The regular meeting was not called to order due to the lack of quorum.

1. ROLL CALL

   Present:   Elaine Merriweather, Chair
              Vicki Winston, Board Member

   Absent:    Yvonne Nair, Board Member
              McKinley Williams, Board Member

Chair Merriweather and Board Member Winston expressed desire to listen to Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

SPEAKERS:

Cordell Hindler: apologized for missing the last half of the March meeting. He expressed his concerns for the lack of funds in the library which has led to shortage of staff and periodicals.

Ladislao Herrera: commented on the classification of Capital Projects Manager and the attempt to eliminate the Professional Engineer certificate (PE) and how at the March Personnel Board meeting the City Manager attempted to convince the Board to approve the changes in the classification. Mr. Herrera stated that his belief that the PE is a necessary part of the position. Since there is not a City Engineer, this position is very important to the City of Richmond and currently the person holding the position lacks the engineering skills necessary.

Rosanne Ryken: spoke on the positions throughout the City requiring certificates or college degrees with employees supported by Executive Management when situations arise while others have to grieve their situation. The City of Richmond pays outside lawyers while the City also pays sizeable wages. As a Richmond resident, Ms. Ryken expresses her concern on the over-spending in legal fees. In the library, there has been a lack of children’s and adult librarians since before the current Library Director was hired. The Library Associate is currently being used to work the reference desk which previously was only staffed by those with a Masters of Library Science degree (MLS).
There has been some library staff members promoted yet the vacated positions have not been filled. There is a current employee who does have an MLS and yet she has not been promoted. Ms. Ryken stated she suspected bias when hiring in the City of Richmond.