

HISTORIC JACKSON WARD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 20, 2007

President of the Historic Jackson Ward Association, Charles Finley, opened the meeting.

Lt. Lisa Drew, Sector 413- Crime is still going down in our area. Two violent crimes were reported. One, a robbery on W. Clay St., the other was an aggravated assault occurring at Cross Roads where the bouncer was bitten. There were three burglaries; at 321 W. Clay and two in vacant properties. Theft from autos is also going down. During early evening hours there were two auto thefts; one from 400 W. Marshall St and the other occurring in the 500 block of W. Clay St. Last year this time, Sector 411 had a big problem with B and E's. This sector had five this time last year. Residents are noticing an increase in foot traffic in the area. There are plans to get more overtime patrol officers on duty along with extra mounted patrol and bike officers. Lt. Drew has placed several safety tips on the HJWA website. She advises everyone to be extra careful during this season and if anyone witnesses any incidents be sure to get good descriptions of all involved.

Review of October 2007 Membership Minutes: Approved, will send to Vicki for posting on web site.

Lisa Johnson-Wright from Technology Resource Connections: The purpose of this organization is to bridge the digital divide through the provision of technology classes and certification in Microsoft. Three classes are offered towards certification which is one of its major goals. The next class sessions begin on January 15, 2008. TRC also provides technology assessments for start-up businesses. TRC is looking at a project that would provide access to High Speed Internet in the Jackson Ward community. A team has been assembled to begin work on this project. The cost of classes for Jackson Ward residents is \$20 and \$60 for non-Jackson Ward residents. The classes run for eight-weeks and one can sit for the certification at no cost to the student. Classes are open and are held in the evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. TRC also provides technical assistance to small businesses.

Capital One provides financial literacy classes at RRHA University during the day.

Permit Parking/JoAnn Braxton-Lee: Received instructions from the city on making application. Looking for volunteers, a list was circulated for sign-up and Vicki Mollenhaur will put the volunteer request on the web. Janet Armstead and Gloria Elam are also interested in volunteering on this project.

Marilyn Milio: Working with Leighton Powell on blighted property committee. They are developing a source to go to and report blighted properties. A letter will go out on HJWA letterhead to owners of these blighted properties to improve them.

There is a group of trees between St. James and Cameo Streets and people living in the area. Monroe Properties is buying it. There is also a similar camp at Belvidere and Leigh Streets. The membership is advised not to hesitate to report it.

RRHA: is working with a contractor on the property 308 W. Leigh St. There is a request for a representative from RRHA to attend the January 2008 HJWA meeting. It is also suggested that the following individuals attend the January 2008 meeting to provide an update on their projects: Tyler Potterfield the Pythagorem Project, Kelvin Hanson, Ron Stallings and the Jackson Place contractors.

David Harris, CEO of Innovative Network: This company has been retained by Capital One to do an evaluation of the City Lights partnership. Innovative Network is a national evaluation and knowledge management, knowledge gathering that works with non-profit organizations. Mr. Harris' Initial interest was in community building. The evaluation will look at answers to the following questions:

1. Look at what were the changes since the initiative began?
2. How did these changes occur and what strategies were used?
3. Can any of these strategies be attributed to any one entity?
4. What stories have emerged from this experience to motivate and invigorate folk for future work; what are the recommendations for the future?

They will be doing interviews, attending meetings.

WRIR: David Harris, JoAnn Braxton-Lee have requested to participate in the WRIR Volunteer Orientation.

No meeting in December. The HJWA Holiday Party will be held on December 4, 2007 from 6 to 9 at Club 533. The caterer has been secured and Julius Richardson has contact with a small family winery in North Carolina have offered to donate some of their vintage for the Holiday Party. Glenroy Bailey and Company have been suggested as a possibility as musical entertainment for the party.

JoAnn thanks individuals for volunteering to participate on the Parking Permit Committee.

Santa at the Black History Museum: Janet Armstead is spearheading a project to have Santa at the BHM for the children to tell about their Christmas wishes and have their picture taken with him. He will be at the BHM on December 8th and December 15th from 12 to 5 p.m. They will be charged for the picture they take with Santa.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Demmie Murray, Secretary
HJWA Board

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