

Richmond Participatory Budgeting Commission

Meeting 7 - 1/4/2022

Attendance

Commission – In-person

Jerome Legions

Erica Sklar

Aaron Linas

Erin Kelley

Commission – Missing

Scott Castro

Shannon Gonzalez

Quawneisha (Bre) Peoples

Oludare Ogunde

Mary Gresham

Jeff Walker

PB Coordination

Matthew Slaats – PB Consultant

Addie Alexander – RVAPB intern

Natali Sabri – RVAPB intern

Agenda

Start the Meeting/Welcome

Meeting Minutes Approval - Yes - 4 No - 0 Absent - 6

Check-In

Various commission members shared how they have been talking to people who have experienced difficulties with engaging the city around specific community needs. There is a hope that RVAPB can help to mitigate and expedite those community needs in better ways. A specific example is the way in which traffic studies hamstring the ability to take action.

Erin shared that she had spoken with a Community Engagement Strategy in Williamsburg and how they are using community block parties as a means for more deeply engaging the community.

They also discussed their overarching role, which focuses on identifying contradictions between community need and what the city tends to focus on. How can RVAPB remedy this?

Introducing RVAPB Interns

This Spring 3 interns will be working with the PB Consultant to support the RVAPB initiative development.

Addie Alexander – VCU Master of Urban Planning
Natali Sabri – Univ of Richmond Bonner Scholar
Koki Nakaura – Univ of Richmond

They will be supporting efforts with the community engagement process and deeply considering how to educate and bring the community into the RVAPB process.

Outline Review

The Commission reviewed the outline that they have developed and noted a few specific changes that might be made. These focused on separating Values and Goals. They also made some revisions to the order of the outline.

- 1) Table of Contents
- 2) Overview – This should answer the questions – Why read this? Why is it Important?
- 3) What is PB?
- 4) Who is the RVAPB Commission
- 5) Roles and Responsibilities
- 6) Values – These would be broad, yet succinct
- 7) Goals – These would be tangible actions that have results and can be assessed
- 8) Timeline
- 9) Map
- 10) Budget
- 11) Process
- 12) FAQ/Lexicon/Glossary
- 13) Reference Documents
- 14) Contact info/Social Media Information

Section Review

Goals

The commission went through the goals that Erica had collected through their review process in November and December. They spent time considering how to translate values and goals. A focus in this work was setting an expectation for the community. It must acknowledge the past but also be thinking forwards. There is also a commitment to moving beyond buzzwords in order to build trust.

Timeline

This needs to be visual and Erin had noted there were a few good examples in the Chicago PB rulebook.

Budget

The commission would like more information about the CIP budget and where investments have been made of the last few years. This will help to consider how to distribute the funds via participatory budgeting in a more equitable way.

Who is the RVAPB Commission

Much of this section can come from the development of the ordinance that created the commission.

Roles and Responsibilities

This should lay out broad expectations for the City in the process, but also think about how other local institutions (educational, non profit) and associations might support RVAPB

Process

The commission recognized that is probably the most complex part of the rulebook and that we will have to organize specific meetings to review these areas individually. In the meantime, they can review other rulebooks for specific material.

Section Responsibilities

For those in attendance, they committed to supporting the development of specific sections of the rulebook.

Aaron - Values/Goals

Erin - Timeline

Jerome - Budget

Erica - Overview

Next Steps

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday – January 18th 2023 4:30 – 6pm

Location: Annex Room – Downtown Library - 101 E Franklin St, Richmond, VA 23219

<https://virginia.zoom.us/j/95054755159?pwd=ZU94aUtoc2hYlVKSdNRRWx5MWtZdz09>

Meeting ID: 950 5475 5159

Passcode: 279689

One tap mobile

+17866351003,,95054755159# US (Miami)

+12678310333,,95054755159# US (Philadelphia)

The focus of next meeting:

Continue development of rulebook

Review specific sections and share any information

Set a plan for the spring for completion of the rulebook.

Action Items

PB Consultant – Share original timeline document and follow up with the City Budgeting office about the history of the CIP budget.

Commissioners –

1) Go onto the Draft RVAPB Outline document and note a section that you commit to helping develop.

2) Begin to pull information together from other pb processes and paste/reference that in the sections that you are working on.