



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Calvin Ball, Chairperson
District 2
Courtney Watson, Vice
Chairperson
District 1
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Mary Kay Sigaty
District 4
Greg Fox
District 5

Minutes (Approved) Legislative Work Session July 22, 2014

Council Chairperson Calvin Ball called the work session to order in the Banneker Room at 4:05 p.m. on July 22, 2014.

Members Present: Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, Jen Terrasa, Courtney Watson

Member Participating by Telephone: Greg Fox

Staff: Sheila Tolliver, Administrator; Jim Vannoy, Office of Law

Council Resolution 94-2014: Joel Gallahue, Manager, School Planning, Board of Education, explained the Administration's proposed amendment to CR 94-2014, which shows Running Brook Elementary School to be open in 2017-18. This change reflects a consultant's capacity study. He also clarified that both pre-school enrollment and the portion of the school capacity that is dedicated to preschool are omitted from the capacity numbers in the open-closed charts.

A discussion followed about various steps the Board of Education might consider to better distribute students within the system to make optimum use of existing school capacity. A recommendation was made to consider the schedule for the Board's annual feasibility study when developing a calendar for joint meetings of the Council and Board, providing for a joint meeting after the report is issued.

Ms. Watson suggested a need to review the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance for possible updates.

Council Resolution 96-2014: The Council summarized the opposing perspectives raised in testimony at the public hearing on the Patapsco River Heritage Area legislation. They clarified that, while the State park is included in the proposed heritage area, the resolution does not change the State's control of the park. They invited representatives from the Sierra Club and the Patapsco Heritage Greenway Committee to summarize their perspectives on possible amendments.

Council Bill 37-2014: The Chair noted a lack of testimony to provide a rationale for passing the proposed legislation prohibiting limits on sale of food and beverages on county property or at county events. Mr. Fox offered an extended defense of the proposal and summarized an amendment that would exclude from the prohibition those events on county property.

Dr. Elizabeth Crum described the work of the implementation oversight committee for the executive order which this legislation is designed to overrule. She promised to provide information to the Council within a week about the membership and timeframe for the implementation committee's work.

Mr. Fox explained proposed Charter amendments that were not included on the agenda. Mr. Vannoy noted that Charter amendment language must be certified by August 18.

Dr. Ball announced that, because of the requirements of the Charter, all appointments and reappointments, except the proposed appointment of a member to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education, will be tabled at the session on July 25.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.