

**Historic Jackson Ward Association, Inc.
Membership Meeting - June 16, 2009
Club 533 – 3rd and Jackson Streets
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

Minutes

Call to Order - Meeting was called to order by Marilyn Milio at Charles Finley's request.

Consideration of Minutes of the May Meeting – Minutes not available and are not on the website. Secretary Marilyn Milio misplaced May meeting notes

Updates/Reports

Police Report – Lt. Yvonne Baltz - Lt. Baltz introduced Sgt. Ronnie Armstead from the Special Investigations Unit – Narcotics and Gangs. Sgt. Armstead discussed the purpose of the unit – plain clothes officers involved in investigating drug and gang activity. This unit uses the investigative process to insure a prosecutorial case. He reminded us that not all groups that hang on corners are involved with drugs and if we suspect activity to get a good description of those involved. He circulated a complaint sheet (attached to these minutes) that details information to gather when a citizen is making a complaint. In 2008, there were 548 city wide drug complaints, and he urged residents not to make exaggerated complaints.

Lt. Baltz once again informed us that thefts from autos are on the rise. 8 in May. She once again urged us not to leave any personal items in our cars. There were two commercial burglaries and 5 residential burglaries. Some entries were through the second story. Two aggravated assaults between known parties. She reminded residents to call with any and all suspicious activity.

Charles Finley presided over the remainder of the meeting.

City Council Update – Councilman Charles Samuels- not present

School Board Update – Kim Gray, Vice Chair – 12 graduations in Richmond and Kim attended the majority of them. Student Code of Conduct was rewritten regarding truancy, suspensions and tardiness. She urged residents to think of a use and possible developers and a plan for the Moore Street School in Carver. Richmond City has allocated \$300,00.00 for the building to a group that has the resources to use it. The school was built in 1888 and if a use is not found by December it will be demolished.

Broad Appetit – Marilyn Milio – Marilyn thanked volunteers who manned the HJWA booth and noted that over 50 restaurants participated with an astonishing attendance of over 18,000 festival goers. She suggested that next year we try to highlight Jackson Ward a bit more.

Anthem Stride Through Time – Marilyn Milio - Higher number of participants than expected. Lt. Baltz noted that the number was 2,500. Marilyn suggested that we plan ahead to showcase our neighborhood with more participation, beverages and perhaps food. Resident suggested we have sign noting entry into Jackson Ward.

National Night Out Against Crime, August 4, 2009 – Vicki Mollenauer - Vicki attended a NNO meeting at Sixth Mount Zion Church. Rev. Nelson would like to see a large community effort. Event will take place at Abner Clay Park and volunteers were requested to attend planning meetings. There was hesitancy regarding monies to be spent on advertising and a concern that the community aspect developed by the National Night Organizers might be lost with such a large event. Residents were encouraged to communicate via email and to let Vicki know if they wish to volunteer for the planning committee. She noted that there are three committee meetings in July.

Business Items

Board Recommendations Regarding Funding Requests – Charles Finley

Gilpin-Jackson Life Skills Center \$5,000 recommendation /granted by vote
Richmond Public Library \$2,500 recommendation /granted by vote
North Richmond YMCA - \$2,393 recommendation /granted by vote
Technology Resource Connections - \$5,000 recommendation /granted by vote

Community Concerns

Open Discussion on Community Concerns

Iron work missing at 121 West Clay. Charles will investigate what the Association can do about it. Lynne Lancaster recommended that we try to make sure HJWA has representation on the Architectural Review Board.

Announcements

Black History Museum – ED Dr. Maureen Elgersmann Lee asked that we come by and enjoy and support the museum. The next workshop is the Youth Photography Workshop, June 20, 2009, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Artist Sir James L. Thornhill will lead a photography workshop for persons 13 to 19 years of age. Space is limited and registration is required. Free with museum admission.

Courtney Skunda from the BioTech Park reported that they have a new website and will soon have interactive capacity. There is history of HJW and links to our website.

William McGee brought to our attention a family in need. A young man was murdered and his sister just graduated from ACDC. The family is asking for donations to help with funeral expenses. The HJWA voted to send the family a \$65.00 gift card. Some members felt that we should contribute individually since this is a personal request, even though Mr. McGee did not present it for an association donation. It was recommended that any donation be sent to the funeral home, which is Brunson Funeral Chapel, 100 E. Federal St., Richmond, VA 23219

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM

NOTE: The agenda is subject to change as necessary.

NARCOTICS/GANG COMPLAINT SHEET

ISSUE

NARCOTICS GANGS

Location:

Time(s) of Day:

Helpful Information:

Race/Ethnicity:

Gender:

Hair Color:

Eye Color:

Clothing:

Other Information:

Vehcile Description (make, model, color, license plate):

Other Important Information (guns, hiding locations)

Optional

Name:

Address:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Sgt. Armstead's contact information

Office 646-8123

Cell 380-3484

Email [HYPERLINK "mailto:Ronnie.armstead@richmondgov.com"](mailto:Ronnie.armstead@richmondgov.com)

Ronnie.armstead@richmondgov.com

Send complaint sheet to Sgt. Armstead