councils to have policies of their own...

(d). It's also important for advisory councils to have a [governing charter](#). A committee charter is a useful tool for providing a written description of the council's role and purpose. The charter provides guidelines on the council's membership, meetings and how and who they're expected to communicate with

Source: <https://www.boardeffect.com/blog/what-is-an-advisory-council/>

C. Advisory councils work with uncomplicated transparent purposeful buy-in: I am keenly aware, that "councils of advice" currently exists in public housing and many homeowner associations as well as civic associations. We can learn from those that work such as in HUD housing where "trust" is achieved when I is willing to become we as in a team. Given that reality, we, the LTRB, are recommending that in those residential venues where Advisory Councils do not currently exist at the dwelling or apartment level that advisory councils be formed for the purpose of helping achieve a strategic vision in partnership with the City of Alexandria like the one currently highlighted in its strategic plan and subsequent supporting implementation plans. We believe an important first step is establishing a "common sense" policy which encourages the voluntary formation of advisory councils in those residential venues where they do not exist now is to make a commitment to work together to establish advisory council relationships to not only promote the common good of their residential areas but the good of public/private non-governmental successful businesses in Alexandria City.

Pt. 964 PART 964—TENANT PARTICIPATION AND TENANT OPPORTUNITIES IN PUBLIC HSG

Source: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2018-title24-vol4/xml/CFR-2018-title24-vol4-part964.xml>

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.964.1 - Purpose.

964.3 - Applicability and scope.

964.7 - Definitions.

964.11 - HUD policy on tenant participation.

HUD promotes resident participation and the active involvement of residents in all aspects of a HA's overall mission and operation. Residents have a right to organize and elect a resident council to represent their interests. As long as proper procedures are followed, the HA shall recognize the duly elected resident council to participate fully through a working relationship with the HA. HUD encourages HAs and residents to work together to determine the most appropriate ways to foster constructive relationships, particularly through duly-elected resident councils.

964.12 - HUD policy on the Tenant Opportunities Program (TOP).

964.14 - HUD policy on partnerships.

HUD promotes partnerships between residents and HAs which are an essential component to building, strengthening and improving public housing. Strong partnerships are critical for creating positive changes in lifestyles thus improving the quality of life for public housing residents, and the surrounding community.

964.15 - HUD policy on resident management.

964.16 - HUD role in activities under this part.

964.18 - HA role in activities under subparts B & C.

964.24 - HUD policy on FIC Program.

964.30 - Other Program requirements.

Subpart B—Tenant Participation

964.100 - Role of resident council.

The role of a resident council is to improve the quality of life and resident satisfaction and participate in self-help initiatives to enable residents to create a positive living environment for families living in public housing. Resident councils may actively participate through a working partnership with the HA to advise and assist in all aspects of public housing operations.

964.105 - Role of the jurisdiction-wide resident council.

964.115 - Resident council requirements.

964.117 - Resident council partnerships.

964.120 - Resident management corporation requirements.

964.125 - Eligibility for resident council membership.

964.130 - Election procedures and standards.

964.135 - Resident involvement in HA management operations.

964.140 - Resident training.

(a) *Resident training opportunities.* HUD encourages a partnership between the residents, the HA and HUD, as well as with the public and non-profit sectors to provide training opportunities for public housing residents. The categories in which training could occur include, but are not limited to:

(1) Community organization and leadership training;

(2) Organizational development training for Resident Management Corporations and duly elected Resident Councils;

(3) Public housing policies, programs, rights and responsibilities training; and

(4) Business entrepreneurial training, planning and job skills.

(b) *Local training resources.* HUD encourages the use of local training resources to ensure the ongoing accessibility and availability of persons to provide training and technical assistance. Possible training resources may include:

(1) Resident organizations;

(2) Housing authorities;

(3) Local community colleges, vocational schools; and

(4) HUD and other Federal agencies and other local public, private and non-profit organizations.

964.145 - Conflict of interest.

964.150 - Funding tenant participation.

Subpart C—Tenant Opportunities Program

964.200 General.

964.205 Eligibility.

964.210 Notice of funding availability.

964.215 Grant agreement.

964.220 Technical assistance.

964.225 Resident management requirements.

964.230 Audit and administrative requirements.

Subpart D—Family Investment Centers (FIC) Program

964.300 General.

964.305 Eligibility.

964.308 Supportive services requirements.

964.310 Audit/compliance requirements.

964.315 HAs role in activities under this part.

964.320 HUD Policy on training, employment, contracting and subcontracting of public housing residents.

964.325 Notice of funding availability.

964.330 Grant set-aside assistance.

964.335 Grant agreement.

964.340 Resident compensation.

964.345 Treatment of income.

964.350 Administrative requirements.

Subpart E—Resident Board Members

964.400 - Purpose.

964.405 - Applicability.

964.410 - Additional definitions.

964.415 - Resident board members.

964.420 - Resident board member may be elected.

(a) *General.* Residents directly assisted by a public housing agency may elect a resident board member if provided for in the public housing agency plan, adopted in accordance with 24 CFR part 903.(b) *Notice to residents.* The public housing agency must provide residents with at least 30 days advance notice for nominations and elections. The notice should include a description of the election procedures, eligibility requirements, and dates of nominations and elections. Any election procedures devised by the public housing agency must facilitate fair elections.

964.425 - Small public housing agencies.

964.430 - Nondiscrimination.

2. BASIS FOR MOTION

A. Does no harm

B. Intended to help those fearful of coming forward to voice concerns and advice a sanctioned forum to do so

C. In keeping with purpose of the LTRB to recommend constructive policy and advice to the City leadership

PURPOSE OF THE LANDLORD TENANT RELATIONS BOARD

The Landlord-Tenant Relations Board (LTRB) was established by City Council in 1971 to investigate and mediate landlord-tenant disputes and *to make recommendations to City Council with respect to public policies affecting landlords and tenants.* The duties, powers, and responsibilities of the LTRB found in Alexandria City Code reads: The duties, powers and responsibilities of the Landlord Tenant Relations Board can be found in §12-5 of the Alexandria City Code and include the following: **(a)** Consider grievances of landlords and tenants when grievances are referred to the Board by City Staff; **(b)** *Act in an advisory capacity to the City Council on public policies affecting landlords and tenants;* **(c)** Formulate and recommend legislative proposals to City Council; **(d)** Develop and publish guidelines and summaries regarding the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants, and **(e)** *Participate in educational activities relating to landlord-tenant issues.*

3. Proposed Staffing/Coordination and Collaboration (addressee responses are optional)

If sending a response, please email it to the Vice Chair: ewaters325@gmail.com by Fri, 4/29/2022 –

THANK YOU!

City Staff	Concur	Non-concur	Remarks/Contact: ●name or initials; ●email or telephone #
1. Department of Planning & Zoning			
2. Department of Transportation & Environmental Services			
3. Office of Housing			
4. Dept of Cmty & Health Svcs (DCHS)			
5. Department of Mental Health			
6. Racial and Social Equity Staff Officer			
7. Office of Human Rights			
Boards, Commission and Committees	Concur	Non-concur	Remarks/Contact: ●name or initials; ●email or telephone #
9. Affordable Housing Advisory Committee			
10. Commission on Aging			
11. Commission on Women			

12. Community Services Board			
13. Human Rights Commission			
14. Planning Commission			
15.: ACPS School Board			

Landlords	Concur	Non-concur	Remarks/Contact: ●name or initials; ●email or telephone #
16. Alexandria Housing Development Corp			
17. Alexandria Redevelopment & Hsg Auth			
18. Morgan Properties			
19. Southern Towers			
20. Wesley House Development Corp			

Other public/private non-governmental entities	Concur	Non-concur	Remarks/Contact: ●name or initials; ●email or telephone #
21. ACT for Alexandria			
22. Alexandria Bahai Center			
23. Alfred Street Baptist Church			
24. Beth El Hebrew Congregation			
25. Carpenter Shelter			
26. Chamber of Commerce			
27. Christ Church			
28. Departmental Progressive Club			
29. Federation of Civic Assns			
30. Goodwin House			
31. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church			
32. Legal Svs of Northern VA			
33. Muslim American Society			
34. NAACP			
35. New Hope Housing			
36. Northern VA Affordable Housing Alliance			
37. Senior Services of Alexandria			
38. St. Joseph's Catholic Church			
39. Tenants & Workers United			
40. Urban League			

Tenants	Concur	Non-concur	Remarks/Contact: ●name or initials; ●email or telephone #

ITEM #3 - EMAIL THREAD (holdover from Apr Mtg see email dtd April 4, 2022 2:06 PM to Bd Mbrs)

EMAIL THREAD RELATED TO LTRB MEMBER'S MOTION – See Something Say Something

7. From: EMW <waters325@comcast.net>
To: Helen Mcllvaine <Helen.Mcllvaine@alexandriava.gov>, Melodie.Seau@alexandriava.gov
Cc: Bonnie Naugle <bonnie.naugle@gmail.com>, EMW <waters325@comcast.net>
Date: 04/01/2022 11:19 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL]In Person LTRB Meeting - April 6, 2022

Helen,

Thank you for your response dated today.

For purposes of relevant clarity, will the responses being prepared address the apparent inequity and injustice during the 1930s -1960s documented in Dr Moon's article since its accuracy is yet to be acknowledged by City Staff or Council? I ask the question because it is a central part of the motion being proposed. If acknowledgement is implied based on current action of City Staff mentioned in your email below, it needs to be done by speaking plainly. May I state City Staff and City Council are in agreement with the accuracy of Dr Moon's article and cite you as the source or can you provide me a source? I ask this question because it can serve as a basis for modifying the motion of concern. Hope you understand the need for objective clarity.

Regarding work being done to address equity/social justice, can you also provide an estimated date this information which seems related to the second part of the proposed motion is likely due since it may impact the language in it as well, namely: the era [1930s-1960s].

With appreciation,
Elliott

P.S.: It is my intent to share our email communications with the LTRB members at the April meeting

6. From: Helen Mcllvaine <Helen.Mcllvaine@alexandriava.gov>
Date: 4/1/22 08:21 (GMT-05:00)
To: waters325@comcast.net, Melodie Seau <Melodie.Seau@alexandriava.gov>
Cc: Bonnie Naugle <bonnie.naugle@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]In Person LTRB Meeting - April 6, 2022

Elliott, staff is glad to prepare a written response regarding the work being done across city departments to address equity and social justice issues. It will take some time, but I'm glad to coordinate getting summaries and providing them to you. That might be the right moment to schedule a virtual meeting to discuss these and to see which of the initiatives would be of greatest interest/relevance to the LTRB for presentation/discussion at future meetings.

FYI, last spring, the City adopted the ALL Alexandria Resolution, <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Equity>. Extensive training and education is occurring internally among city staff currently, but additional community engagement is planned in the future.

Helen

5. From: waters325@comcast.net <waters325@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 5:51 PM
To: Helen Mcllvaine <Helen.Mcllvaine@alexandriava.gov>; Melodie Seau <Melodie.Seau@alexandriava.gov>
Cc: Bonnie Naugle <bonnie.naugle@gmail.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]In Person LTRB Meeting - April 6, 2022
Importance: High

Greetings Helen,

I welcome the opportunity to discuss the "See something say something motion- below." Is it possible to meet " via zoom or on a recorded line - for accountability purposes at 1:30 tomorrow (Friday, Apr 1) or next week?.

Since you have my proposed motion and basis for it, is it possible for you to provide a written response to it that addresses the work being done to address and mitigate/alleviate the inequity and injustice documented in Dr Moon's article? I am providing some definition of terms to help focus our discussion since it appears staff's focus is on systemic racism whereas the focus of the motion proposed is focused on addressing legal/moral established standards of justice and equity - more objectively.. Feel free to provide your own definition of terms as well as offer a dispute resolution process.

It is important that you know while I am the author of this motion. in a true sense - It is not my motion. Rather, it is a motion shaped by over six years of listening, learning and hearing the voices of fearful, hurting and wounded residents who in the words of Dr Moon give reason to believe "*some of the same unjust and inequitable practices of the past remain even today.*".

With appreciation,
Elliott

MOTION (below): SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING

1930's-1960's

I _____ move that the LTRB:

A. submit a request thru Deputy City Manager Baker or other City official(s) deemed appropriate, asking that Planning and Zoning staff in collaboration with the Office of Housing staff verify the content in the article penned by Dr Krystyn Moon entitled, "The African American Housing Crisis in Alexandria, Virginia, 1930s–1960s" *and at the conclusion of the verification process*

B. if the content of Dr Moon's referenced work is verified (*in whole or in part*) recommend that the verifying staff:

(1) name/identity any unjust and inequitable housing and zoning practices [construed as legal] and

(2) in collaboration with other appropriate entities propose corrective action to remedy any harmful effects such practices had and/or _____ continue to have on Alexandria African-American residents of that era and/or their descendants: *and*

C. in the interest of transparency that appropriate suggested public/private entities be provided copies of the reports of verification and

recommended corrective action to include

- (1) City Council Members,
- (2) City Staff (Human Rights Commission, Race and Social Equity Officer, City Attorney)
- (3) City boards, commissions, committees
- (4) a suggested list of public/private non-governmental entities

D. moreover, after weighing the pros and cons - assent to:

(1) to providing "stakeholders" listed below a copy of the motion "*for information only*" in the interest of transparency as well as possible individual or organizational community engagement prior to the start of the requested work; and

(2) after completion of the work addressed above (see A & B) seek appropriate approval to host a Forum to inform Alexandria residents _____ of staff's work in identifying causes & effects of the African American Housing Crisis during the 1930's-1960's

Motion Focus: Identify & correct the cause & harmful effects stemming from the African American Housing Crisis in Alexandria, 1930s–1960s"

TERMS

Systemic racism - Interplay between individual, interpersonal, and institutional, which creates natural energy and cycle of continued advantage/power and inequity. It continues without action. Pop Wisdom: The structural racism framework is what allows systemic racism to exist.

source: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/equity/race-and-social-equity-definitions>

Injustice - process of not reinforcing and establishing a set of just policies, practices, attitudes, and actions that produce equitable power, access, opportunities, treatment, impacts, and outcomes for all individuals and groups

source: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/equity/race-and-social-equity-definitions>

Inequity - differences in well-being that disadvantage one individual or group in favor of another. These differences are systematic, patterned and unfair and can be changed. Inequities are not random; they are caused by past and current decisions, systems of power and privilege, policies and the implementation of those policies.

source: <https://www.lawinsider.com/dictionary/inequity>

Mitigate - to make something less harmful, unpleasant, or bad

source: <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/mitigate>

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4. From: Bonnie Naugle <bonnie.naugle@gmail.com>
To: EMW <waters325@comcast.net>
Date: 03/31/2022 2:08 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]In Person LTRB Meeting - April 6, 2022

Hi Elliott,

I believe they want to share with you the work they are already doing related to your motion, so that you can craft the motion to reflect both current work happening and desired outcomes. Dr. Moon is already working with the city, so that report should be forthcoming. Perhaps we ask for an update on that?

I don't think it's necessary for them to do additional work to confirm each of her statements, since she's written it with references and maps. As a scholarly article, the city should be able to use her work as a resource.

Your motion has several parts:

1. Verifying the content of her work (see my points above) - I think we can recommend use of her work as a resource; the information is public and easy to confirm if they have any questions.
2. Producing a formal report of corrective action to be made - let's find out from the city if this is in process before requesting it.
3. Sending the report to the City HRC, Attorney, Council, and LTRB - if the report is in progress, we can certainly recommend that a copy be provided to these groups if not already planned.

I'm fine with you having a conversation with the staff, and feel free to report back during our meeting. It would be a great help to have their insight to add to your motion discussion.

Regarding the previous email in that thread:

I can provide the additional items to the LTRB along with the agenda, your report, and draft March minutes - we still need to approve those. The current roster is online: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Boards>. I'll ask Melodie to update us on the older minutes.

Thanks!
Bonnie

3. On Thu, Mar 31, 2022 at 10:35 AM EMW <waters325@comcast.net> wrote:

Good morning Bonnie,

I am providing the email below for your acknowledgement and information.

Since the email is addressed to me presumably as a LTRB Bd Mbr, it is my intent to point out the need to await LTRB action on my proposed motion at the April meeting to avoid confusion rooted in a good staff intention.

If you desire to respond to staff, as LTRB Chair, I will defer to you.

Respectfully,
Elliott

2. From: Helen McIlvaine <Helen.McIlvaine@alexandriava.gov>
Date: 3/31/22 9:24 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: waters325@comcast.net
Cc: Melodie Seau <Melodie.Seau@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]In Person LTRB Meeting - April 6, 2022

Elliott, Melodie and I had a chance yesterday -while we were both in the office – to discuss your proposal. We'd like to line up some presentations to the LTRB over the next several months to provide the board information about the many initiatives underway across several departments to address systemic racism in the city, including to mitigate issues related to housing opportunity including new approaches to zoning. Would you have time at 1:30 for a call so we can discuss with you? We think this fits well with your proposal but want to understand more what you would hope to accomplish so we're working in a complementary fashion. If 1:30 isn't good, please suggest some times tomorrow that you're available for a call.

Helen

1. From: waters325@comcast.net <waters325@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 4:57 PM
To: Bonnie Naugle
<bonnie.naugle@gmail.com>; elijahst.dennis@yahoo.com; rcernucan@paradigmcos.com; katherine.oconnell@gmail.com; drmartin101020@gmail.com; olivia.jenkins@greystar.com
Cc: Melodie Seau <Melodie.Seau@alexandriava.gov>; Helen McIlvaine <Helen.McIlvaine@alexandriava.gov>; Karl Moritz <Karl.Moritz@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]In Person LTRB Meeting - April 6, 2022

Bonnie,

For the board packet:

My Vice Chair report is in the form of two motions

a. Motion For Decision: See Something, Say Something: 1930s - 1960s (*for discussion and vote at Apr meeting*)

Bd Mbr Advisory Note: *Process wise, since Boards, Commissions, & Committees have no tasking authority, if the motion passes (since the Deputy City Manager is aware of this proposed motion as well as the two staff offices she supervises), I suggest LTRB ask Deputy City Manager Baker if she would assent to handling this motion as an ask item or if she chooses to defer to the City Manager; if they believe as a matter of regular order that it should be sent to City Council. In that case, then I propose LTRB send the motion through the City Clerk to the City Council for their information and action/sponsorship. Input/advisory comments from Staff Liaison are appreciated in this matter.*

b. Pending Proposed Motion: City Council establish advisory councils as a "best practice" in Alexandria (*for information in Apr and discussion/vote in May*)

Request for status/update during Apr meeting regarding:

a. Current list of LTRB members;

b. Will copy of approved March minutes posted on the City's website be included in the LTRB April Packet ?

c. When will the LTRB minutes be posted that predates the last set of minutes now on the website, i.e. November 1, 2017?

(1). How far back can the City website list past LTRB meetings since it was established by City Council on 10/26/1972

(2). Can the City's website reveal the link to access archived LTRB agenda, packet items to include minutes and other attachments?

Thanks,
Elliott

ITEM #4 - NEW ITEM FOR MAY MEETING REGARDING BYLAWS DRAFT

Brief Feedback on the By-Laws Draft:

- a. Appreciate the work being done to revise/update plus adding rationale for proposed changes
- b. At appropriate time, suggest the changes in the language that impacts the charter be coordinated with City Staff and City Clerk to get City

Council approval prior to voting. I believe there is a process in place to make changes to the Charter or impacts the Charter.

- c. Strongly suggest adding these appendices or language be included to address the matters below:

- (1) Glossary of uncommon usage terms to help enhance clarity/understanding
- (2) Add a LTRB Public Hearing Protocol as mentioned/discussed previously
- (3) Add a dispute resolution process for use when needed
- (4) Include a Member Orientation Template to include a suggested month to conduct it

**ITEM #5 – New Item for May going forward since LTRB Meetings are in-person
Strongly suggest meetings be video recorded and if no feasible (resource wise (with people or financially) that an audio recording be made and posted as was the case with zoom meetings. The rationale being – transparency and accountability.**

From: Gloria Sitton <Gloria.Sitton@alexandriava.gov>
To: "waters325@comcast.net" <waters325@comcast.net>
Date: 04/06/2022 12:38 PM
Subject: Recording of meetings

Hi Mr. Waters,

...There is not a prohibition on the recording of meetings of public bodies by members of the body or the public. You may take photos or make recordings, as long as there is no disruption on the body by doing so...

Gloria Sitton