

## 12/3 Meeting Minutes

### **Members:**

P.J. Fanning  
Molly Dellinger-Wray  
Nancy Fowler  
Karen Thomas  
Mary-Helen Sullivan  
Phil Dawson  
Vicky Shivy  
Betsy Slade  
Warren Foster  
Connie Carroll  
Myrna Hartley  
Larry Socha  
Adrienne Coxe  
Anne Wright

### **Guests:**

Michael Gee  
Paul Keefer  
Greg Velzy  
Nathan Burrell  
Liana Kleeman \*Interested Volunteer\* (email: liana.kleeman@gmail.com)

### **Old Business:**

#### **Board Approves November Minutes**

- Revisiting Retreat Issues
- Improving Earth Day so we do not present a divided Richmond
- Better Planning for next year picnic
- Doubling Preservation and Protection Fund
- More people on the Board
  - Bylaws allow for up to 20 (currently 16 members; plus Nathan ex officio – according to website)
  - Committees may be more effective than just recruiting

### **New Business:**

#### **New Park Staff:**

- Michael Gee – Operations Manager
- Matthew Mason - Volunteer coordinator

#### **Staff Gifts**

- Gave \$75 to each member of the staff last year

- Now 4 staff
- **Board votes for \$100 gift for each staff member**

#### Parade of Lights:

- December 14 @ 4:30; viewing at 6 – view from Libby Hill (usually 250-350 people; family oriented)
- Viewing at Sugar Pad- Intermediate Terminal
- Historically FOJRP covers \$300 for food for event; typically recoup about half the funds through donations
- Have \$250 – 32.14 = \$217.86 - no vote needed (covered by existing budget line item)

#### Brochures:

- Warren – suggests park description; mention of license plates
- E.g. conservation project- Invasive species removal and native replanting
- Brochure should look more like the website – improve branding
- Should have DMV or FOJRP link for license plate
- Tahoma font on website- not a print font so had to use font different from website
- Image of license plate
- Bird-watching or photography photo
- Final committee for brochure - Karen, Warren, Vicky, and Connie

#### Texas Beach Bridge for Swampy Area

- Nathan waiting for next Eagle Scout to contact him to suggest project to them

#### Venture Richmond Letter

- Warren drafted letter
- Jack Berry responded
  - Wants to walk site and discuss possibilities for increased parking
  - Access to North Bank Trail important
  - Bus stop

#### Winter Solstice

- Saturday, Dec. 21, 5PM
- Meet at base of Belle Isle bridge

#### Updates on New Maps

- Nathan update
- Improve flow of map so river isn't broken up
- Trails are not accurate
- Usually get ~\$1000 donations for map production
- We sell maps for \$2; hot item
- Map doesn't show bathrooms or water fountains

### Water Fountains

- FOJRP, Bank of America, and JROC donated
- 3 water fountains
- Greg Velzy- Talk that Bank of America was going to match \$5,000. BOA employee donated \$500 – she filled it out to go to FOJRP; \$500 match will go to us
- **Motion to accept checks from Bank of America for fountains and remit \$1000 to JROC who is collecting funds. Vote unanimous.**
- Color is textured pyrite
- ADA accessible; have dog bowls; jug filler; will have a hose spigot for staff only
- Cost about \$3000 each; funding complete for initial 3
- Fountain locations
  - Reedy Creek by the kiosk
  - One at North Bank Park (parking lot)
  - Great Shiplock Park – bonus b/c links with Capital Trail

### Restricted Donation

- K9 Adventures
- **Motion to accept donation to be used for recycling bins**
- **Vote unanimous**

### Constant Contact Ideas

- Solstice
- Parade of Lights

### River Heroes

- Defer til January
- Applications generally due by February 2014
- Need judges (former River Heroes traditionally judge)
- New sponsors
  - Molly to reach out to restaurants
  - Hardywood Park
  - Tubes and Taps
  - Local Coca-Cola representatives
  - Maureen with a food tour
  - REI and Blue Ridge Mountain Sports

### Corporate Fundraising Letter

- Vicky, Warren, Nancy, and Karen
- Tailor to large corporations and small businesses

### Volunteer Opportunities

- Based on master list provided by Nathan
- Monthly volunteer project sponsored by board and overseen by board
- Schedule “park spruce ups” or “meet ups” by park parcel for each month
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month
- Vicky volunteering to coordinate
- Liability waiver-
  - Any issue with volunteers under 18
- Usually 9AM to 1PM
- Jan. 18 9-1PM, North Bank
- Riverside Drive clean up in March
- Bluebell planting February 22

#### Retreat

- More advanced notice
- Expect email from M-H

#### Anne Grant from Dominion

- Anne and Vicky collaborating
- Vicky course with undergrads for developing survey for why people do or don't recycle
- Partnering with city stormwater and recycling
- CVMWA – Central Virginia Waste Management Authority
- District 8- only 1-2% of people recycle
- Also in Hopewell- implementing curbside recycling
- “Stormwater autopsy”
- Board Members to participate (for video)

#### Baseball Hats

- Vicky suggests FOJRP hats as an alternative to t-shirts for cold-weather volunteering
- Betsy to look into pricing and production

#### Belle Isle Kiosk

- \$5,000 for new kiosk
- Not budget item so requires a vote
- At end of bridge

#### Budget votes

- **Motion to increase budget for Webbones to \$1500 -vote passes**
- **Motion to pay for kiosks for Belle Island \$5000 from reserves to fund-vote passes**

#### Trail Monitors

- Motion to cut \$2000 out of contractor budget and divert funds to trail monitors
- Board approved

#### Boulders

- Nathan prefers renting of back hoe
- We have line item in contracting budget

#### Conservation Easement Refresher

- Passed in 2009
- For sections of the Park;
- Held by easement holders (3 groups)
  - Capital Regional Land Conservancy
  - VA Department of Conservation and Recreation (Sarah Richardson-Staff Attorney)
  - Enrichmond Foundation
- Friends role is to raise money for any challenges to easement
  - Agreed to raise \$100,000 to defend easement
  - Purpose of Protection and Preservation Fund
  - Cannot touch fund until it reaches \$100,000
  - We promise to use interest for:
    - Preserving wilderness
    - Surrounding park boundaries
    - Educational opportunities
    - Responding to catastrophic events
  - We are about \$40,000 short

#### RVA Bridge Park

- On old RF&P Piers near Manchester Climbing Walls
- Private foundation supporting
- Group has offered to give us presentation at January meeting
- Could be an amendment to the Riverfront Plan

#### **Action Items:**

- Nancy to send out list of potential committees
- Betsy to send Nancy list of former committees
- P.J. to post event to Facebook – seeking 3 volunteers for Libby Hill Park for Parade of Lights
- Karen, Vicky, Warren, and Connie to revise and finalize brochure
- Warren to meet with Venture Richmond (Jack Berry) to discuss increased parking for Belle Isle with amphitheater plans
- P.J. to post Winter Solstice event on Facebook (meet at base of Belle Isle bridge at 5PM on Dec. 21)
- Molly to ask Boat House, Conch Republic, and M Bistro to sponsor River Heroes with 2, \$100 gift certificates

**For Next Meeting Agenda:**

- Discuss Committees
- River Heroes