

## **Friends of the James River Park Board Meeting**

**September 5, 2017 at 6:30 pm**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Nathan Burrell, Justin Doyle, Kelly Gotschalk, Nancy Fowler, Mary Kay Martin, Katherine Mitchell, Shawna Shade, Scott Silvester, Larry Socha, Karen Thomas, Kevin Tobin, Greg Velzy

**Guests:** Jane Hotchkiss, Rick Mittler, Charles Poole, Grant Steadman, James Vonesh

### **Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve meeting minutes with edits passed. Edits to minutes to be made by Nancy.

### **Treasurer's Report**

August was a "quiet month." Friends of the James River Park paid for a porta potty and webbones.

### **Park Superintendent Report**

Nathan Burrell reported a busy summer with great police coverage. No Parks and Recreation Director or Deputy Director hired to date. Deputy Director position was defunded. The James River Park System is hiring two staff members. Positions close September 17. NOAA BWET environmental education grant in partnership with the James River Association and Richmond Public Schools to be announced. Trail maintenance planned. Operations staff members to resurface 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to Reedy Creek. Murals are planned for North Bank Tower, which needs to be repaired.

### **Upcoming Events**

September 9 – James River Regional Cleanup at Pony Pasture, Reedy Creek, Ancarrow's Landing, and Belle Isle

September 13 – Films on the Floodwall at Diversity Park

September 14 – Nathan Burrell presentation to the Innsbrook Rotary Club

September 16 – Tour de Fall Line

September 16 – Trail & Ales

September 24 – Fundraiser for Friends of the James River Park at Crossroads

### **Memorial Gifts**

Native plants as memorial gifts. Gift threshold(s) to be determined.

## **Old Business**

### **Preservation and Protection Fund Policy**

Preservation and Protection Fund Policy discussion regarding “Board will approve expenditures from Preservation and Protection Fund.” Nancy to contact Parker Agelasto of Capital Region Land Conservancy regarding insurance policy.

### **River Hero Applications**

No River Hero applications received. Friends needs to promote the event and sell tickets.

### **Grant Applications**

Katherine Mitchell to followup with The Beirne Carter Foundation regarding an application for the James River Park System Master Plan. The cost of the Master Plan is \$250,000.

Temper of the Times Foundation, Inc. typically awards grants between \$5,000 and \$15,000. Grants are awarded for projects that will lead to measurable outcomes for wildland ecosystem conservation and restoration in the United States. Grants may be used to fund the production of print, radio, or television ads, to pay for advertising space or airtime, or to produce or distribute pamphlets, books, videos, or press packets. Grant referred to Advocacy Committee.

## **New Business**

### **Lewis G. Larus Park**

Presentation from Jane Hotchkiss and Charles Poole, who requested Friends of the James River Park take a position on the proposed ordinance authorizing Chesterfield County to lease 1½ acres of Lewis G. Larus Park for \$1 per year in order to construct a 2 million gallon water tank and pumping facility. Issue referred to the Advocacy Committee.

### **Budget Amendment**

Computer and software request made. Motion to allocate \$1,000 from Community Education to Office Supplies passed.

### **Election of Officers and Board Members**

Kelly Gotschalk is leaving the Board. Motion to re-elect Katherine Mitchell and Greg Velzy ad Board Members passed. Proposed slate officers presented to the Board by ad hoc Nominating Committee. Motion to approve slate of officers approved.

President: Nancy Fowler

Vice President: Katherine Mitchell

Treasurer: Shawna Shade

Secretary: Justin Doyle

## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance:**

**Communications:** Website updates.

**Events:** River Heroes is October 5 at Troutman Sanders. The event needs to be promoted.

**Membership:** Board retreat scheduled for September 17. New board member recruitment is important.

**Advocacy:** Schedule to meet in September.

**Fundraising:** \$250,000 for James River Park System Master Plan.