

Historic Jackson Ward Association

P.O. Box 26137

Richmond, VA 23260

Recipient's Name

Street Address

Address 2

City, ST ZIP Code

HISTORIC JACKSON WARD ASSOCIATION NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

TUESDAY, May 19, 2015

President of The Historic Jackson Ward Association, Jack Marshall, opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. Introductions were made. Of particular note, Charles Samuels' liaison, Craig Bieber, was in attendance.

Update on UCI Bike Race – Monica Callahan presented information to the Association regarding the upcoming international bike race scheduled for mid-September of this year. She encouraged us to check out the official Society 2015 website for more information. HYPERLINK "http://www.richmond2015.com" www.richmond2015.com. Some points of particular interest are:

There are planned public participation events. Amateurs can sign up to ride the course for example.

Road closures: There will be road closures not only during, but before the event as well. We could expect to see limits on our ability to use Broad as early as the first week of September, although Monica said it was more likely to start 9/8 or so. The breadth of the closures will be, at a minimum, from 3rd Street to 8th Street, although it could extend further east (she suggested up to 14th Street) depending on the volume of people at the event. Like in the collegiate event, there will be “bridge” streets to assist in travel north-south.

To address our concerns, there is a Traffic Management Plan app that will aid in traveling in the bike race area during these road closures. It will presumably be available for download in June or July.

Parking is not likely to be overtaxed as those participating have been directed to park in remote areas (such as the Diamond or RIR) to be shuttled in.

Volunteers: Monica encouraged folks to volunteer. 2600+ individuals have already signed up with her.

Business Participation: Monica suggested that businesses can apply to use the Society 2015 brand in their advertising. She also noted that there would be live streaming of the event that businesses could play

AirBnB is a no-go for now according to a City zoning ordinance interpretation by the

Mayor's office. Mr. Bieber stated that Charles Samuels was seeing about potentially altering these laws or placing them in abeyance until the bike race was over.

Abner Clay Park: No bike race plans for the park

UNOS beautification projects – Lisa from UNOS came and spoke about their effort to revitalize the 3rd street corridor into our neighborhood. Specifically, she mentioned the installation of 2 large planters with 50+ more slated to be installed. Venture Richmond, UNOS's partner in this project, had committed funds to maintain this greenery (i.e. through watering, etc.). Lisa made a request for volunteers for those that are interested in helping with planting of the remaining 48 planters.

1st & Jackson development – Kelvin Hanson's representative Hannibal, came and spoke to the HJWA about recently planned construction in the neighborhood. In particular, there are 10 row houses slated to be built: 8 facing Jackson and 2 facing 1st. These residences are all 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath.

Issues:

These residences are rent-controlled leading to concerns from the membership. It was pointed out that Jackson Ward property is in high demand and that real property is currently demanding a high price tag.

These properties must be leased for no less than 15 years from the date of construction. In other words, tenants may not purchase these homes.

While there are parking spaces tucked away in the complex (20 spaces in total), these parking spaces also serve to satisfy those needed for the second proposed construction project in the neighborhood (at 2nd and Leigh).

Strategic Planning Committees – Marilyn passed out handouts on the Planning Committees progress thus far. Members not already in a group were encouraged to join one.

The Reachmonde – Trey Wilkerson is chef/owner of a new neighborhood restaurant, The Reachmonde. He brought food. It was tasty.

Police updates – Don Davenport (don.davenport@richmondgov.com) is leaving for the summer again, but encouraged folks to reach out to his temporary replacement. Crime down; be wary of car break-ins. Say hello to new recruits on bikes, John Story and Paul Cho. Concerns were raised about GwarBar, but no real steps were in the works to curb the various issues that neighbor members have with the new restaurant (noise, potential

violence, etc.). Greg Felton (301-5704) from the VCU police was mercifully brief so that we could eat.

Upcoming meetings – HJWA is meeting on June 16th. There are no meetings in July or August. Committees should plan to meet on their own in July, and members are encouraged to attend National Night Out in August.

Free Library – New neighbor, Anita Molayi, proposed the idea of starting a mini neighborhood public library. No concrete plans were made.

Towing - Zach brought up the issue with the frustrating neighborhood paving/towing debacle from two weeks ago.

Church – Rita Willis encouraged everyone to come visit/worship at her church, Third Street Bethel AME.

Meeting adjourned

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