

Friends of James River Park
Minutes
October 5, 2010
6:00 PM

Present at the meeting were: Maureen Egan, Molly Dellinger-Wray, Mary Helen Sullivan, Myrna Hartley, Gay Leahy, George Wickham, Warren Foster, Richard Taranto, Betsy Slade, Anne Wright, Phil Dawson, Phil Riggan, John Antonietta, Michael White, Ralph White, Jane Hotchkiss, Susan Martin of Webbones.

President Maureen Egan called the meeting to order. Thanks were made to Warren Foster and the Martin Agency for use of their conference room.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved. Betsy Slade made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting and Molly Dellinger-Wray seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report

Myrna Hartley and Mary Helen Sullivan provided the treasurer's report.

Union First Market Accounts

General Account Balance	\$7,733.87
License Plate Account Balance (going to DMV)	\$3,625
Protection and Preservation Account Balance	\$ 150

Other Accounts

Davenport Protection and Preservation Fund	\$4280.00
First Capital CD – Protection and Preservation Fund	\$35,230.51
Approximate amount to be transferred from Enrichmond	\$17,000 +/-

Committee Reports

501 (c) (3) Transition Committee-

Mary Helen Sullivan reported that the CD at First Capital Bank has been switched from the Enrichmond Foundation's name to our name. Mary Helen Sullivan and Molly Dellinger-Wray are the signatures for it. The paperwork is being kept in Mary Helen's file cabinet.

After some discussion, it was unanimously voted upon to move the remaining \$4000+ out of the Davenport account into an account at Union First Market to put all of our accounts at the same place. Betsy Slade made the motion and Phil Dawson seconded it.

Maureen Egan is making arrangements to meet with an accountant who will set us up with the necessary paperwork for our fiduciary responsibilities and accounting. **Richard Taranto volunteered that he would provide the name of the accountant who manages the Tricycle Gardens and Maureen agreed to consult with Noel McKenzie about who the EnRichmond Foundation uses. Jane Hotchkiss also mentioned that she could refer someone. Maureen will get estimates and consider each choice before making a decision.**

Events Committee

Richard Taranto reported that HandsOn Greater Richmond is hosting an event on October 16, 2010 that will provide us with 25 volunteers between 10:00-2:30 to work at the Pump House. Volunteers should meet at RIR at 9:30 to meet the crew. Hands On Richmond has provided \$80 for gloves. Marguerite Daniels urged volunteers to bring chairs.

Marguerite Daniels reported that the event at Balliceaux went well and that she would like to consider quarterly social events in the future. Riverside Outfitters has offered free tree climbing for any of FOJRP's future events. Anne Wright also offered free guided nature walks.

Fundraising

Betsy Slade reported that a friend could not find the license plate application and wants 24 copies. The applications are available on the new website.

Maureen Egan offered to add information on the license plate to her Twitter posting, and the Hills and Heights neighborhood blog. We need fewer than 200 additional applications.

Volunteers will be staffing a booth at the Forest Hill Farmer's Market on Saturday. A free membership will be offered to all who sign up for a license plate at the Farmer's Market. It was decided that it is not ethical for FOJRP to use names and addresses from existing license plate applications for membership purposes.

Website Re-design Committee

Maureen Egan reported that the new website goes live on October 7. We are thankful to Warren Foster's friend who donated some great pictures. We will wait about 2 months to tweak the website to make changes all at once.

Each board member should plug the website by word-of-mouth, facebook, twitter or anything else.

Soon our large group emails should end and each member will receive bimonthly news via Constant Contact.

FOJRP members Susan Martin and Stephanie Saccone of Webbones have been enormously helpful and put a lot of extra time into this, as has Gay Leahy. We owe them appreciation!

Old Business

Committee Structure

Maureen Egan reviewed our committee structure with the transition in mind. We need a membership committee that will follow up on members who volunteer their skills on the membership form.

Greenways

Phil Dawson reported on the Powhite Greenway which would go from the Boulevard Bridge to where the Powhite and Chippenham meet. He is going to approach the EnRichmond Foundation about becoming a separate partner group. Eventually, the group would like to raise funds and they would appreciate support from FOJRP.

Scenic Road – Riverside Drive

FOJRP was instrumental in designating Riverside Drive as an official Scenic Roadway. The speed limit on the road should be 25 miles per hour. Recently, all speed limit signs have disappeared. **Molly Dellinger-Wray will send a letter from FOJRP to Tom Flynn, director of traffic engineering requesting that signs be put in place for drivers to travel 15-20 miles per hour.**

Oral History Project

VCU would like to be the storage location for all old FOJRP papers—old meeting minutes, documents, news clippings, etc. Ray Bonis of The Cabell Library Special Collections Department will store the items in a secure place. Betsy Slade moved to donate all old items to the VCU library and Mary Helen Sullivan seconded it. All voted in favor of moving papers to VCU.

New Business

Land Acquisition

Phil Dawson needs a specific list of land that might be available along the river. He went to the Willey Bridge and found land hard to investigate from the road. The Retention Basin is a big grassy area which is maintained by the Army Corps of Engineers. It was discussed if this would be an appropriate addition to JRP lands. It would be a continuation of the slave trail. Also under consideration is land around Ancarrow's Landing, Williams Island and the land above Boshers' dam.

Chris Booker Memorial

A \$1,000+ donation will be provided for a memorial to avid paddler Chris Booker. Suggestions have been that the funds be used to provide a large map of the rapids in the Main Area.

River Heroes

The Boathouse has made two significant (\$1000+) donations and would like to continue to get involved. They would like us to get involved in a River Heroes campaign. It would involve time from our board, but would be good promotion for the river. The winner could be announced at Earth Day. **Maureen Egan will continue to look into this.**

Ralph Report

Ralph White reported that Nathan Burrell has been doing trail repair/expansion. Forest Hill Park is finished and now the area behind the Carillon is undergoing work.

Ralph White also reported that the Pump House needs between \$1,000-\$3,000 that could be used for plumbing of composting toilets, a water jug, and external lighting at the Pump

House. The city of Richmond has come forward with \$50,000 that can be used to fix a hole in the roof.

Ralph discussed the managing of parking in the Tredegar area. It has been mayhem at Belle Isle with the good weather and the lack of parking alternatives. Parking from Dominion, Civil War Center, and Meade Westvaco could be considered.

Ralph urged that the mayor and JR Pope be asked to negotiate for spaces for the coming year. **Maureen Egan offered to send a letter to JR Pope(Director of Parks & Recreation) and Tom Flynn (Director of Traffic Engineering) requesting thoughtful parking planning for the upcoming sesquicentennial which will bring additional tourists to the area.**

Ralph also mentioned that he needs a media contact who can relay information about the park.

The next meeting will be on November 2 at a location to be announced. Maureen adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM .

Respectfully submitted by Molly Dellinger-Wray.