

## **Friends of James River Park**

### Board Meeting Agenda

May 3rd, 2016

6:30 PM

#### **Attendance**

Larry Socha  
Phil Dawson  
Myrna Hartley  
Scott Silvester  
Mary Kay Martin  
Kevin Tobin  
Greg Velzy  
Karen Thomas  
Mary-Helen Sullivan  
Shawna Shade  
Katherine Mitchell  
Nancy Fowler  
Nathan Burrell  
Matt Mason  
Cat Anthony  
PJ Fanning  
Kelly Gotschalk  
Scott Turner

**Minutes of April meeting** - Approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

RVA More returned \$500 for the trail counters.

Myrna, Mary Helen, and Nancy will meet later this month to outline the upcoming budget.

Nancy asked the board to submit any budgetary requests to her so that they can be considered in the upcoming budget.

#### **Park Superintendent Report** – Nathan

Belle Isle service bridge work is finished and meets Nathan's approval. Also the bridge now has a pair of gates.

Nathan expressed a need for regular police presence at the park. Currently the Richmond police department is providing coverage with overtime instead of a dedicated park officer.

The letter that the Friends sent out to City Council was instrumental in having a budget amendment made that if approved will add another \$100k to the park budget. This increase would equate to two additional staff members. The support of 3 council members would be needed to move the request forward. A decision is anticipated by 5/31.

**Matt volunteer report update:**

Asked for money to pay for new loppers and other plant removal tools.

FOJRP volunteer event is at Ancarrow's Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. This will be the last volunteer event until September.

Hands On cleanup will continue to occur on the first Saturday of each month.

About half of the native plants from the Forestry Grant were planted during a Comcast volunteer day in April.

1100 volunteers contributed 3243 volunteer hours which equated to a calculated savings of \$71346,

**Committee Reports**

**Finance (Myrna)**

We are within \$2500 of the PP goal!

**Communications (P.J.)**

Constant Contact newsletter is ready to go out. Will publish River Heroes recipients in the upcoming newsletter and on our Facebook page.

Karen is looking for guidance/suggestions regarding the proposed member survey.

Considering using volunteers to paint a mural on the North Bank tower.

Looking for Constant Contact writing replacement for Mary Helen.

Continued discussion to partner with JROC for the June Dominion Riverrock event.

**Fundraising (Katherine)**

Nothing new to report at this time.

Nancy will meet with I AM RVA next Friday on a fact finding mission.

**Events (Kelly & Adrienne)**

Ancarrow's cleanup May 15th

River Heroes event is May 10<sup>th</sup> at Troutman Sanders.

Will partner with JROC for Dominion Riverrock to reduce set up time and coverage assignments.

The annual picnic is set for June 11<sup>th</sup>.

Proposed moving the 2017 River Heroes event to the fall to balance out the events schedule.

### **President's Comments**

Expressed the need to define, expand upon, assign personnel, and track progress of the 2016-2020 goals. Proposed breaking into teams to work on each goal and set up action steps and measurable objectives.

### **Other**

Proposed inviting all the mayoral candidates to the picnic

The board is working on a process for approving new board members.