

Charlottesville Area Association of REALTORS®  
Past Presidents Council  
May 23, 2024, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Hybrid Minutes

Members Present: Pam Dent (Chair), S. Lisa Herndon (Vice Chair), Robin Amato, Rives Bailey, Quinton Beckham, Ed Brownfield, Brad Conner, Anita Dunbar, Michael Guthrie, Bill Howard, Tele Jenifer, Barbara McMurry, Percy Montague, IV., Pat Widhalm, Tom Woolfolk, Arleen Yobs.

Member Guests: Anne Burroughs.

Staff Present: Abby Tammen, Ali DiGuardo.

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m. by Chair Dent. The Antitrust Statement was acknowledged.

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

**Board Update**

President Anne Burroughs provided a CAAR update. It included: the Board, in consultation with our attorney, has chosen to sign Appendix B, opting into the National Association of REALTORS® settlement agreement that releases our MLS from liability related to the current home seller lawsuits; the 2024 -2025 Pat Jensen Leadership Academy deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>; 22 units of blood was collected during the first CAAR and American Red Cross blood drive and that the next one is on July 30<sup>th</sup>; the paper shred day was a success; the new caar.com website is developing really well; and the Board is doing their due diligence as they review various systems and services contracts with attorneys.

**VAR Update**

Chair Dent provided a VAR update. It included: a reminder of the new Forewarn member benefit; a new resource summarizing the many efforts the VAR Government Relations Team made on behalf of REALTORS® during the Virginia General Assembly Session and details of the bills that passed; state committee application deadline is June 14<sup>th</sup>; and the Annual Conference is Sept. 17 – 19<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Richmond.

**NAR Update**

Chair Dent provided a NAR update. It included: a new Bipartisan Congressional Real Estate Caucus has been created by various housing trade groups, including NAR, to promote the growth of the real estate industry; and a breaking news update on the Department of Veterans Affairs who plans to temporarily lift its ban on buyers directly paying for professional real estate representation until the agency deems it necessary to engage in a formal rulemaking process.

Members who attended the NAR Legislative Meetings provided a recap of their experience. Members of NAR committees provided updates.

**CEO Update**

CAAR CEO Abby Tammen provided an update. It included: CAAR and Hillsdale Conference Center commercials will be shown during the Olympics, alongside the NAR "That's Who We R" commercials; Ian Desautel will be returning to CAAR as the MLS & IT Director in July; Grace Porter has joined the CAAR staff as the Hillsdale Conference Center Client and Event Concierge; strategic planning will begin in this summer with Josh White, President-Elect, as the Chair for the committee; a NAR Code of Ethic requirement reminder was made.

**Other Updates and Announcements**

Greg Slater mentioned a solar class available by the Commercial Council. He also shared a CAAR Foundation update, including how great of a job Dave Norris is doing as Executive Director.

The Council commented this year is the biggest for grievance complaints. A lot of the complaints seem to be about property management.

**New Business**

Mr. May requested a contingency plan update for the MLS. He specifically wanted to know if the Board was considering if the MLS should become separate from NAR. He also commented that he is eager to see the MLS changes under the NAR settlement.

The Council will receive Hall of Fame award recommendations for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ali DiGuardo, Staff liaison