



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 12th, 2016 – 7:00 PM/FDA Building – 208 Strawberry Street

In Attendance:

Brian Baird, President (nonvoting)
Everett Reveley
Bill Beville
Tim Feehan
Jack Burke
Katherine Jordan
Matthew Stanley, president ex officio
(nonvoting)

Mary Davis-Barton
Christy Lantz
Heather McQuillin
Jennifer Mullen
Robyn Tyer
Danielle Dick

Absent:

D. Walton

Guests:

Third Precinct Lieutenant Bill Woo/Richmond Police Department
Greg Felton/External Relations Officer/VCU PD
Chief John Venuti, VCU PD
Mike O'Berry, VCU PD
Charlie Diradour, Member
Betsy Coffield, Member
Alice Massie, Member, Monroe Park Conservancy
Adrienne Kirkpatrick, Member, Holiday House Tour
Tammy Kelly, Member, Holiday House Tour
Lisa Girardi
Robin Frayser
Bill Pantele

Call to Order & Approval of minutes

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

Guest Presentations/Reports

Tammy Kelly and Adrienne Kirkpatrick/Holiday House Tour

The 2016 Tour is on track and the organizers are confident it will keep its timelines. Between one and three more houses are needed, in particular because one house withdrew from the Tour today. Additional sponsorships are always needed, and Board members were asked to help with both identification of houses and also sponsors. Sponsorship forms were distributed. This will be the last year that Martin's Supermarkets will sell tickets, due to their merger /



acquisition. There will be an emphasis on online ticket sales this year in order to offset this loss next year.

Chief John Venuti/Greg Felton/VCU PD

- VCU police encourage parties to be registered via the PartySmart website / app, this allows police to text the party if complaints are received.
- VCU PD provides ongoing awareness classes for many risky student activities
- Bicyclists riding at night with no lights are sometimes ticketed, but the problem continues

Bill Woo/Third Precinct Lieutenant/RPD

- The big three problems are valuables visible in parked cars, pedestrian safety, and bicycle safety
- The rate of stolen cars is actually down as compared to last year
- A monthly report from RPD is in the works
- Leash laws for dogs were not fully known at the meeting, Lieutenant Woo will provide the section of the regulations after the meeting

Bill Pantele

- The garage located at '203 N Davis, rear' is applying for a Special Use Permit which limits its use to non-retail office and mail order space.
- Bill provided details of the SUP and was available to answer questions. There were questions about mail delivery service and whether the SUP was tied to the owners or to the property.

Alice Massie

- There should be news regarding the upgrade to Monroe Park in about two weeks
- When Monroe Park is closed, the homeless people who live there will likely seek space to live nearby, including the Fan
- 211 Connect reaches the United Way, which offers services to the homeless
- Other organizations have decreased services recently (Daily Planet, Salvation Army)
- VCU PD is still interested in using the Checker House in Monroe Park as a pedestrian police substation

Betsy Coffield

- 67 trees were adopted through the FDA this season – that is a good number
- The deadline for sending a check to the City is 9/1
- The fall of 2016 is used to check tree wells and determine which trees to place in them, whether stumps must be ground, etc
- Trees begin to be planted around January 1st and planting continues into the early spring
- Herbicide should not be applied into tree wells containing trees
- Luke McCall will be leaving as a City Arborist, he has been a good partner for over six years
- Tree watering bags should be removed after two years, they begin to harm trees when the trees reach a certain size



Other Reports

None.

President's Report

- A request for more information on Board members has been received. This is optional, new Board members are especially asked to provide information
- A method for people to donate to the FDA will be provided, this will be pointed out during the Holiday House Tour
- The new mail organizer was pointed out, this replaces the old table. If a mail slot is needed, please let Brian know
- Concert signs for the concert on 9/18 are available and can be set up now
- Next Board meeting will be Monday, October 3rd

Treasurer's Report

- Everett presented financials as of August, 2016. A draft budget for fiscal year 2017 was available to the Board and discussed briefly. The Board decided not to vote on the proposed budget until the 10/3 meeting, after modifications had been made

Committee Reports/Action Items

Zoning / Code Enforcement (Jack Burke / Bill Beville)

- Jack reported the recommendations of the committee regarding 203 N Davis, rear, as noted in Bill Pantele's statements above. Many signatures of neighbors were presented to the committee, and the SUP was written in such a way that problems such as traffic are unlikely to result from the use of the garage / office space. The committee recommended to 'not oppose.' The Board discussed and voted on the recommendation. The motion passed.
- Bill reported on the FDA building; the pipe to the outdoor hose bib had split due to freezing temperatures and the failed pipe was presented to the Board. The bib has been replaced and is now operational. Cost of this repair should be less than the initial estimate. The furnace has new filters and these should be changed annually in the spring. The roof will be painted and a new front drip line will be installed in the next two weeks

Membership Committee (Heather McQuillin)

- Heather requested that Board members talk to visitors to FDA concerts and provide them with the new FDA business cards in order to remind them to join. Membership numbers are improved but it is a continuing process to attract and retain new members

Safety Committee (Danielle Dick)

- Danielle noted the increase in social media activity, despite the statistics showing there is less crime of the types mentioned on social media. The Board discussed the situation and noted that there is no simple answer. The FDA is not an enforcement body, but it is partnered with the police departments
- The discussion group in August was not well attended



- Some suggestions for managing this situation were discussed, the Safety Committee will determine which to undertake
- Based on past experience, the monthly report from the police will be appreciated by the membership

Parking Committee (Jennifer Mullen)

- The north side of the 1600 block of Floyd Avenue, which was left out of the original Zone 2 District because the use was partly commercial, requested to be included in the restricted zone as the houses are currently used for residential purposes. The residents of that block petitioned the neighbors of the block and provided the executed petition meeting the City Code requirements. The City staff has confirmed the block meets the other requirements of the City Code regarding percentage occupied and cars foreign to the block. The Parking Committee discussed the request but did not make a recommendation. A motion was made to recommend including this section of the Fan in the zoned parking area. The motion was seconded, and after a discussion the motion was approved

Debates (Matthew Stanley)

- City Council debates are scheduled for 7 PM on October 13th at 7 PM in Binford Middle School's auditorium
- A Mayoral debate is scheduled for 6 PM on October 28th at 6 PM, also at Binford. This event is in partnership with the Museum District Association
- The Board is encouraged to attend these debates and to encourage others to attend as well – the more attend the greater the influence the neighborhood will have once the elections are completed

Announcements:

- There will be an FDA Concert from 5 – 7 PM on Sunday, September 18th in Meadow Park

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:59pm