

**Historic Jackson Ward Association, Inc.**  
**Membership Meeting – July 21, 2009**  
**Club 533 – 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jackson Streets**  
**6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

*Minutes*

**Call to Order** - Meeting was called to order by Charles Finley.

**Consideration of Minutes of the June Meeting** – Minutes are available on the website.

**Financial Report – Vicki Mollenauer** – Financial report for June 9 – July 14, 2009 was given. Total expenses: \$16,641.46. Total assets: \$139,895.12. No debts owed.

Updates/Reports

**Police Report – Lt. Yvonne Baltz** – Lt. Baltz reported that theft from motor vehicles is still our main problem, especially on Marshall St. and 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Please do not leave items visible in your vehicles, especially laptops, iPods, and GPS systems. There were two robberies, but both were isolated instances. The police will be present at National Night Out, will have a table with brochures, and will lead the parade through North Jackson Ward and over to Abner Clay Park.

**City Council Update** – Councilman Charles Samuels- not present

**School Board Update – Kim Gray, Vice Chair** – Audits still showing dishonest behavior on the part of employees, but they are putting safeguards in place. There is an ADA position available. The job deals with accessibility issues and bringing Richmond schools into compliance. The formatting on the budget is improving. Letters and other forms of support from 2<sup>nd</sup> district associations have been very helpful.

**National Night Out** – Vicki Mollenauer – National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> in Abner Clay Park and we will be combining with Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church. Assistance is needed for set up, clean up, and food service. Set up begins at 3:00 pm, and the event begins at 6:00 pm. Vicki distributed flyers to each house and apartment in the neighborhood. The event will end at 8:00 pm. Please contact Vicki Mollenauer if you would like to volunteer. Motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for National Night Out expenses incurred by Sixth Mount Zion if they need to go over their budget, passed. The Richmond Police Department and the Richmond Public Library will have tables at NNO.

**Feral Cat Roundup – Sharon Richardson** – We have a problem with the feral cat population, so Sharon will work with Ross, Leighton, and Julie to catch the cats, have them spayed/neutered by the SPCA and then returned to the neighborhood. It may be that

we can find someone to take them once they are spayed/neutered. Major target areas to begin will be the area around the Maggie Walker House, the 600 block of 1<sup>st</sup> St. and the 500 block of W. Clay St. Heart Traps are available at Pleasants Hardware for \$51.99 each. They are also for rent from the SPCA, but they are not always available. Motion to buy 2 traps from Pleasants Hardware, passed. Sharon will try to borrow 2 other traps from the SPCA.

**Abner Clay Beautification Project – Leighton Powell** – Community input is needed for the Abner Clay beautification project since designs will be based on our input. The first meeting will be in August. Leighton will see if they can meet with us on August 11, 2009 or if another date in August will work. All are encouraged to attend the meeting since the more people who come, the more quickly we can match funds.

**City Lights Update – Charles Finley** – There is an overhaul in the representatives of City Lights due to Bill McGee transferring out of ACDC and Lisa Johnson Wright leaving TRC. They will have to have replacement representatives. The next grant cycle is coming up soon.

### Community Concerns

#### **Open Discussion on Community Concerns**

Kim Gray brought it to our attention that the playground at Abner Clay Park has rocks in the sand instead of having safe, finely ground sand. This is dangerous and needs to be addressed. She also suggested that we consider making it ADA accessible.

#### Announcements

Maggie Walker House will have a podcast by the end of the summer where visitors can check out an I-pod with the podcast to enhance a walking tour of Jackson Ward. The Governor's School is working with them to start the Maggie Walker Civic Society. They would like to work with us on our Clean-Up Days, beginning in October. Maggie Walker House also has begun some new educational programs.

Leighton Powell commended Councilman Charles Samuels on the fine job he is doing. She also mentioned how important preserving the river front and working to combine that area with Shockoe Bottom is in order to promote African American History. She will let us know how we can help to get things moving.

Charlie Schmidt from the Richmond Public Library handed out flyers about the upcoming Summer Reading Club Celebration which will be held on August 1, 2009 from 10 am – 4 pm at the Main Library. There will be food, music, crafts, performances, story times, games, etc. All are invited. The Richmond Public Library will have a table at our NNO celebration.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 7:10PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Mollenauer