

Historic Jackson Ward Association Community Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2006

Vice-Chair, Leighton Powell opened meeting for Chair, Charles Finley who had scheduling conflicts.

Financial Report – Pat Smith, HJWA Treasurer: HJWA ended the year with a net profit of \$1,345.61. From this balance a donation of \$100 was given to Gallery 5 for hosting the HJWA Christmas Party; leaving a balance of \$1,245.67

City of Richmond News – Bill Pantele, Councilman for 2nd District: The project to eliminate violent crime has made some progress, however, one must still be aware of their surroundings. Changing the R.P.D. department to the sector system has worked well. Current staffing of the R.P.D. law enforcement sectors is 731. There will continue to be more progress at Belvidere and Leigh Streets. Next month there will be a discussion of taxes, elderly tax abatement and the possibility of “freezing” real estate taxes.

Capital One – Adele Johnson: Moving forward on suggestions for community projects made at the September 27, 2006 meeting. Lieutenant Nolan asked about the P.A.L. program and the possibility of housing it at ACDC which will offer a much needed police presence in that area. Ms. Johnson shared the following information:

Capital One is presenting a workshop on interviewing skills/career
Development at ACDC on February 14, 2006 and will provide
scholarships for ACDC
Support a few things at the Black History Museum and will look at it for
other activities.
Financial literacy/education
Community clean up
Gateway signs
Assist MBL technology in the development of a business plan

R.P.D. – Lieutenant Nolan: There has been some cleaning up of the 500 block of North First Street. The rash of robberies in the past weeks. The suspects are two Black males, one tall, the other shorter and around 40-45. These individuals are robbing females and sometimes display a weapon. The taller male has since been apprehended. Homeless people are robbing each other. From June 2005 to January 17, 2006 major crime is up 7%, individual robberies are up 3% compared to this time last year, theft from automobiles is up 1% and there has been a 30% reduction in residential B&E incidents. Lt. Nolan has agreed to share information on recent crimes as a warning to HJWA residents.

HJWA Vice-Chair – Leighton Powell: It was decided that the Historic Jackson Ward

Association by-laws would be brought before the membership in January 2006 for approval. Thanks to the By-Laws Committee for the hard work and commitment in getting the document in order for membership approval. Therefore, a copy of the by-laws will be sent to each member and approved at the February 2006 membership meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Demmie Murray, HJWA Board