



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

June 6, 2016 – 7:00 PM/FDA Building – 208 Strawberry Street

### **In Attendance:**

Everett Reveley  
Bill Beville  
Danielle Dick  
Tim Feehan  
Jack Burke  
Heather McQuillin

Robyn Tyer  
Brian Baird  
Katherine Jordan  
D. Walton  
Bonnie Predd

### **Absent:**

Mary Davis-Barton  
Christy Lantz  
Jennifer Mullen

### **Guests:**

Tito Luna, Neighborhood Outreach Director/Community Engagement Dept VCU  
Officer Greg Felton, External Relations Officer/VCU  
Lieutenant Bill Woo, Third Precinct - Sector 313/Richmond Police Department  
Calder Loth, retired Senior Architectural Historian/VA Dept of Historic Resources  
Charlie Diradour, President/Lion's Paw Development

### **Call to Order & Approval of minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Brian Baird at 7:00 pm. The minutes from May 9, 2016 Board meeting were approved as written.

### **Guest Presentations/Reports**

#### Officer Greg Felton

- With school out and move-outs nearly complete, very little activity to report. Reminder to Board if VCU student move-out issues arise, email or call Greg but also connect directly with property owner.

#### Lieutenant Bill Woo

- Crimes of opportunity still occurring. Four robberies have occurred in past month with 1 arrest; 3 unsolved. Specifically, open autos parked while owners do quick shopping errands. In addition, a recent rash of early hours (2-4am) pedestrian robberies by a group of 4 young men has occurred. Victims were late night workers and bar traffic. RPD together with VCU police have been meeting VCU and Fan area businesses to notify employees to travel in groups, take transportation vs. walking, and “buddy up” where possible. Key is to stay vigilant while on the streets in early morning hours.



- Recent uptick in graffiti in Fan area. 4 individuals have been identified.

#### Tito Luna/VCU

- As part of VCU's Project Clean and Green Move, dumpsters were placed strategically in the Fan neighborhood for use by students through May 27. They will return from July 25 to Sept. 2. Locations:
  - Southwest corner of Ryland and Grace streets on Ryland
  - Northwest corner of Morris and Grove streets on Morris
  - Northwest corner of Morris and Cary streets on Morris
  - At Floyd Avenue and Plum Street beside 1501 Floyd Ave
- On Wednesday, June 15, from 4 - 5:30 p.m. in the Cabell Library Lecture Hall, the Division of Community Engagement will host the VCU-Neighborhood Forum for the Monroe Park Campus. VCU president Michael Rao, community representatives and university leadership from Cabell Library, Facilities Management and VCU Police will provide updates on activities affecting neighborhoods surrounding the Monroe Park Campus. This event is free and open to the public.

#### **Other neighborhood and community association reports**

##### Calder Loth/Architectural Historian

- It was brought to the Board's attention that Congregation Beth Ahabah, 1111 W. Franklin St, has presented for public comment architectural renderings and floorplans for a new addition. As per the prescribed process, Beth Ahabah's ARC, Steering Committee and Chairs, and Board of Managers have approved the concept and have asked the plan now be presented to Fan District and West Ave Associations for feedback prior to going before the Richmond Planning Commission. The goal is to join their two buildings (Synagogue and Education) together with a third more modern structure. Calder Loth indicated as presented, the current plan has questionable compatibility with the Historic District Statutes specifically that "*All new construction, whether in the form of additions or entire buildings, should be compatible with the historic features that characterize their setting and context.*" After a review of the drawings by the Board and considerable discussion, the Board moved, seconded and voted unanimously that they consider the remodel as currently defined is historically incompatible according to the above definition. It was agreed that Tim Feehan would approach the architectural firm, Johanna Design Group, to discuss the Board's concerns and feasibility of some alteration to the current plans to better comply with Historic District Statutes.

#### **President's Report**

- The Board members were presented with a copy of Characteristics of Successful Associations and the FDA Code of Ethics. Brian reminded the Board of the requirement to vote to approve the President (Brian Baird) and Secretary (Bonnie



Predd). Both were approved by unanimous vote. Everett Reveley accepted a nomination to be Treasurer, and the VP nomination was accepted by Katherine Jordan. Both of these last two nominations were approved by unanimous vote.

- HHT Leadership Update: As of today, the HHT Chair position is vacant. Brian asked for recommendations for getting the position filled by end of June.
- Discussion on viability of identifying a non-voting student member to join the Board met with mixed comments and no resolution. VCU liaison Danielle will work with Brian to identify a graduate level student.
- Board agreed to store some Fan Women's Club historical documents at FDA building.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- No report.

### **Committee Reports/Action Items**

#### Parks & Trees Committee (Katharine Jordan)

HandsOn RVA Fall Parks Clean-up will be Saturday, Oct 15th, 9-12pm. Meadow, Lombardy, Paradise and Sydney Parks will likely participate.

#### Safety Committee (Danielle Dick)

No report.

#### Membership Committee (Heather McQuillin)

Noted an uptick in changeover of household memberships to individual. The trend may affect dues income. Shannan Hillier will be assisting with membership.

#### Zoning Committee (Jack Burke)

Getting a number of requests for zoning clarification and direction from contractors and owners, however, none require discussion or a vote at this time.

#### Historic Preservation Committee (Tim Feehan)

Work on Historic Design Overlay draft continues. While recommendations for demolition is straightforward, new construction and infill requires more thought and possible input from property owners.

#### Open Committees (Brian Baird)

Brian asked new Board member, Bill Beville, to join Zoning committee. New Board members Mary Davis-Barton and Robin Tyer have not yet been assigned. Previous Secretary, D, will co-chair the safety committee.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm