



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 1, 2014 – 7:00 PM
FDA Building – 208 Strawberry Street

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS PRESENT

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

GUESTS

Bradley Barr (Bike Walk RVA), Greg Felton (VCU Police Department). Ken Venos (Parks and Trees Committee Chair person), Charles Samuels (Richmond City Council)

Introductions and Call To Order – Matthew Stanley

Guest Presentations and Reports

A. VCU Police Dept - Greg Felton

- Not a lot of activity with exception of a few houses, including a few evictions.
- The Noise Suppression Van has been a conversation piece, promoting dialogue about noise awareness.
- Party Patrol is working better this year due to greater accountability from RPD. However, the FDA should look at this for next year. With so few calls, we need to consider best use of funds.
- Live Safe app has been helpful and is changing how complaints registrations and responses.

B. Ken Venos - Parks and Trees Committee Chair

- The Sprinkler system work for Meadow Park and Lombardy Park has been completed but the work was far less than the original cost estimates. In 2014, these two parks had received a total \$2,000 in FDA grants. Then Starbucks gave an additional \$2,500 in support of Fan parks and trees. The Park Stewards are looking at how best to use the extra funding. The overage that is specifically tied to the grant funds should be accounted for through improvements to these specific parks (Meadow and Lombardy) The Starbucks money can go to additional Fan parks.
- Park Stewards agreed that Paradise Park is in greatest need and that's where to spend the extra money. They will gather the park stewards and determine how they will allocate the funds. Then they will present the spending plan to the Grants Committee for final approval.
- Jenna will lead the effort to change the grants policy and include a clause on that directs grantees on how to amend and seek approval on the redirection of grant funds.
- City had trees trimmed for house tour.

Danielle Dick - a number of the VCU students who joined the FDA are eager to partner with the FDA especially concerning interdisciplinary project that will benefit the city. A group of students has been working on a parklet prototype structure that will help with drainage. This may be a good opportunity to connect students with Robinson Street Association.



D. Walton and Bradley Barr Under the sponsorship of Sportsbackers, there is a group getting together to look at bike infrastructure in the City. The Floyd Avenue project is a good start but efforts need to be taken farther. This group will build grass roots advocacy for safe biking and walking. Will be meeting January 7th. As group builds momentum, they will keep FDA informed.

Additionally, the FDA will be putting a task force together to see how we can best participate in the Richmond 2015 races.

E. Charles Samuels (Richmond City Council)

- Richmond City Firefighter was hurt in the Fan. City council is trying to enhance career development and education for city firefighters.
- Leaf collection is coming. Signs will be posted with dates.
- Richmond 2015 bike race will bring 300,000+ people into the city. The race courses come through the Fan on Franklin and Monument.
- Floyd avenue bike lane plans are moving forward. Lots of changes to the plan since it was originally presented. The FDA would like Tom Flynn to come to an FDA board meeting and present an update.
- Sidewalks still being repaired. FDA and Fan Women's Club are considering walking the sidewalks to identify sidewalks that need repair. Charles Samuels confirmed that this would be helpful because it provides him with information to make case for repair and helps with budget negotiations.

Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from last month. Motion approved

Officer Reports

President's Report: Matthew Stanley

- Richmond 2015 is holding a meeting at the convention center. A number of FDA Board members will be attending
- Matthew raised issue of choosing president for FDA - He is willing to be president again – but not to sign up for another three year term. Looked at By-laws and there doesn't appear to be a conflict – but if we pursue this, Matthew would serve as both president and president elect. Nothing in by-laws precludes this. Matthew would serve as an officer – but not a board member and therefore would not be a voting member.
- We will have a task force that will look at FDA By-laws and suggest revisions/updates.
- Laura Bateman made motion to elect Matthew as president elect. The motion was approved.
- School Board is also meeting tonight, therefore no reps here at the FDA meeting.
- 2601 Kensington issue is resolved. Robinson Street Association would like to work with us on anything that involves Robison Street properties. The RSA voted to approve the request – but attached a number of stipulations. Case is to be heard by Board of Zoning appeals on Dec. 3rd. Neighbors are very supportive.
- West Main Street SUP was resolved
- Scott's Addition boundaries are being resolved.
- Resident who built a fence that is too high is being told by City to reduce height of fence.



- 1600 Monument Noodle bar is on the City council agenda - but was continued to their next meeting.
- No other neighborhood association reports

Treasurer Report - Christina Murray

- We received the check from Retreat Hospital. Also, we should see savings in our website costs as Brian has been researching a new firm that is cheaper than our current provider.

Standing Committee Reports -

The following committee's had new information to report:

Holiday House Tour – Tricia Bryant -

- Channel 12 is running ad spots
- Volunteer party at Glave Kocen gallery on Sunday at 6:30 pm and sponsors invited too
- Handed out posters to help distribute
- Tickets are only \$15 if you are working as a volunteer. House captains have them.
- The Holiday House Tour will be held on Dec. 13 & 14. All Board members should sign up to work at least one shift.
- We have had more advanced ticket sales on line than the prior year.
- We secured more sponsorship money this year than last year.

Education – Ted Theofanos presented for Christy Lantz since he attended a number of community meetings about Binford Middle School, which is under enrolled and under performing. The Binford administration has suggested a number of ideas to the Richmond School Board on how to make strategic changes to Binford that will attract open enrollment schools. These changes, which received mixed reviews from some of the school board members, are summarized below

1. Move Open High to Binford and change the population to grades 6 - 12
 2. Make Binford a whole IB school
 3. Make Binford a college spring board program school
 4. Make Binford a fine arts based middle school
- A group of citizens and local residents have started a group to show support of Binford. See their Better Binford Facebook page for information. Next public meetings will be held Dec 3 and 4.
 - The FDA will include information in its next e-communication, advertising the public meetings and encouraging people to attend and voice their opinions -

Communications: Brian Baird -

Still looking for an ad sales person: four responses from linked in ad, two of whom look promising. He will interview further, then select someone for a trial period. The goal is to have someone up and running in January to sell ads for the April issue

Safety & VCU – Danielle Dick –

Another VCU student approached Danielle about idea for engagement and suggested having FDA programs in winter instead of only in summer when students are not here. If the students can generate interest and an idea, the FDA would welcome opportunity to discuss.



Parking - Jennifer Mullen

- Parking committee meeting on December 2nd.
- Jennifer will draft up letter regarding FDA parking recommendations, which are only that. City has actual authority on final decisions. Jennifer will share the letter before she sends it

Historic Preservation committee - Laura Bateman

- Met on November 11th and are working on a survey to go to Fan residents. Goal is to have survey out in first week in January.
- Proposed overlay district - not a historic district - to be decided based on what people want in the survey
- FDA role is to facilitate the conversation – not to make the decision. FDA will work to ensure its due diligence with getting the neighborhood input and consensus.

Grants - Jenna Mosman

Will amend grant policy as noted above. Also will send out press release regarding the grant application process and the fact that proceeds from the Holiday House Tour fund the grants program.

Zoning - Bennette Burke

No zoning report – no meeting. 1823 W. Main street – special use permit issue has been continued to the City's next meeting.

New Business -

- Annual report needs to be ready for January – so all committee chairs need to send Matthew information before Christmas. Matthew will send out an email reminding.

Adjournment - Hearing no further business, the Board adjourned at 9:24 pm.