

Friends of James River Park

Board Meeting Agenda

February 2, 2016

6:30 PM

Attendance

Mary Helen Sullivan

Jane Meyer

Karen Thomas

Kevin Tobin

Shawna Shade

Greg Velzy

Mary Kay Martin

Scott Silvester

Myrna Hartley

Mathew Mason

Nathan Burrell

Larry Socha

Katherine Godin Mitchell

Phil Dawson

Nancy Fowler

Welcome and introductions

Minutes of the last meeting (Jan)

Board approved the amended minutes

Treasurer's Report

Nathan would like to add line items for the dedicated grants so that expenses can be matched to the appropriate category.

Board approved adding additional lines to the report.

Conservation Easement Inspection Presentation

Jane Myers the land Conservation Manager provided an overview of the Conservation Easement and the upcoming field audit. She said that they work to honor the spirit but are not restricted by the letter of the agreement. For example they are not concerned about the minutia like new garbage cans but are concerned about items such as an increase in the impervious surface area or residential encroachment into the park.

We have a site review process in case of encroachment, this is a new addition.

Looking to build upon the easement by bringing more property into the easement.

Park Superintendent Report – Nathan

Ancarrow's dredging to start 2/6 and will be finished by 2/12. This is a yearly requirement by Core of Engineers & Game and Inland Fisheries. The cost is \$11,500 for the dredging without the permits.

Redevelopment of the Belle Island service bridge is scheduled to start on 2/15 and is planned to be completed by 4/1. During the week access to Bell Isle from the south side will not be possible, however it will be open on weekends. All the surface wood will be replaced. The cost is \$300K.

Looking to build new equipment storage facilities adjacent to the Reedy Creek park headquarters. Working with Timmons to complete the design.

Reedy Creek Greenway will connect the south side community to the James River Park at the park center, and will eventually connect to the east coast greenway.

Matt volunteer report update:

5 projects in January totaled 292 hours

2015 volunteer hours equaled 8444 compared to 7364 hours in 2014.

Matt is sending out RFQ's to have the goats do a 2nd pass over the areas that were previously worked over by the goats.

Committee Reports

Finance (Myrna)

We are within \$3500 of the PP goal

Communications (P.J.)

Newsletter is completed

Fundraising (Katherine)

Nothing new to report

Amazing Race will not be held this year

Events (Larry and Adrienne)

Reedy cleanup on 2/13

Kelly suggested manning the 2016 Earth Day booth with other river groups like JRAC.

Membership (Nancy) Board vacancies –

Board assessments-Briefly discussed criteria for adding new board members.

*Approved three new Board members:

Mary K. Martin

Scott Silvester

Kevin Tobin

Strategic planning session: Feb 6 from 9:00 – 12:30

Jim Burke & Linda Pierce will oversee the process.

Old Business

Clean-up Days

Annual Report FY 2015

Nancy is working to blend the individual contributions into the final report.

VA Forestry Grant update

Pullerbears have been purchased.

Plantings likely will occur in April

River Heroes

Kelly is looking at the War Memorial or Tredegar as potential sites. We require a building that can house 60 people.

Joint river meeting

River Heroes nominations will be solicited from all the groups

Looking to have other groups help out with the conservation easement.

Discussed the need for economic impact study for the park to be used as justification for park enhancements and protection.

2016 Park inspection dates

Nancy will ask to Adrienne to start the inspection process earlier instead of later.