

FOJRP

December 2, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

1. Nathan Burrell
2. Phil Dawson
3. Greg Velzy
4. Mary Helen Sullivan
5. Larry Socha
6. Adrienne Coxe
7. Nancy Fowler
8. Warren Foster
9. Cat Anthony—Sportable
10. Molly Dellinger-Wray
11. PJ Fanning
12. Karen Thomas
13. Katherine Godin
14. Myrna Hartley
15. Matt Mason

Previous meeting notes were approved.

Master Plan Exploratory Meeting on November 18th: Nathan, Phil, Greg, Adrienne, Katherine were present and talked about the role of Friends being to move the master planning process forward and to include stakeholders in the process so that the plan has widespread support. Notes from that meeting are included at the end of these minutes.

***Vauxhall Island follow up**

Nathan said VA Conservation Fund grant (50/50 match) has gone in, but monies have to be put up since that funding won't come in for awhile. Auction will be on 12/11. City assesses value at \$17K, purchased at \$50k a few years ago. Top value might be \$150. Revenue projections potentially \$36K. FOJRP has agreed to contribute \$25,000; JRA, Falls of the James, Planning, parks, Venture Richmond, JRAC are contributing max of \$150,000—all to be reimbursed by the city or the grant at some point. Greg is going to find out who is heading this up and let Nathan and Board know.

Review of Bylaws

- Phil reminded all that we need to have a process for keeping track of board attendance which is important to keep 501 3 status. It was decided that the secretary would keep track of Board member attendance and report it out.
- We will review bylaws at March and September meetings to ensure we are on track
- Term limits: We began a conversation about looking at Board member terms so that the board continues to be sustainable and have the skill sets needed to do the work. We talked about the need for secession and board recruitment. Phil is going to talk to Jamie about it.
- The Board ratified the following changes to the Bylaws: to change the minimum number of directors from 1 to 3; change it to 2 days notice to directors of meeting changes instead of 5; and dissolution of three classes to one class of member.

Follow up From Board Retreat

Stone brewery gift package: license plate, rafting passes, t-shirts, brochures, maps, letter from Phil by the time they break ground in January. Karen will put the basket together

Respect the Park Campaign: Warren will help with media campaign. David Griffith will help (Martin Agency)

License plate promo: Facebook posting (2800 people) and constant contact promotion

Committee reports

Membership—Myrna said there are 270 paid members. 190 renewal letters went out yesterday

Finance—Myrna shared treasurer's report. Myrna is looking for a new accountant. Karen, Phil and Nancy will get recommendations to Myrna so she can get three quotes .

Events-Nathan reported that we still haven't received the funds for Tubes and Taps. Had a lot of people show up at the Nov 22 event. December 13 Event will be painting lines and curbs at 42nd street. *Parade of Lights* on December 13th, Nathan needs \$300 for food—soup and hot beverages—for volunteers. 5:30-9:30 at Libby Hill Park. *Winter Solstice* is 12/21—all will gather at Belle Isle overlook at base of the foot bridge by 5:30. Solstice is 6:03. Need music. Molly is going to look into music for the Solstice.

Fundraising no report

Communications-no report

MISC

- **Pamphlets** not available on website to download yet. Karen is working on it. Needs someone to type them and copyright laws are in question
- **Dog Walking Pilot project**—Molly is going to talk to John Zeugner at Bryan Park. Time where dogs are off the leash

- **Tree Stewards**--Belle Isle moving forward. Needs \$240 for staff to go through tree stewards class.
- **Potential donation from Richmond Bar Association**—Nathan is giving PJ list of potential named opportunities.
- **River Heroes**--Molly to head up to get nominations and explore criteria. Adrienne to help.
- **Constant contact**: Karen is going to do a review of the names in constant contact and dump folks who are not opening her e-mails because we pay for each contact.

***From Warren Foster's research:**

- Vauxall Island is owned by the Jesse Dipboye Jr's estate
- Sharp's Island is owned by Quincy Dedes
- Devil's Kitchen, Bailey's Island, Terripen Island, and Creek Island are owned by Richmond's Park & Rec.
- The island just north of Terripen Island (not named) is also owned by Richmond Park & rec.
- All the other islands have owners listed as unknown
- The small island east of Mayo's bridge is owned by George Beadles, Jr.
- Mayo's Island is listed as being owned by Mayo Island LLC but is owned mostly by Dr. Fred Shaia.

Friends' James River Park Master Plan Subcommittee Meeting Notes from 11-18-14

The committee talked about the role of Friends being to move the master planning process forward and to include stakeholders in the process so that the plan has widespread support.

Major Stakeholders Each will have three representatives from their organizations who would best represent them in this process.

1. Friends
2. JROC
3. MORE
4. City of Richmond
5. Department of Public Utilities
6. Department of Conservation and Rec (DCR)
7. City Council (only one)

2nd Tier Group—one representative from each of these groups

1. JRA
2. RRPDC
3. Henrico
4. Chesterfield
5. Capital Regional Collaborative

Tertiary groups to include

1. Meadwestvaco
2. Chesapeake Bay Foundation (1)
3. Dominion
4. Audubon
5. Sierra Club
6. Seal Team PT
7. Coastal Canoes
8. Float Fisherman of VA
9. Riverside Outfitters
10. Passages
11. Adventure City Rafters
12. Venture Richmond
13. Hikers
14. Falls of the James
15. Capital Trail

Suggested Task Forces for Committee

1. Land acquisition
2. Infrastructure
3. Public Meetings
4. Financial Planning and Development
5. Governance
6. Research on perceptions and use

Action Items Now Through January 13

1. Nathan and Phil to meet with DCR (Dept of Conservation and Recreation) and RRPDC to ask about help with facilitation and consultation for the master plan.
2. Nathan and Phil meet with Nathan's department to talk about the need for the strategic plan.
3. Phil to draft a letter inviting the stakeholders
4. Board to help develop the name/address list of the stakeholders and create letters

January 13—Meet and Greet meeting with some of stakeholders

- January 14—Letter goes out formally inviting stakeholders to join a strategic planning committee
- February 10-18—First meeting of stakeholders to discuss strategic plan