

MINUTES

URBAN RENEWAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

5:00 P. M., DECEMBER 3, 2020

*VIA ZOOM

Brent Burton, Chair, called the meeting of the Charleston City Council Committee on Urban Renewal and Economic Development to order at 5:00 p.m., December 3, 2020, over Zoom.

Committee Members Present:

Brent Burton, Chair

Tiffany Wesley-Plear, Vice Chair

Ben Adams

Brady Campbell (arrived about 15 minutes after the start)

Adam Knauff

Chuck Overstreet

Jennifer Pharr

Councilmember Burton asked for a moment of silence for Patrolman Cassie Johnson.

1. Approval of Previous Minutes –

At the request of Councilmember Knauff, the approval of the previous minutes was deferred until the next meeting. There were no objections.

2. Wild, Wonderful, Healthy West Side Initiative -

Councilmember Burton introduced Sharon Landsdale, the President and CEO of the Center for Rural Health Development, to speak on the Wild, Wonderful, Healthy West Side Initiative. Highlights of the presentation include:

- The project was made possible with funds from the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation.
- The Center is the only private organization in the state that works across the full continuum of healthcare. Their mission is to create a healthy future for West Virginia by improving the health of the residents and the strength of West Virginia's health care delivery system, especially in rural and underserved communities.
- There is a clear link between healthcare and economic development. West Virginia has consistently been one of the top 10 unhealthiest states in the nation. In fact, a person's zip code is a primary predictor of their health.
- Their work focuses on community health improvement. A "healthy place" are those communities that are designed and built to improve the quality of life for all people to make choices, and to have access to a variety of healthy, available, accessible and affordable options.
- One of their goals is to use health as an economic driver for the local community.
- Cross-sector collaborations are essential.
- After assessing the community's needs and resources and identifying high priority issues, a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) will be developed. This will involve multiple partners with shared decision-making to provide a map of data-driven decisions and strategic improvements that can result in long-term, community-level outcomes.
- They will focus on policy and system changes and infrastructure, not program development as well as using evidence-based strategies.
- They have developed numerous training sessions and webinar learning series.
- Creating statewide movement is a cultural shift that will take time, determination, and the input of many. The goal is lasting change.

Councilmember Knauff thanked Landsdale, and requested a copy of the presentation. Councilmember Wesley-Plear also thanked her for the presentation. Landsdale encouraged the members/City to find a way to become engaged. Councilmember Knauff asked if there was a baseline for how bad the situation is on the West Side and how much room there is for improvement. Landsdale replied that they look at the life expectancy data, adding that it is about creating sustainable changes in the community environment. She added that one community got their Council to adopt their CHIP to

help with funds and enacting the plan.

3. Administrative Updates –

The Committee agreed to set a regular meeting schedule for the first Thursday of the month.

Councilmember Knauff motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Overstreet seconded.

Meeting adjourned.