

# **Friends of James River Park**

## **Board Meeting Agenda**

December 1, 2015

6:30 PM

### **Attendance**

Mary Helen Sullivan

Adrienne Cox

Karen Thomas

Molly Dellinger Wray

Kelly Gotschalk

Larry Socha

Phil Dawson

Myrna Hartley

Greg Velzy

P.J. Fanning

Nancy Fowler

Warren Foster

### **Welcome and introductions**

At Nathan's request Adele & Jackson from MOB worked to evaluate the park signage. They believe the current signs are expensive and lacking consistency. They presented designs that combined the proposed riverfront signage with the "best of" current signs. At the meeting they proposed using signs with icons only (no wording) that are mounted onto 6' x 6' x 6' treated lumber posts.

**Treasurer's Report**-Myrna gave the current status. Nancy asked Myrna to add an additional line to show how the current month's total increased/decreased compared to the previous month.

End of season bonus for seasonal staff to be addressed at a later date.

### **Park Director Report – Nathan**

Moving forward, the areas around Belle Isle/Chapel Island/Reedy Creek will be the focal areas for invasive removal. He is looking to finalize the removal/replacement report by the end of December. VHB will give a full presentation to the board in January.

Hired Penelope Davenport as the Adventure Recreation Program Director

Lost all seasonal employees

Reported that 80% of the mounting hardware for the bolts on the Belle Isle climbing walls need to be replaced. Additionally the cables need to be addressed.

### **Recent donations**

Enrichmond gave \$2500 grant for a park programs cargo trailer.

Lorton Stone gave a \$3510 donation Nathan would like to see it go toward another park kiosk (possible locations include-Ancarrow's Landing / North Bank)

The James River Lions Club is considering giving a \$5000 donation

Beirne Carter Foundation - \$5,000 for "trail maps or more signage". Board approved accepting this money (possible locations Ancarrow's Landing / North Bank).

Commonwealth of VA Campaign owes the Friends about \$480.

**Other**-Matt Mason proposed removing the vines off the trees in the areas that the goats cleaned on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the next three months (12/12/15, 1/9/16, 2/13/16) from 9am-12pm. plan

Nathan recommended bringing the goats back for a 2<sup>nd</sup> pass through the Reedy Creek areas at the end of January.

Matt suggested that sometime after the 2<sup>nd</sup> cleaning / vine removal that we begin to plant the native plants.

Adrienne/Myrna will assist Nathan at the Parade of Lights

## **Committee Reports (new leadership)**

### **Finance-Myrna**

### **Communications-PJ**

PJ proposed refined Solicitation Guidelines

Highlights include requiring three bids for proposals over \$5K and to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, FOJRP will not fund projects for the pecuniary benefit of relatives or close friends of board members. Passed board approval 10 yes to two opposed.

### **Fundraising- Katherine**

Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign

Capitol Regional Land Conservancy—Partnered with the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission to create maps of conservation easement by locality in the capital region.

### **Events-Adrienne & Larry**

Upcoming events and dates—Invasive clean up at Reedy Creek 9am-12pm on Saturday 12/12.

Winter Solstice 12/22 on Belle Isle.

Small “booth kits”-Discussed selecting pertinent items and placing them into a “travel bag” for ease of movement.

### **Membership-Nancy**

#### **Old Business**

Board Retreat -Strategic Plan- The tentative date for the next meeting was January 10. Per Nancy this Board meeting is on hold!

#### **New Business**

Board vacancies-Nancy asked us to bring potential Board candidate(s) to upcoming meetings. Grow the board!

Board Assessments – Nancy will work with individual board members to discuss each member’s short term-long term intentions with respect to staying with the group.

Considering advertising with Hands on Greater Richmond for additional board members.

Nancy asked if we would like to change the meeting time/date/place? Some members were open to meeting on Monday, however Nathan said that Monday is his only day off. As a result we will maintain the status quo.

Annual Report FY 2015—tabled until the next meeting

Capital Region Land Conservancy – Cover cost of covering Qty=4 Pullerbear tools for the removal of invasive roots. Board approved.

We are moving forward to show the movie “This Changes Everything”. Our cost is \$350. We may co host with the Sierra Club. Discussed showing it at the Floodwall for members in the spring. Karen will follow up with additional details.

Banff film festival March 3-5.