

HISTORIC JACKSON WARD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 19, 2008

President of the Historic Jackson Ward Association, Charles Finley, opened the meeting.

January 2008 Membership meeting minutes reviewed and approved.

Lt. Lisa Drew, Sector 413- Crime is still going down in our area by 15%, violent crime is down 33%, no theft from autos; the residents are following through with ways to prevent theft from autos. Two robberies reported; one at 114 W. Leigh Street that reported the perpetrator using a shotgun; witnesses reported seeing a silver Dodge Intrepid near the scene. A residential burglary occurred at 203 W. Clay Street. Increased watch has been ordered for this area. In addition there was a commercial burglary at 12 W. Leigh Street and three (3) motor vehicle thefts. Sector 413 is starting an initiative targeting commercial burglaries and utilizing license plate radar on cars.

Pythagoras School- **Curtis Smith** distributed flyers announcing classes that will be offered for eight (8) or less student participants. A professional has been hired to develop a certificate curriculum. Mr. Smith presented a request for financial assistance from HJWA. An Open House will be held on April 19, 2008.

Hostel Proposal - Faye Hagar introduced an initiative to open a hostel at 406 West Broad Street. The hostel will provide inexpensive lodging for individuals traveling through the city of Richmond that will have 60-80 beds. It will be a part of the non-profit International Hostel Association. Other than employing a full-time manager who will occupy the third floor of the building, the program will be run by volunteers. There are plans to be a part of First Fridays; VCU, University of Richmond, SunTrust Bank and Philip Morris, USA have been involved with the discussion of this project.

HJWA Neighborhood Clean-Up will take place on April 19, 2008 from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. The meet-up location is Abner Clay Park.

Broad Appetit- Marilyn Milio reported that this festival food and art, with restricted drinking, that will take place on May 18, 2008 from 12-5 p.m. There is a plan to block off the 100, 200 and 300 blocks of Broad Street. The group is working to get satellite buses to transport festival attendees. There will be an article in the HJWA Newsletter about this event, a press release and posting on their website, HYPERLINK "<http://www.broadappetit.com>" www.broadappetit.com in about two (2) weeks. Neighborhood restaurants that are participating are Hidden Treasures and Croaker Spot. Kathy Emerson is the contact person. A donation of \$2500 from HJWA is requested. It was moved and seconded to grant a donation of \$2500 to the Broad Appetit Festival.

Downtown Neighborhood Association- will be collaborating with the HJWA Business Association. An introductory meeting was held on January 30, 2008.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Reverend Morton- the church will be celebrating its 150th anniversary in June 2008. The membership will conduct community forums to develop relationships, look at issues with youth, families and health with a focus on the AIDS epidemic.

HJWA Annual Report- will be ready for review at the March 2008 membership meeting

Restricted Parking Committee Report, JoAnn Braxton-Lee- a draft of the restricted parking guidelines was developed at a 2/22/08 meeting. The committee agreed to send with a letter to JW residents. This will be sent for review by the HJWA board. A petition, with a questionnaire, will go out for neighborhood signatures. A public forum is in the plans for community input after the survey has been done.

Gateway Signage Update- based on feedback from a meeting with representatives from the Commission on Architectural Review, Public Works, Ken Johnson and Brooke Hardin, none of the proposed signage sites are within the historic Jackson Ward district that would require approval from the Commission on Architectural Review. The Adams and Broad Streets site was determined to be ineffective for the purposes of the signage. The membership moved and seconded, with one nay vote, to eliminate the Adams and Broad Streets site from the gateway project and to direct the committee working on this project to make future decisions. There was discussion at the aforementioned meeting that a \$300,000 insurance policy is required.

City Lights- ACDC and Capital One are working on a volunteer fair; they will put us on their calendar for the neighborhood clean-up. The following activity dates were announced:

- 4/8/08: The City Lights second (2nd) year celebration kick-off
- 4/4/08: Corporate Community Leaders Reception at the Black History
- 4/12/08: Open celebration from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Abner Clay Park as venue

It is requested that the HJWA Business Association come out to participate.

Funding Request Guidelines Review- Volunteers to review these procedures are Lisa Turner, Ron Stallings and Cassandra Cureton.

Walker Row Projects-Ron Stallings- Three (3) houses in Jackson Commons recently completed that are selling for between \$229,000 and \$239,000. An Open House is scheduled for a to-be-announced date in March 2008. One more of the 2C condos left. Walker Row is launching new website at HYPERLINK "http://www.newjacksonward.com"

www.newjacksonward.com by 3/1/08. Studio apartments on 2nd Street that are being built will be 400 square feet.

OIC Renovations- activity on this project is due to begin by the end of February 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Demmie Murray, Secretary
HJWA Board

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