

Guests: Ken Hobson, Kristi, Nichole Anderson

Warren, Ben, Elaine, Gaye, Betsy, Ralph, Vicky, Phil, Ann, Myrna, Ben, Molly

Guest Speaker Nichole Anderson

- Development along Route 5: If interested in NicholeAndersonEllis@ gmail.com.
- Newly elected member of Henrico soil and water Board. Managing growth in the East End.
- Emphasized agriculture, tourism, athletics, history of Varina area
- VDOT-commissioned study (Richmond Region Planning District) suggests this area is vulnerable to encroachment
- Asks FOJRP call the mayor and tell him not to widen Newmarket Road?

Minutes – Vicky – Accepted

Treasurer's Report – Myrna sent both June and July (which only extends to 7-0-12).

Committee Reports –

- **Communications**- Anne, Gaye and Maureen will be working on Altria grant. There will be a mobile app for FOJRP. Constant contact was sent out late June.
- Website is now 2 years old, and Gaye will look to upgrade / change.
- **Events** – Elaine
- Picnic, Friday Cheers, Riverrock, X-Terra, etc.
- Sunday is the National Butterfly Count. Folks are meeting up at 10 AM Sunday, Reedy Creek to spot and identify butterflies. kristio@lewisginter.org is the contact. A \$3 per donation per counter is requested.
- North American Butterfly Association. This Saturday is project Athena, the relay marathon fundraiser for Massey Cancer Browns, Belle, over rocks, etc. T
- he Splash and Dash also occurs this weekend. Nighttime Slave Trail walk is this Saturday night at 8:30 (walk begins at 9), takes 90 minutes, and then a harrowing bustrip back to your car. July 28th there is a paddle for Veteran athletes (meet up at 9 AM) at Reedy Creek web is www.sportable.org.
- **Finance and Fundraising** – Warren nothing new this month.

New sign at entrance to the Pony Pasture

- Completed by Warren et al., and cars have been making positive comments. Mayor and Kathy Graziano spoke to dedicate the sign.

Park Improvements Projects

- Larry – will set up a cleanup.
- Could Warren and Larry do some outreach with the Hispanic community and perhaps set up a joint cleanup event. Fifty people from U of R on August 25th will come to help the Park.

Membership and Volunteers – Myrna – will go out around 7-15-12. Myrna noted www.Chicagoherp.org

Old Business

- Elaine – Ongoing dialogue with Larry Miller, John Zeugner, Molly, sending out a job description for Ralph's replacement which was augmented. They (Larry et al.) would like to hire someone before Ralph leaves so that Ralph can show him the ropes. Some comments were made about two people. Total budget for Park Staff (3 employees), then an extra \$100K, totaling about \$300K plus \$35K for the JRPS budget.
- Ralph's replacement – FoJRP is a part of this. Too much on the Park manager. Ralph complains about administrative protocol; hence there should be a manager and a manager's clerk, then a teacher-naturalist. Then there could be two folks doing litter / recycling – and, recycling is a must to fully demonstrate and model recycling. Then there needs to be a heavy equipment guy. Nathan's trail work should be a separate division as he is setting up bike trails and doing other work throughout Richmond City. There is a move to pull JRPS into the bulk of the City's Parks and Rec Department (a wilderness park being seen as the same as playgrounds, etc).
- Salamander pool - Larry Miller noted interesting and plans for the salamander pool. Bob Steidel and Kathy Graziano also will have input.
- Park Usage Survey presented

New Business

- there is an opening in the PR Department of Parks and Rec, and Phil may apply.
- Are the Friends going to say anything about the sewage spill in Lynchburg. No one contacted Ralph, so no warning signs or Public Service announcements could be posted. The basics of water could be disseminated – turbidity, temperature, etc. Bill Street wants this done the length of the James. Nominating committee – we seem to be in good shape financially and with regard to work that we have done. Can we consider hiring a part-time executive director on a 1-year basis (8 to 10 hours / week)? EnRichmond was all volunteer and then they hired someone.
- JROC meeting, Legends at 6PM for Park contributing partners.
- Seasonal workers would like access to kayak and gear... can we offer Ralph's staff access to a kayak (and one for a friend) per season. There are 5 seasonal workers, and 3 permanent workers... so, 7 folks x 2 = 14 kayak rentals at \$29 per person per time. Budget item for \$400?

Ralph report

- \$1,050 to Claude Moore to paint upper part of Pumphouse; no progress on composting toilet which has been frustrating;
- PP parking lot possible help needed on Sunday afternoons – manage parking and / or spread wood chips (after 2 PM); Slave Trail this Saturday night; consider pressuring City to establish a boat ramp handicapped access footprint close to maintenance road for boaters who have disabilities (Parks and Rec).
- Recognize that Ralph was reprimanded for putting up a sign saying grass was not cut by James River Park, rather by Public Works. At 4 PM tomorrow
- Ralph asks consideration for other Park expenses: \$2K for hand dryers at Pony Pasture, \$2.5K for a foot washer. Bring this to attention of Larry Miller, but be the backup source of funds.