Historic Jackson Ward Association Membership Meeting February 20, 2007

President of the Historic Jackson Ward Association, Charles Finley opened the meeting. Minutes of January 16, 2007 Membership meeting reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Smith reports the opening of a CD account with Consolidated Bank for 60,000; funds from the proceeds from the house sales. The balance of funds from Capital One is 21,661.52; balance of membership dues is 7,706.11, 6,000 of which is a donation from Chris Small, realtor who handled the sales of the houses. Deposited 40,000-grant check from Philip Morris, USA. The Treasurer will present financial reports on a quarterly basis. The newest project of HJWA is the quarterly newsletter, The Ward that made a profit of \$296.

Mark Scordo and Sam McDonald of "Eco-Flats" LLC. This organization is seeking support from the Historic Jackson Ward Association in their pursuit of a special use permit for a development project at Brook Road and Duvall Street. Eco-Flats, LLC plans to renovate the current structures, which are not viable for commercial use into eighteen (18) first floor apartment units. The plan is for 16 2-bedroom, 750 sq. ft. units that will rent for 900-975/ month and two 3-bedroom, 1200 sq. ft. units renting for 12-1300/month. Rent will be approximately 450/month/ student. Each unit will be designed for a small living area with larger bedrooms. The project will adhere to the "Leadership Energy and Environmental Design concept that will merit Green Power Certificates. The paints and carpets will consist of low volatile organic products (VOP) and 50% of materials will be recyclable. Certification will be awarded for plants around the property. The target market is students favoring an ecologically correct lifestyle.

Brooke Hardin: Presentation of the amended zoning proposal that will include mixed-use singlefamily units north of Leigh and Jackson. The proposal now includes the old OIC building. A public meeting for residents will be held on February 22, 2007 at the Jackson Center and the public hearing with the city Planning Commission is scheduled for March 5, 2007.

<u>Andrea Wright</u> of Capital One presented a draft of the calendar of events for 2007. The Adult Career Development Center (ACDC) will conduct Career Day in April and the theme is, "Graduation and Beyond." On May 25, 2007, ACDC will hold its annual carnival.

<u>Amy King</u> of Re-Building Richmond Together discussed plans to provide repairs to four (4) homes of elderly Jackson Ward residents with the focus to make their homes warm, safe and dry. The project will also eliminate trip and fall hazards, upgrade appliances and repair roofs. Residents who are 55+ with an annual income less than 25,000 are eligible. Community churches are asked to assist with locating eligible residents. The organization would prefer the homes to be in close proximity of one another.

Lt. Gary Ladin. R.P.D., Sector 413

Lt. Ladin reports that violent crime is down by 30%, with one robbery occurring on Broad Street. Although property crimes are down 18%, this sector is still seeing theft from vehicles. On March 24, 2007, there will be the Community Sector Training. Reports of copper thefts prompted a strong bicycle unit resulting in catching the suspect. There was a bust at 607 North First Street that garnered a significant amount of crack cocaine and some weapons; one arrest was made. The membership was informed that the Panhandler Act passed.

Vicki Mollenaur: Presentation of T-Shirt designs, announced the April 21, 2007 Neighborhood Clean-Up.

Other Announcements

The HJWA newsletter, <u>The Ward</u>, is due out on March 1, 2007. Virginia State University Gospel Choir will present a concert on March 30, 2007 in the auditorium of the Adult Career Development Center.

The HJWA membership voted unanimously to support project Eco-Flats request for a special use permit. The HJWA membership voted 11 to 2 to support the re-zoning proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Demmie Murray, Secretary HJWA Board of Directors

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