

Fan District Association
Board of Directors Meeting
208 Strawberry Street
May 5, 2014
MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS PRESENT

Bill Montgomery, Laura Bateman, Tricia Bryant, Tim Treinen, Bennette Burks, Brian Baird, Christina Murray, Jenna Mosman, Ted Theofanos, Roger Whitfield, Collin Kelly, Sally Holzgreffe

GUESTS

Greg Felton, VCU Police Department, John Venuti, VCU Chief of Police, Tom Stallings, West Avenue Association, Tito Luna, VCU Community Engagement, Max Hepp Buchanan, SportsBackers

VCU POLICE

It has been a good year with reductions in robberies in VCU area. There is a high visibility police presence. Collaborative initiative MOU has been signed and executed. Redevelopment of that initiative adds value to neighborhood. There have been a large amount of evictions. Greg Felton is providing information and consequences to renters, which has been successful. Strategy must remain fresh. Thank you to Greg Felton for doing a great job.

Crime-stoppers: a very successful 30-year old program with a new promotional campaign. VCU police is very prepared for the end of the year with students moving out of dorms and apartments. Dumpsters are available for trash so that alleys and streets to do not fill with their leftovers.

Laws concerning residential living: Property owners will be notified that more than three unrelated residents in a house are illegal. Impact of noise and parking causes a problem. This will also prevent conversions from single family residences to multi-family residences.

Cameras on campus have been highly successful. Anyone who comes in our area and commits a crime will be caught. Another hundred cameras will go up this summer. We will move a tiny bit out of the VCU perimeter with cameras in problem areas. Suspect's shoes seem to be a very specific item that assist with identifying suspects.

SPORTSBACKERS BIKE UPDATE

Making Richmond a more bike-able place requires infrastructure and a safety plan for all citizens. We presently have five miles of family-friendly biking paths in the Richmond metropolitan area. In the next year we want to have 25 miles (\$3 million). \$4 million for other city bike projects.
May 14, Open House in Byrd Park – Master Plan - looking for public comment
May 19 – Floyd Avenue Open House at Virginia Historical Society
Contact Tom Flynn if you have a problem with the website.

WEST AVENUE ASSOCIATION

Tom Stallings is rotating off as Mayor of West Avenue but will serve on FDA parking committee and he and his wife will serve as docents at FDA House Tour.

TREASURERS REPORT

Audit: Everything checked/balanced. All looks good.

Report sent by email

MINUTES - BOARD EMAIL APPROVAL OF MARCH 31 MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes: Laura Bateman

Second: Tim Treinen

Approved

ZONING

- VCU streetscapes proposed for Broad St and W. Grace and Robinson St.
- Special use permit application for VHS (outside the Fan)
- Boka – concern that they are open until 3am. They stop serving alcohol at 2am.
- Mark Bridgeman, Dept of Planning and Development, is in charge of the (interdisciplinary) CAPS program (code enforcement, ABC, police). They are meetings with restaurants and letting them know that they need a permit as a “night club” if they have bands and cover charges. They are also discussing drunk patrons, noise issues, establishing good relationships with the business owners and neighbors.

FDA OFFICE DOOR

\$1,258 for door, without prime and paint (Pleasants, Lowes)

Siewers suggested that get larger door, cut off 2”, paint and prime, and it’s done.

Door and labor total: \$800-ish

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Weed citations – 48 hours to cut down.
- Metro complaints – owner has changed. Noise (bass); blocking parking space; pouring cooking oil in alley. Need as many neighbors as possible to sign petition. Send petition to Tricia and Bennett.

COMMUNICATIONS

Announcements: Garden tour, bike race, strawberry Street Festival

Jim Claus is no longer doing Facebook. He recruited two replacements, one of whom is NBC 12 reporter.

Advertising revenue is down.

Seeking graphics talent to help with advertising.

EDUCATION

Table at Strawberry Street Festival Saturday, May 10 (12noon-4:30pm) will be located at entrance to festival. IDEAS: We can hang banner at the table and collect membership fees. “Sign up today and be eligible for \$50 gift certificate.” We can hand out candy, poop bags for dogs, etc. Ted and Brian will man the table. Ted will get someone to attend the annual meeting to accept the grant check.

GRANTS

Community grants will be distributed at the Annual Meeting next week. Colin will attend the meeting to accept for Lombardy Park if necessary. Everyone is very grateful. May 20 Grants Committee Meeting. Committee will discuss how they can stay engaged during this down time. New grant application was received from Fox Elementary volunteers. Do we want to award funds to small requests such as: Volunteers planting in front of Fox School. They want \$250 to replace bird bath tops, paint, infill of plants, perennials, annuals. We have given \$2500 to PTA so maybe they should apply to the Fox PTA for these funds.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOURS

- 7 houses confirmed; 2 maybes; We are looking for 11 houses. Church Hill collaboration meeting will discuss collaboration, cross promotion, restaurant sponsorship, funding.
- Ronald McDonald House will serve as hospitality center. Blair House is on tour.
- Jenna will contact the Royals about opening their gallery to the tour.

MEMBERSHIP

Percentage of members paying by credit card has quadrupled.
Laura needs help at the Membership Table at the Annual Meeting.
Brian has volunteered to organize.

PARKING

Neighbors did not support suggested parking ideas near Triangle Park so the subject has been dropped.

PROGRAMS

Concert is Sunday, May 18, 5-7pm
Looking for Food Truck ideas

SAFETY & CRIME

Party patrol will end this weekend for the summer. Crime summary for April distributed. Monthly averages:

2013	2014
Crimes against persons: 13	April: 1
Property crimes: 53	April: 7
Party Patrol Calls: 28 call - 7 per weekend	

- Many party problems were nipped in the bud
- 150 magnets with party patrol numbers on them to be distributed at annual meeting
- 9 people interested in safety committee

TREES & PARKS

- April 12 – successful Parks Clean Up event – 75 volunteers from VCU
- Tito said he would run an article in the Commonwealth Times at VCU.
- Monroe Park – 1st Time in 3 years we worked on this park, the Prestwould provided volunteers
- FDA paid for lilies at Meadow and sand at Lombardy, the City provided mulch
- We need \$3,000 that was previously pledged by the city to complete funding for projects at Lombardy and Meadow Parks, FDA grants helped, but additional fund raising is needed if City does not come through .
- Four park volunteers have stepped down as Park Stewards with celebration of appreciation. Please announce this at annual meeting.
- We get a good number of volunteers for the Spring and Fall clean ups. Starbucks and Retreat Hospital provided 10 and 7 volunteers respectfully. Lamplighter gave cards to volunteers to invite them to come in for coffee.

VCU

No report

OLD BUSINESS

CLEAN SWEEP

Power washing is finished in Carver and moving to Fan to be completed by late May. They don't see any resource constraints.

One complaint of 7am leaf blowing

Next meeting with City is scheduled for June 13

Need a volunteer coordinator of Clean Sweep for next year. New contract started April 1. Matthew is seeking volunteer.

VCU LIBRARY PLANS

The public can pay \$50 to join Friends of the Library with the benefit of using the library.

NEW BUSINESS

BEST RENOVATION OF THE YEAR

22_ _ Grove Avenue – Kastlebergs: “restoration hardware renovation”; good house-tour prospect
2609 Hanover Avenue – extensive renovation \$.5 million; Ken Vinos – garage, two floor screened porch, very impressive. From California Maymont, VMFA, Lewis Ginter volunteer.

MOTION

Tricia Bryant: Recommends 2609 Hanover as best renovation.

Tim Treinen: moved that we approve as renovation of the year.

Approved.

TREASURER

Matthew resigned. Christina has volunteered to serve as treasurer.

Motion:

Bill Montgomery: motion to nominate Christina

Ted Theofanos: second

Approved.

PROJECT CLEAN UP AND GREEN MOVE

Neighborhood Clean Ups:

- 3 trucks (Carver-1, Oregon Hill/Randolph-1, Fan-1)
- 4 Saturdays: May 31, June 28, August 2, August 23
- 6 people per truck to help clean up

Good Will Truck: August 1 & 2 – 9am-3pm - Grove and Morris

Dumpsters – April 25 after Memorial Day and July 26 – September 3.

Thank you to Bill!! Great leadership, joy to serve with him!

MEETING ADJOURNED

Collin Kelly: motioned to adjourn

Tim Treinen: second

Adjourned at 9:23pm