



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 9, 2017 – 7:00 PM/FDA Building – 208 Strawberry Street

### In Attendance:

Brian Baird, President (nonvoting)  
Everett Reveley  
Bill Beville  
Jack Burke  
Katherine Jordan  
D. Walton

Jennifer Mullen  
Tim Feehan  
Heather McQuillin  
Robyn Tyer  
Bonnie Predd, Secretary (nonvoting)

### Absent:

Matthew Stanley  
Mary Davis-Barton  
Christy Lantz

Jennifer Mullen  
Danielle Dick

### Guests:

Matthew Becker, VCU Student Liaison  
Jack Berry, Richmond Region Tourism President & CEO  
John Kreckman, Owner Bombolini Pasta  
Jeff Geiger, Attorney for Bombolini Pasta  
Jonathan Marcus, West Grace Street Assoc President; RVA Coalition for Smart Transit Chair

### Call to Order & Approval of minutes

Brian Baird called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. December 2016 draft Board minutes were approved as written.

### Guest Presentations/Reports

#### Jack Berry, Richmond Region Tourism President & CEO

As the Region's primary marketer, RRT's mission is to grow the economy of the Richmond Region by attracting conventions, meetings and visitors and to ensure that all have a great experience. Jack passed out promotional materials and information on the organization and asked the Board members to consider contributing to its continued growth and success by a) signing up for "RVA tourism ambassador classes"; b) contacting RRT about working to bring groups, events and organizations to RVA; and c) using FDA member media to promote RRT.

John Kreckman, Owner Bombolini Pasta and Jeff Geiger, Attorney for Bombolini Pasta Details on an SUP were presented, involving the existing Bombolini business. The SUP is an accessory to permitted use and requests permission to add a craft distillery operation to the existing business which would include a sales operation licensed by Virginia ABC.



## **President's Report**

- a. Matthew Becker, VCU Student Liaison. Matt is currently a first year student in VCU's Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree program and an intern with CU Planning & Design. He is interested in serving as a non-voting student member of FDA Board.
- b. State of the FDA letter. Brian is working on the letter to members and expects to have the letter completed and mailed by late January/early February.
- c. VCU Master Plan Community Meeting. VCU does periodic updating of their long range 2020 Master Site Plan. As part of their community engagement, FDA has been invited to participate in planning reviews. To begin process, Brian will reach out to Mary P. Cox, University Architect and Director of Planning and Design. He also has asked FanFare editor to interview Ms. Cox on the VCU Master Plan for upcoming issue.
- d. FDA Building. The master lock combination code to the FDA building has been changed. New combination is available from Brian. Bill Beville noted completion of new HVAC install.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Everett presented updated Statement of Activity and Statement of Financial Position as of January 7, 2017. Both documents are posted in FDA DropBox. Of particular note, the 2016 Holiday House Tour net income is currently estimated at \$40,000 after expenses. Everett has made contact with our outside accountant in preparation for FDA annual audit.

## **Committee Reports**

### Zoning/Code Enforcement (Jack Burke/Bill Beville).

- a. The item of the SUP for the distillery at Bombolini, which was introduced under Guest Presentations, was discussed. The SUP is an accessory to permitted use and would allow permission to add a craft distillery operation to the existing business that would include a sales operation licensed by Virginia ABC. As the adjacent neighbor residents and businesses are in support of the plan, the Zoning Committee recommended a "not to oppose" vote and after a discussion the Board unanimously approved.
- b. Congregation Beth Ahabah has requested SUP to new construction design plan which is currently under review by Richmond Commission of Architectural Review (CAR). Request is to allow new building to extend 3' over zoning and to allow cover-up of existing driveway by new building foundation footprint. Zoning Committee recommended "not to oppose" and after a discussion the Board unanimously approved.
- c. Committee reviewed an SUP from 932 N Franklin property owner to build a garage and carriage house on existing slab on the property. Zoning Committee recommended a "not to oppose" vote and after a discussion the Board unanimously approved.
- d. Discussion continued on possible noise violation by Commonwealth Chapel at corner of Park Ave and North Meadow. Committee will attempt to get direct input from local residents and connect with RVA First District Councilman, who may be a member.

Holiday House Tour. No report.



Programs. In preparation of Annual Meeting and Membership Appreciation Party, Brian is working with Chair, Christy Lantz to outline possible new meeting formats and locales for review by the Board.

Code Enforcement/BRT Update. Chair, D. Walton has been Board liaison and lead to represent opinions, recommendations on the proposed long-range plan for the Broad & E Main St corridor along the future route of the Pulse Rapid Transit (BRT) system. The plan is under development by City of Richmond's Department of Planning and Development Review (PDR) and the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission and was reviewed with the goal of determining FDA Board opinion. Also joining the discussion was Jonathan Marcus, President of the West Grace Street Association and Chair of the RVA Coalition for Smart Transit. After a lengthy open discussion the Board asked FDA President to draft a letter to the City with several items of feedback: a) Requesting that the planning timeline proceed at a reasonable pace which allowed for community review; b) zoning on the south side of Broad street on the blocks which share an alley with West Grace Street should allow for buildings no taller than four stories in height due to the presence of residences as close as 15 feet across the Broad / Grace alley; c) consideration should be given to the fact that elimination of Broad Street loading zones will drive commercial traffic to neighborhood alleys which may not be wide enough to accommodate said traffic; d) removal of parking on Broad Street will create spillover Fan District traffic and parking issues.

Parks. Katherine Jordan indicated FDA has received a letter from RVA Planning that outlines a redesign for an event space in Monroe Park area directly across from Altria Theater on Laurel Avenue. Katherine has contacted Alice Massie, Monument Avenue & Garden Clubs to request a review of new plan by FDA.

Historic Overlay. Tim Feehan and the Overlay committee continue work on draft guidelines. He indicated that given recent BRT issues that the committee will review and reinforce content within the Demolition restrictions that distinguishes between residential and commercial properties.

### **Other Business**

Membership. Heather McQuillin indicated that FDA website membership renewal option is not working properly but is under repair.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

Next FDA Board Meeting: Monday, February 6, 2017.