

**MINUTES**  
**FAN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MARCH 4, 2013**  
**208 STRAWBERRY STREET**

**Presiding:** Roger Whitfield, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30.

**Board Members Present:** Roger Whitfield, Bennette Burks, Bill Montgomery, Calder Loth, George Hostetler, Tim Treinen, JoAnne Nolte, Ted Theofanos

**Others Present:** E.E. Marshall, Richmond Police Department; Tom Stallings, West Avenue Improvement Association; Carol Nestor-Nesbit, Uptown Association; Mark Ruland, VCU Police Department; Tom Lisk, FDA Parking Committee; Parker Agelasto, 5<sup>th</sup> District Richmond City Council.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Lt. Marshall from the Richmond Police Department,** reported that Fan crime was down in the last month: two burglaries (both homes unlocked) and 11 cars broken into. The Richmond Police Department overall has many vacant positions.

**VCU Community Policing Officer Matt Ruland** reviewed procedures regarding noise that were reported last month by Chief Venuti. Community members may contact him with general concerns: [mcruland@vcu.edu](mailto:mcruland@vcu.edu) or 828-1209.

**Carol Nestor-Nesbit from the Uptown Association** listed traffic, parking and lighting as major issues of their neighborhood association.

**Parker Agelasto of Richmond City Council** addressed

- parking issues arising from parking too close to the corner or too far from the curb.
- derelict property. Calder Loth questioned if property could still be condemned for preservation as well as being condemned for demolition.

**Tom Lisk:** Lt. Marshall has assured the **Parking Committee** there would be no new police initiative to enforce ordinance about parking too close to the corner. This was in response to a complaint from a Fan resident regarding enforcement and an indication from City Police that they may enforce the current state law more diligently.

Parking restrictions have begun on West, Birch and Boyd, stipulating one hour parking 7a.m. to midnight, 7 days a week unless you have a parking sticker. Flyers (attached) have been circulated in the Lower Fan about extending the restricted zone and they have engendered both negative and positive comments. The next step of the Parking Committee which meets on March 13 would be to summarize public comments and make a recommendation back to the Board whether to expand the pilot to adjoining streets.

**Announcement:** The Fan Women's Club Auction is scheduled for March 16 at Orchard House. Tickets are \$25 and all are invited.

**Minutes** from the February 4 meeting were approved.

**The Treasurer's Report** was sent via email, but Matthew Stanley, treasurer, was not present. A motion was passed to continue discussion until the next Board meeting. (treasurer's reports attached)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Zoning: Bennette Burks** recommended approval of two items:

*1110 Grove.* The owner, Walid Daniel, has strengthened his lease in response to neighbor complaints about the noise of the tenants. Bennett has email evidence of the owner's agreement to the FDA's request for more stringent language. On this assurance, a motion was approved to send the letter not objecting to the building's conversion of one four-bedroom apartment to two two-bedroom apartments.

*8-10 N. Robinson.* A motion was passed which supported a zoning change from office to retail. Currently, Critter Wash and a fitness trainer will occupy the two buildings. (written report attached)

**FDA Building: Roger Whitfield** reported that the building repair including the roof and change of the dead bolt lock has been completed, all on budget. (written report attached)

Roger brought samples of 6" letters which he proposed affixing to the façade of the Fan District Association building. The Board preferred the script letters for \$950. There was acknowledgment that treasurer Matthew Stanley recommended postponing the plan, but a motion was passed approving a sign saying "Fan District Association," pending 1) a fictitious name filing with the Circuit Court of Richmond and with the Commission, and 2) the assurance that such a sign is within the zoning regulations.

**Code Enforcement (Environment): Calder Loth's** concern was addressed in an earlier report by Parker Agelasto. The City's derelict building policy will be clarified in 90 days.

**Communication: Laura Bateman** was absent but her written report included a March 10 deadline for *Fanfare*. The board decided that because the next *Fanfare*, which is mailed to all FDA residents, will be the official written notice of the general meeting on May 14, the proposal for bylaws' changes needs to be included in this issue. Therefore, Ted Theofanos will email proposed revisions to Board members and ask for comments to be made ASAP. (written report attached)

**Grants: Laura Bateman** submitted a written report that spells out a Grants Procedure. A motion was passed to accept the Grants Procedure as recommended. (written report attached)

**Membership:** Tim Treinen reported that dues are coming in as expected. The committee is working on developing benefits to members, "Fan Rewards," provided by local businesses.

**Education: Ted Theofanos** reported about the Fox Strategic Plan, and interested parents are urged to participate. The Richmond School Board passed a balanced budget, including closing two schools.

**Trees and Parks: Colin Kelly's** report was read aloud. (written report attached)

**VCU: JoAnne Nolte** will meet with Dr. Cathy Howard and hopes to clarify VCU's position on having a representative on the FDA Board. (VCU has not been receptive to the idea thus far.) Because VCU is reorganizing its staff, former contacts there are no longer available. It is hoped that the FDA's VCU Liaison Committee will strengthen relations with the FDA.

**Bylaws: Ted Theofanos** has sent the Board changes to the bylaws. After receiving comments, he will amend and re-circulate.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Nominating Committee:** Bill Montgomery reported that four nominees have been selected to run for the FDA Board: Brian Baird, Christina Murray, Jenna Mosman, and Tricia Bryant. The chairperson of the 2013 Holiday House Tour has not been selected.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Audit Report:** Committee members, Matthew Stanley, Bill Montgomery, Colin Kelly, Tim Treinen, are scheduled to meet on March 25.

**Awards:** Suggestions for three awards, *FDA Volunteer of the Year*, *Excellence in Residential Restoration* and *Excellence in Commercial Development*, are being taken now. The winners will be announced at the general meeting in May.

**Annual Reports from Committees** will need to be compiled and submitted to Roger Whitfield.

**Supercans** are to be kept out of the right of way according to City ordinance. FDA's role should be to advise people about the new enforcement.

**Monument Avenue Easter Parade:** Bill Montgomery applied for a table for the FDA. Workers are needed.

**VCU:** FDA is concerned about VCU's development west of Harrison.

- Roger asked JoAnne, Bill and Ted to get together with him and review the situation. Calder Loth stated that the State of Virginia Department of Historic Resources would have to review VCU's expansion into the Historic District.
- VCU will hold an Off-Campus Living Fair on March 28.
- VCU Urban Planners propose to change the street-identification signs and would like the FDA support. Calder Loth agreed to find out more about the effort.

**Raising Chickens:** Bill Montgomery opined that raising chickens is not a Fan District issue, due to the small size of property. Parker Agelasto said that City Council is studying the issue.

**2916 Monument Avenue:** A motion that "the board expresses support for the Commission on Architectural Review's (CAR) decision regarding 2916 Monument Avenue windows, noting that overruling CAR's decision could set a precedent for decisions regarding treatment of properties within portions of the two Old and Historic districts that are part of the FDA" was seconded and received a 4:4 vote. It was a tie and thus failed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Repp, Secretary