

Charlottesville Area Association of REALTORS®
Past Presidents Council
May 25, 2023, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Hybrid Minutes

Members Present: Quinton Beckham (Chair), Pam Dent (Vice-Chair), Rives Bailey, Brad Conner, Anita Dunbar, Bill Howard, John Ince, Tele Jenifer, Bill May, Donna Patton, Denise Ramey (remote), Pat Widhalm, Arleen Yobs.

Member Guests: S. Lisa Herndon (President).

Staff Present: Ali DiGuardo, Abby Tammen.

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m. by Chair Beckham. The Antitrust Statement was acknowledged.

Approval of Minutes from February Meeting – Minutes were accepted as submitted.

Board Update

President Herndon provided a CAAR update. It included: details on the upcoming lockbox exchange; a recap of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) Riding with the Brand event in Williamsburg, VA; a recap of the disability inclusion and awareness presentation by VisitAble, LLC at the May General Membership Meeting and promotion for the dedicated class on June 1st; an update on the amount of NAR grants received; an update on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Group's participation in the Piedmont Virginia Community College Job Fair and Charlottesville High School Job Fair; and details on how DEI leadership created English and Spanish "Why You Should Consider Becoming a REALTOR®?" and "Why Use a REALTOR®?" messages and corresponding pictures.

VAR Update

Denise Ramey provided a Virginia REALTORS® (VAR) update. It included: a recap of the NAR Riding with the Brand event in Williamsburg, VA – over 500 REALTORS® participated across the Commonwealth; an update on the new laws effective July 1st; a recap of the changes coming in governance and advocacy this year – districts shifting – many seats will be filled by new individuals – new connections will need to be established — making REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) more important than ever; and encouragement to share the new infographics from the Virginia REALTORS® Economic Team.

NAR Update

Various members who attended the NAR Legislative Meeting provided their experience and biggest take-aways. It included: announcement on defeating the debit/credit fee; HOA changes – checklist; importance of a Buyer-Broker Agreement; excitement over Kevin Brown being elected as NAR First Vice President; encouragement for REALTORS® to share their value with consumers (<https://www.nar.realtor/competition-in-real-estate>).

CEO Update

CAAR CEO Abby Tammen provided an update. It included: an invitation for the Council to participate in the Broker Forum on Tues., June 27th from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. at The Point Church (same location as the lockbox training and exchange); an announcement of the member requirement of 2 hours of fair housing (effective 2025) made during the NAR Legislative Meeting; a staff update; Ali DiGuardo, Marketing & Communications Director, graduated from the Virginia Society of Association Executives (VSAE) Virginia Leadership Academy (VLA); a recap of the lockbox conversion membership-wide email, which included a detailed calendar of action items and important information, had a 75% open rate; and an announcement that CAAR will be participating in the governance structure discussion of a statewide data share in Virginia.

New Business

The Council decided instead of establishing Project Teams for trips and tricks for media interviews and speaking with confidence in front of peers and groups, a survey will be created to capture everyone's ideas and perspectives.

The Council discussed contract forms used in different areas of the state and how they are referenced in the Graduate, REALTOR® Institute (GRI) courses.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ali DiGuardo, Staff liaison