

Friends of James River Park Board Meeting

January 6, 2015

6:30 pm

Present

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|--------------------|--|
| 1. Katherine Godin | 12. Kendyl Crawford |
| 2. Nathan Burrell | kendyl.crawford@sierraclub.com |
| 3. Matt Mason | 13. Mary-Helen Sullivan |
| 4. Vicky Shivy | 14. Phil Dawson |
| 5. Betsy Slade | 15. Phil Riggan |
| 6. Myrna Hartley | 16. Molly Dellinger Wray |
| 7. Greg Velzy | 17. Larry Socha |
| 8. Anne Wright | |
| 9. Warren Foster | |
| 10. Nancy Fowler | 18. Adrienne Coxe |
| 11. Karen Thomas | |

Phil Riggan presentation:

Wants to implement a Kanawha canal "Blue way" plan that goes from Oregon Hill to Boshers Dam. 8.5 miles. This is masters project. End of April final presentation. His number is 432-3088. He asked for comments/suggestions.

Last month's minutes approved.

Master Plan Meeting---Planning District Commission willing to be involved and will contribute staff time to develop plan. Nathan will set up meeting with Deputy Director and director. Nathan wants to reconvene subcommittee with Bill Conkel and Planning District Commission. And then folks in his department.

Vauxhall Island report from Greg--Richmond was the winning bid. Nothing will be said until it's closed in the next week. Nathan said city submitted state grant for conservation easement and we had the top score for the \$75K grant

Board Retreat Priority Updates

- ByLaws --Phil talked to Jamie re: 6 year limit on board members. There were no concerns or questions about bylaw changes. All are okay with bylaw changes. Revised bylaws were accepted by all. The revised bylaws will be housed on the website. Details not discussed.

- Brewery gift basket. T-shirts coming next Tuesday. Karen needs brochures and sample license plates. All is coming together
- Respect the park” Warren-- presented park sign options. (Proud of the James, Proud to Keep it Clean)
- License plates—Karen will continue to research facebook ads. Will call CIS media manager re: facebook ads. There is energy around reaching out to our facebook friends before we buy ads.
- Membership involvement—facebook --2765 likes

Committee reports

Membership—Myrna said we received \$2095 new membership money in December. Approximately 12 new members. One new lifetime member. Suggestion: reach out to facebook friends for membership (Karen)

Finance—Myrna-- We did receive the Amazing Raise monies, as well as \$10.81 from Amazon Smile. Matt received his pre-paid card. Still researching accountants.

Events—We have Tubes and Taps \$400. December 13th event went well—Painting the curbs. Didn’t finish painting parking lot. Manchester climbing wall clean up on 1/24, 9-12. Matt will send parking and meeting directions to volunteers. Recruit more people for tree stewards through Hands on. Parade of Lights went well. May need more burners. Winter Solstice—more people than ever.

Kendall Crawford of the Sierra Club spoke about priorities and focus for the year—climate change and Toxic reports. They are a VA political advocacy group and looking to collaborate. Will release 2 toxic reports—zip codes and corporate. She is at 225-9113, kendyl.crawford@sierraclub.org. May want to do a Half talk/half clean up about invasive species issues.

Protection and preservation fund—\$5135—new \$. We have \$81,000 out of \$100,000.

River Heroes—anyone can nominate a River Hero. Judges are former River Heroes. February announce nominations. Pick top five and then have a panel of esteemed judges pick one. And then have a dinner. Molly will spearhead nominations. Need someone else to do dinner.

Americorps-- 10-15 Volunteers need to be housed for 8 weeks. First round application is due in May. Possible collaboration with Sierra Club.

Banff Film Festival March 6-7 Greg said it’s selling out. Adrienne is getting tickets.

Sound history of Slave Trail—Anne report. Liaison with Ralph to record and film Ralph doing a slave trail tour. Valentine, DCR, Elegba looking to collaborate. Would ideally like to do by the bike race this fall. They would like for FOJRP to allocate \$2000 for this project. She also suggested that we archive Ralph’s records for FOJRP. We will think about it and let Ralph know by the next meeting.

Betsy is going to continue to look into **Taza event**.

Committee reports—finance: for clarity, I’d rewrite as follows: