

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP DRAFT

I. The Subcommittee considered changing the term of office for CAR.

Current term of office per City Code § 114-930 (b) is five years.

Discussion revealed that the term of office is long compared to other Boards and Commissions and the long term and work load can be taxing to Commissioners. The sub-committee recommends that the term of office be reduced to three year terms. It is also recommended that persons be eligible for only two consecutive appointments, unless appointed to fill the unfulfilled term of a previous Commissioner.

II. The Sub-Committee considered the size of the Commission and whether it should be reduced. The Sub-committee concluded that a nine person Commission works well because it allows for quorums to be easily met and work loads to be distributed. It is recommended that the current size of the Commission be retained. It is also recommended that the membership be staggered with three members being appointed in each successive year.

III. The Sub-Committee considered whether the composition of the Commission should be altered

Currently, per City Code § 114-930.3 (b), one member of CAR is appointed from a list of three nominees from the following:

- o William Byrd Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, per City Code § 114-930.3 (b)(1)
- o James River Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, per City Code § 114-930.3 (b)(2)
- o Historic Richmond Foundation per City Code § 114-930.3 (b)(3)
- o Richmond Association of Realtors, per City Code § 114-930.3 (b)(4)

Additionally, five citizens are appointed at large, per City Code § 114-930.3 (b)(5).

The sub-committee decided to recommend retaining the current system of accepting nominations from the groups mentioned in the above because: 1.) the current system is deemed to work well and has produced good results for the City; 2.) the organizations mentioned in Code merely nominate persons to the City Council and actual appointment by CAR is by City Council; 3.) a diverse group of Commissioners has been appointed in the past using the current process; and 4.) the City Council is free to reject the nominees of any of the nominating organizations and appoint someone else. It is further recommended that the Alliance to Conserve Old Richmond Neighborhoods be substituted for the William Byrd Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities as the William Byrd Branch has merged with the Historic Richmond Foundation. Due to the possibility of a conflict of interest or the appearance of impropriety, the sub-committee also recommends that no officer or employee of any of the nominating organizations set forth above shall be eligible to be nominated.

IV. The Sub-Committee considered whether Council should review how the nominating

organizations select their nominees

The sub-committee determined that there is a need for Council and the citizenry to know how the nominating groups select the nominees forwarded to City Council to ensure consistency and the active engagement of the nominees in preservation. The sub-committee also discussed future consideration of whether or City Council needs to give its approval of the process that the nominating groups use to select nominees. This item will need further review upon gathering factual information about the process the nominating groups use to select nominees for City Council. It was determined that each nominating organization shall provide in writing a brief summary of the process that that organization used in the selection its nominees.

V. The Sub-Committee considered whether or not there should be a continuing education requirement for CAR Commissions

The sub-committee determined that the City needs to ensure continuing education for the Commissioners of CAR so that are kept abreast of developments in the field of preservation. This item will need further exploration as to how best to achieve this goal.

VI. The Sub-Committee considered whether CAR Commissioners should be paid

The sub-committee determined that current system of not compensating CAR Commissioners has attracted active and engaged volunteers.

VII. Sub-Committee considered whether a certain number of CAR membership slots should be reserved for residents of Old and Historic Districts

The sub-committee determined that membership slots should not be reserved for residents of Old and Historic Districts as the Council could take residency in the districts into consideration in its appointment process for selecting CAR members.

VIII. The Sub-Committee considered whether a member of City Council or the Planning Commission should be a non-voting member of the CAR

The sub-committee determined that it was not necessary to have a member of the City Council or the Planning Commission be a member of CAR. but recommended that a representative of City Council or its Land Use Committee attend CAR meetings and report on CAR. It was recommended that minutes of each meeting of the CAR be distributed in a timely manner to each Councilperson serving on the Council's Land Use Committee, or other appropriate Council committee or group, and that a report summarizing the CAR's activities during the preceding year be submitted annually to the Council's Land Use Committee or other appropriate Council committee or group.