

HJWA July 2008 Membership Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Charles Finley, HJWA President

Introductions

Requests for HJWA funds from:

Gilpin-Jackson Summer Arts and Conflict Resolution Program: Pat Smith, CEO.

The summer program began last week, currently there are 37 participants. HJWA assisted last year in the amount of \$5,000. This year, due to additional students, the program was required to hire an additional teacher therefore; the Gilpin-Jackson Arts and Conflict program is requesting **\$7500**. The theme this summer is, "I Can Be President Too." The year-end trip to Busch Gardens programmed as a separate fundraiser. A vote on this request will be done at a later time.

1708 Gallery/Juried Light Display- Tatiana presenting. The 1708 Gallery has been in Richmond for 30 years. On the September 5, 2008 as a part of the First Fridays events, the 1708 Gallery will present a Juried Light Display. The venue will be from Belvidere to First Street between Marshall and Grace Streets. This is considered as a public art exhibition of sculptures and light displays with identified alleyways, sidewalks for exhibit spots. There will be approximately 40 artworks in the show. Some sponsors already secured are Dominion Virginia Power and First Market Bank. The goal is to make this an annual event that would leave a legacy piece each year. They want to attract 10,000 people to this event that would raise awareness for Richmond. The gallery is asking other organizations to help with family activities. The lights will be focused on the actual artwork. They are requesting **\$2500**.

Gallery 5 – Library Project, presented Robinson: Named the Number One Gallery in Richmond. Gallery 5 has determined the need for a resource center/library. It is making a request for **\$2500**. There will be a variety of books with many folk who have already donated books. The plan is to have the site serve as a WI-FI spot.

VCU- 40th Anniversary Celebration presented by Ron Brown: The Carver/VCU Partnership. The 40th Anniversary Celebration will encompass the era from Richmond Polytechnic Institute (RPI) to Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) commemorated with a grand celebration on October 25, 2008. The catch phrase for this event is the VCU Village. The plan is to look at the 10 surrounding communities and the relationship they have with the University. Each community will be provided a 10' by 10' tent to decorate in a manner that represents their community. There is a need for participation and the next meeting is scheduled for August 6th at 6:00 p.m. There will be a small budget that is provided and a VCU art student will be assigned to assist with decorating booths. Pat Smith and Demmie Murray have volunteered to create the Jackson Ward community tent.

Wireless Network surrounding the VCU community (DATASMART Global IP Technologies): Community access networks. The community owns the network and they will manage it. Use antennae. Putting together a proposal for VCU and the Carver neighborhood.

UPDATES

Police Report – Lt. Lisa Drew: Crime down by 29%, only one violent crime with an arrest. A residential burglary on Marshall Street. The Croaker Spot was targeted and bikes are being stolen mostly overnight. It's been found that only 75% are locked. Four thefts from motor-vehicles, three had items in plain view and a car was stolen but recovered in Northern VA. On July 29, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Police Academy, the Richmond Police Department will honor Charles Finley as a community advocate and contributor.

Councilman Pantele's Report

Board Vacancies – We have a few who have volunteered and Charles has the authority to appoint them to serve out the remainder.

Gateway Signage – Still working on it, completed a draft that has to go to the city and we have samples of signage material.

Community Yard Sale-This will be postponed until further notice, maybe this fall.

National Night Out- Vicki Mollenhaur: The handouts are light-up key chains and necklaces. She needs volunteers and food servers to work in one-hour shifts. The duties are watermelon cutters, hand out freebies and someone to set up tables. Kelvin Hansen has volunteered his grill; Bob and Larry are working the grill. ACDC will have information and has donated the tables, JW T-shirts will be available for sale.

ALTRIA wants to do a "Cigarette Butt" project. The pilot may be between 7th and 8th of Broad St and a section of the Bio-Tech Center. There is some cost involved to buy the receptacles.

Jackson Ward Business Association- Alan Reese thanks Charles Finley for coming out to last month's meeting. The next meeting is in September. The JWBA would like to tie

into Bio-tech and a web page. Part of the HJWA strategic plan is to help the Jackson Ward Business Association.

Newsletter deadline is August 1st. Non profit inserts, the organization would need to provide 1,000. Membership is an issue; you must be a paid member to vote. Only \$10 for individuals and \$20 for businesses. Anyone joining tonight until National Night Out will be placed in a drawing to win a T-Shirt. Marilyn is running the newsletter alone now and could use volunteer assistance.

Financial Request Guidelines

ACTION ITEMS

Votes on Funding Requests

Gilpin Proposal: Moved and properly seconded that funding is provided.

Other requests will be postponed for next month.

In-Light Project is carried: \$2500

We need a budget for the Gallery 5 projects

Enhance Your Branch: to stock the public library with more afrocentric books.

For the Good of the Order