

March 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes

🕒 Meeting called to order at 5:40 pm
Meeting called to close at 7:13 pm

Attendance:

- Abigail Delaney
- Sam Davis
- Peter Berry
- Jamaal Mitchell
- Lacey Hancher
- Boz Boschen

Staff attendance:

- Matthew Slaats
- Leidiana Delgado
- Miles Hopkins

Absent:

- Tiffany Gunn
- Troi Hughes
- Qwuaneisha Peoples

Existing PB commission members spent the first few minutes introducing themselves to the new members

Staff described their role in supporting the commission

Members discussed the functional difference between voting and non-voting members, given the current rulebook and lack of adopted bylaws

Staff explained to the new members that bylaws need to be written and adopted as well as new

Commission member asked would the commission be staffed indefinitely

Staff assured that there were plans to staff the commission for the foreseeable future

Commission member asked why they are advisory to Council, though the staff has been moved to the office of the CAO - they are still advisory to the Richmond City Council

Commission members discussed the possibility and benefits of establishing subcommittees (as pairs of commission members) that could do focused work outside of the monthly meeting

Staff explained when the commission has voted typically (rulebook adoption, budget delegate selection, etc)

New commission member inquired on the status of the bylaws

Commission member explained the structure of their proposed bylaws draft (including the concept of the rotating co-chair)

The commission members gauged everyone's interest in the leadership position - it appears there is consensus around pursuing the co-chair structure

Commission member clarified that the chair is not a 'STRONG' chair, they do NOT hold special powers or abilities, rather they would be responsible for specific administrative tasks that could include, establish agendas, appointing notetakers and calling the meeting to order

Commission member mentioned that in their bylaws draft they have given the commission the power to vote out members with a 2/3rd vote

Commission members discussed the inherent complications and benefits of the proposed structure

Commission members mentioned a list of scenarios in which any member should be voted out

Staff mentioned to the commission that initially the rulebook was created by referencing existing rulebooks (from other cities), dissecting the structure and adapting the language to reflect the values and objectives of the Richmond People's Budget Steering Committee

New commission member inquired on what types of motions the body would be voting on

Commission member explained that the rulebook, bylaws and any appointees (budget delegates) are decisions that the body would be voting on

Commission member clarified that the district specific budgets (the distribution based on equity) was a commission decision, as well as the structuring of the ballots (ensuring that the number of projects on the ballot in any given theme was reflective of the ideas submitted for that district - ie; if 60% of a district's proposed ideas were public mobility, 60% of the ideas on the final ballot should be public mobility).

Commission member reminded the group that the existing ordinance requires the body to meet in each of the 9 council districts within the calendar year

Staff asked if commission members would like to assign themselves sections for the bylaws - as homework for the next meeting

Commission members assigned themselves the following sections

- Governance/ Leadership (Sam)
- How do you want to make decisions (Jamaal)
- Who is involved with the RVAPB Commission (Jamaal)
- How do we want to structure meetings (Abbey)
- What are possible subcommittees (Lacey)

Commission member expressed interested in changing the frequency of the meetings from once a month to twice a month, in an effort to streamline new member onboarding and get through establishing bylaws

Commission member asked if the group could meet again on March 19th (two weeks from the date of the current meeting)

There was enough consensus to meet on March 19th

Staff mentioned the book "Budget Justice", which they provided copies to each member

Staff confirmed the meeting details for the March 19th meeting - Ginter Park Library at 6pm

