

HJWA Membership Meeting

October 16, 2007

Meeting opened by Charles Finley, Board President. Introductions of individuals in attendance were made.

Minutes from the September 2007 Membership meeting reviewed and approved.

RPD Sector 413 Update: Lt. Lisa Drew reports that crime is down with a 50% decrease in violent crime and a 38% decrease in robbery. Lt. Drew reports that there have been some problems in the areas of Clay, Leigh and Catherine Streets. There was a residential robbery at 319 W. Clay St., two purse snatchings at Rite-Aid and a robbery on the HESS gas station parking lot. Lt. Drew advises everyone to be careful with their property and that the RPD will be doing some bus campaigns on public safety.

Free Weatherization Kits are available for citizens ages 65 and up at Pleasants Hardware.

Harvest Fest Party: Beth McAdam announced the second annual Harvest Fest Party, an activity for children of the community sponsored by Delegate Jennifer McClellan. Last year's event was quite successful. This year Delegate, once again, requests financial support from the Historic Jackson Ward Association. The amount requested is the same amount the HJWA donated last year which is \$1,500. Donations from other neighborhood businesses will come from The Corner Restaurant and Ice Cream Connections. When asked, Ms. McAdam informed this group that she was not aware of any other organizations that were providing monetary support other than HJWA. Sign-up sheets were passed around for individuals who wanted to volunteer to assist with the event that will occur on October 31, 2007 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Siegel Center. A motion passed to provide up to \$1500.00 in funding for the second annual Harvest Fest.

Rebuilding Richmond: This project was a great success although only four volunteers from the neighborhood signed up to help. Most of the volunteers came from the corporate sponsors. ACDC offered facilities and tools and public address systems. Lt. Lisa Drew was thanked for providing officer presence. The Swim Team from the RRHA Gilpin Court community volunteered as a part of their community service. The possibility of another project next year was discussed at the City Lights Partnership meeting. Maggie Walker's granddaughter who resides at Adams and Leigh streets was extremely grateful for the work done on her home. Thanks to the HJWA for the vote to give a monetary donation towards this project.

City Lights Funding: HJWA submitted a proposal for next year, received another \$42,000 grant from Capital One. This year's grant is provided to fund more project-directed activities. An evaluation needs to be done on last year's activities. RRHA, a City Lights partner, has bought 308 W. Leigh St. for rehabilitation.

Second Street Festival 2007 Re-Cap: There was a good turn-out. The HJWA table was located at 2nd and Clay Streets. The magnets and pens handouts went over well. There was some discussion on doing a membership drive next year for the Black History Museum.

Z-Card, PM and Venture Richmond: Copies of the Z-Card developed by Philip Morris and Venture

Richmond were available for the membership. They were also distributed at the 2nd Street Festival.

HJWA Clean-Up: Scheduled for this Saturday; October 20, 2007. Please wear your red T-Shirts. The orange bags will be sent on the truck. Bob Wheatley will bake his famous biscuits; coffee will also be provided. Vicki Molleneur has been in contact with Officer Woo from RPD. Liza has been storing PM donated equipment, gloves, picker-uppers. She indicated a desire to purchase some Goof-off to wipe off some of the graffiti on some signs in the neighborhood. She was told to go forward with the purchase and she will be reimbursed.

Virginia Legislative Black Caucus: Information will be sent out.

HJWA Nominations: No nominations from them floor. Three names submitted; Charles Finley, Cassandra Blakeney and Marilyn Milio. It was moved to accept these individuals as board members by Liza Steele and seconded by Pat Smith. The motion was passed and it was noted that they would serve a three-year term.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Demmie Murray, HJWA Board Secretary

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