

Friends of the James River Park  
Board Meeting  
Tuesday, Feb 7, 2012, 6 p.m.  
Visitors Center – Park Headquarters

Attendance: Michael, Larry, Myrna, Mary Helen, PJ, Betsy, Elaine, Anne, Molly, Phil R.,  
Gay, Phil D.

Guest: Mr. John J. Zeugner

I. Welcome, Introductions

- A. John J Zeugner walked us through the parameters of the JRPS Conservation Easement Inspection; though many FoJRP Board Members had done this task before. Members provided Mr. Zeugner with available days and times to assist. Report is due 4/1, so late February inspections were deemed best. Photos were taken at the beginning of the process, and additional photos will be taken to document any changes to Park environs. Plan is to train some folks so Mr. Zeugner need not be so involved with his ‘boots on the ground.’
- B. New FoJRP Display Items - Elaine thanked Board members for their efforts in creating a set of excellent display items (pictures in digital frame, a new banner, mission statement, bookmarks, etc.)
- C. Minutes of previous meeting – were approved.
- D. Treasurer’s Report – There was discussion of the February Treasurer’s Report and Restricted Donations. Kiosk and maps, are up at Reedy Creek, but currently are without attribution. The Chris Booker gift monies were spent. The Richard Underhill memorial will be begun once Andrew is available to build trash cans, etc. Regarding gifts for the Clarkes and Mac Okada, benches were built and installed, and excess funds were deposited to the general fund.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Communication/Publicity – (Maureen via Gay) Constant Contact went out last Wednesday to FoJRP membership, revealing River Heroes for this year. FoJRP Board Members to serve on this year’s judging committee were recruited. Boathouse and others (Seven Hills, Rockett’s Landing, etc., previous winners) will judge River Heroes between 3/15 and Earth Day –when winner is announced.
- B. Events - Mary Helen – Molly, Betsy, Phil and MH staffed table at Crossroads Arts where \$14 was collected. Coming up March 9 & 10<sup>th</sup> is the Banff Film Festival at the James River High School. Volunteers were lined up to staff a table at this event – which needs to occur before 5 PM.
- C. Finance/Fundraising – Warren – no report.
- D. Park Improvements/Projects – Larry reported that, ultimately, QV codes will provide detailed explanation of Park areas, including the Pony Pasture. QV codes are read by smartphones other similar devices. Dominion Riverrock will donate all proceeds from their event to the Park, which may offer funding for this effort. SportsBackers wants distances on all the trails. This idea was discussed and Ralph noted that the idea of doing distance markers on all trails is not approved, except at trailheads and on web.

E. Membership/Volunteers – Michael/Ben – Ben will be taking over membership as Michael, sadly, will not be continuing with FoJRP. He did advise the group (and offered to continue to do so) to convert existing technically oriented database to an online function. A package called Groupspace may be the best bet. A free version is available, but the for-cost version only is \$15/month. Michael will set up user ids for Gay and Elaine Betsy and Ben. This will allow several FoJRP Board members access to FoJRP databases.

#### V. Old Business

- A. River Heroes Volunteer – Elaine – We have judges Myrna, Vicky, and Larry from FoJRP.
- B. Calendar to PJ – PJ now is a Board Member, and Elaine noted that the calendar (which is up on the main website and FaceBook, too) is working nicely. Items for calendar should go to PJ. The calendar is the go to spot for volunteers. Individuals have requested volunteer hours and duties. In addition to outdoors chores, volunteers can do envelope stuffing and other clerical duties. This weekend is the Riverside Drive and Pony Pasture Cleanup (at 1 PM). Also, there is a need for Belle Island brush clipping and covering graffiti at Pipeline. Wood chips need spreading, too.
- C. Williams Island – Phil Riggan – No news from Larry at the City. MOU draft will be reviewed when things come together. Williams Island may be named a Wildlife Management Area.
- D. Post Office box – Mary Helen – Saunders Station may or may not be closed. Even if it is closed there will be an extension at the Brook Rd Post Office with the same number, etc.

#### VI. New Business

Members had an extended discussion regarding the future of the James River Park, noting the many individuals who have provided stewardship over the years: Ralph, Larry and Mary Lois, the Friends, JROC, and Richmond More.

- A. 2012 Enrichmond Partner Meeting – Gay – Phil and Molly went to the Partners meeting. A gentleman from Fairfax Co. received a medal for a community facility. EnRichmond is meeting with Economic and Community development – revitalizing train station and marketplace, views from I-95.
- B. Bob Steidel will be present for the March FoJRP Board meeting – Elaine – he is Director of Public Utilities and makes a great presentation. Members will try to wow him with our baking and other culinary skills.
- C. Riverside Dr. clean up Feb 11 @ 1PM. (see above)
- D. There also is need for a clean-up under the Lee Bridge– Mary Helen -- on Northside under JROC bridge (Oregon Hill connector) by the dry canal. Part of Belle Island, Pipeline graffiti drive. Ralph noted that about 35 people showed up under Boulevard Bridge, including many schoolkids. Rosemary Green from DPU allowed trash to be stored for pickup (~45 bags)!
- E. Banff film festival– Mary Helen (see above)
- F. Endowment account – Mary Helen – what to do with monies (<\$2K). When more monies accrue this money can be transferred to a product that earns a higher rate of interest.
- G. Ralph’s Party – Molly – signup sheet for a party 7 PM, 1834 Monument Ave.

VII. Report – Ralph noted that Annual Review was written, can be sent to everyone. Peter Bruce was injured driving a rough type mower, and was on maintenance road, turned into a fire and the machine melted. Peter is off for 2 weeks, as his leg was injured when he jumped out of the truck. Nate is working on trails in Carillon, and work was written up in paper 2 weeks ago. June 29<sup>th</sup> is Friday Cheers dedicated to JRP. Request for Friends to be co-sponsors, and to honor Ralph (who noted that the band he would enjoy is “Trampled by Turtles”). Tricia Pearsall’s at-risk students helped with graffiti removal, etc. Park building’s not quite ready yet – phone and fax still are out. Peter Bruce will complete a punch list of problems with building. Flooring ia buckling, problems with caulking, etc. New interpretive sign at Belle Island area. Need to repair fishing dock. Sign dedicated Saturday: Kirk Richardson’s class. An April 7<sup>th</sup> class project is needed. Geology guide in process J Sarge (Dr. Dave Walls). In terms of other needs, the Boulevard bridge has more graffiti. There is a need for an interpretive sign at the entrance to the Pipeline for Heron Tours, as well as funding for that. The cost of the Pumphouse wiring was covered. No news on the compost toilet. A group from NoVA wants to shoot a video at the Pumphouse! Bluebells planted. Fungi need to be planted – a great family or group event... need battery powered drills. Spore plugs should be inserted into logs (just not conifers), and not touching soil.