



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 7, 2014 – 7:00 PM
FDA Building – 208 Strawberry Street
MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS PRESENT

Matthew Stanley, Laura Bateman, Tricia Bryant, Jennifer Mullen, Christy Lantz, Danielle Dick, D. Walton, Bennette Burks, Brian Baird, Christina Murray, Jenna Mosman, and Ted Theofanos

GUESTS

David Rau, 3north; Officer Hawkins Kuper, Richmond Police Department; Greg Felton VCU Police Department; and John Ulmschneider & Antonia F.D. Vassar, VCU Libraries;

Introductions and Call To Order – Matthew Stanley

Guest Presentations and Reports

- **Broad & Belvidere Roundabout Concept** – David Rau, 3north
 - Provided a presentation on proposed Roundabout improvements to intersection of Broad & Belvidere, the busiest intersection in the City with the most fatalities/injuries and a key position for the providing a gateway into the City and into the Arts District (ICA included).
 - This project was initiated by Mr. Rau as a citizen who travels through the intersection daily. 3north provided the design on a pro-bono basis, using new National DOT guidelines for roundabouts with multiple lanes of traffic.
 - The City is looking at the plans but no formal action or plans to pursue at this time.
 - Mr. Rau hopes the FDA will make an official comment on the plan – preferably in support of the improvements.
 - FDA Board decided to discuss in executive session and respond to David at a later date.

- **VCU Libraries – John Ulmschneider & Antonia F.D. Vassar**
 - Presented information on the expansion and renovation of the Cabell Library at VCU, included information about the VCU Libraries' wealth of resources and the public access to these resources. Emphasis on the fact that the library is a tremendous asset to the community, especially Fan residents.
 - Building expected to be complete fall of 2015; It is a State-funded \$51 million project.
 - Shared information on the Friends of Library program - Membership costs \$100 a year. Benefits include access to check out materials and to attend Library events, and to receive mailings and communications from the Library.
 - The upcoming issue of FanFare will have an article on the Library expansion
 - The VCU Libraries houses FDA historical documents dated from the FDA's inception up to 1995. There is great interest returning to this arrangement, including the transfer of FDA documents from 1995 to present, and continuing forward indefinitely. To do this, the FDA and the VCU Libraries would need to develop a new agreement that defines access, and storage and safety, etc. Matthew will follow up with the VCU Libraries on this.



- **City Council Reports:**
 - Matthew noted - Neither Parker Agelesto nor Charles Samuels were able to make tonight's meeting due to other Council commitments -

- **Richmond Police Department** –Officer Kuper – Gave an update on the YTD criminal activity in the Fan.
 - Breaking & Entering incidents and violent crime are down; however larcenies are up. Petty larceny is the predominant crime in the Fan. The majority of the incidents involve larceny from autos.
 - Matthew shared that move outs are going better this year.
 - The issue of getting poor response from dispatchers was raised. Officer Kuper noted that dispatchers are not police, and suggested that if a caller is not appropriate response, then ask to speak to supervisor.

- **VCU Police Department** – Greg Felton
 - Last student “move out” went really well. Biggest % of move outs will happen at end of July. If the FDA needs additional manpower for the junk removal efforts, contact Greg.
 - The only recent issues have been graffiti crimes. VCU police made 3 recent arrests with RPD. VCU and RPD working really well on graffiti issues.

Other Neighborhood and Community Association Reports

Robinson Street Association – sent news. They just elected their new Board.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Laura Bateman moved to approve the May meeting minutes and the motion was approved.

Officer Reports

President's Report: Matthew Stanley

- Matthew referenced the Monument Avenue Lee Circle improvement plans which had been presented at the last meeting. This information was sent information out to FDA members for comment. Three responses were received, all of which want to see pedestrian access to the center of the circle. West Grace Street Association will likely be opposing the project. They feel like the cost is too high for the project's scope and benefit. MAPS has taken a strong position in favor of it. The FDA's parking committee will discuss this issue further and make a presentation to FDA Board so we can offer a position.

- Regarding Liz Kastleburg's request to rent the FDA building during the day, Matthew sent a proposed rental agreement to a Fan resident lawyer, the FDA's insurance agent, and its CPA. Waiting on final confirmation from CPA, but reviews have been favorable. The \$200 a month rental will be on a month to month basis so the FDA can monitor usage and adapt agreement as needed. D Walton moved to allow Matthew to proceed with rental agreement with Liz Kastleberg, with condition that Matthew hears back from CPA that it is fine. Motion was approved.



Executive Session; As all guests had departed, the Board moved into an Executive Session to discuss the Broad and Belvedere intersection proposal presented by David Rau. Matthew raised a motion to support the concept of establishing a roundabout at the intersection. The motion was approved. The board then adjourned from Executive Session.

Treasurer Report: Christina Murray:

- We are heading into the FDA's budgeting process. Please send her your budget requests. If you need information to prepare your budget recommendations or if you have information for Christina, please contact her. She will schedule a budget meeting in late August. The Budget year runs from Oct 1 through Sept 30.
- D. Walton asked what options the FDA has in allocating money toward the Fan lighting project. The FDA lighting committee will reconvene to consider this.

Standing Committee Reports

Membership Committee: Laura Bateman – nothing to report from membership committee.

Holiday House Tour – Tricia Bryant - Currently 9 houses have been secured for this year's tour. The committee is hoping to secure one more house and is waiting for Virginia Center for Architecture to decide if they will be a hospitality venue. Also waiting from Try Me Gallery. Sponsor levels available, please contact any businesses that you think might be interested in. Beginning of October is deadline for sponsors to be recognized in tickets/print. Still potential for collaborating with Church Hill holiday house tour which is same weekend (Dec 13 & 14).

Education committee - Christy Lantz working with Aspire at VCU (a group based on building living learning communities) and meeting with Binford principle to discuss ways to consider ways in which Aspire can engage with Binford.

Programs Report – Ted Theofanos

- There will be a hot dog food truck for the Meadow Park concerts.
- The new marketing manager at Retreat Hospital is looking for ways to do joint programs between FDA and Retreat. Retreat hoping to get more exposure and engagement with community.
- National Night out – August 5th (Tuesday) - Plans underway, working on catering, police, fire dept., children's activities, music, etc. at Meadow Park
- Danielle Dick raised the issue of how our programming efforts can promote VCU students' engagement with the FDA. Suggested that rather than ask them to join the FDA, consider reaching out and giving them something that piques their interest. Suggested FDA t-shirts would be a good thing to give away. Matthew moved to allocate \$600 for t-shirts to give VCU students at VCU's student welcome events. Danielle will put a proposal together that outlines the outreach efforts, goals, means for measuring success, etc. We will table discussion on VCU student membership policy until membership committee meets for their August meeting.

Code Committee: D Walton



- Provided a recap of the last alley clean up. Only able to get through zone 1 before truck was full. Need more volunteers.
- August 2nd and August 23rd is when truck is reserved for the next alley pickup. Dumpsters come in July 26 and stay until Sept 2. To help with the alley pick up from 8 – 12 am meet at the trash location TBD. D Walton needs more volunteers. Lombardy market gave crew drinks.

Parking committee - Jennifer Mullen - Nothing to report this month, but the committee has a number of issues on the agenda for their next meeting. Expect a big report for the August Board meeting.

Grants committee – Jenna Mosman - No report

Communications: Brian Baird

June's FDA communications included a special parking pass email and 4 regular emails in June. Brian is also talking with the FDA's web administrator about selling ads on the FDA website, and is looking into options for redesigning the FanFare newsletter, with the intent of giving it a fresh look.
last meeting

Zoning - Bennette Burks - sent his report out previously.

Ms. Babs day care – the parking committee will review the request.

Retreat Sign – their request for the new sign was rejected by the City.

Camel SUP request went to planning commission today – recommended approved with a provision/amendment.

New Business

There will be a Floyd Bike Boulevard proposal meeting on July 15th. FDA Board members are encouraged to attend so the FDA can gather information on resident support. Many Fan residents are concerned about this bike boulevard plan. Many concerns stem from its impact on parking.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, the Board adjourned at 9:23 pm.