

## **HJWA Membership Meeting September 18, 2007**

Call to order by HJWA Board President Charles Finley

Welcome and Introductions: Dr. Carla Smith, the new principal at ACDC was introduced and made brief remarks.

Minutes from the July 2007 Membership Meeting approved

**Financial Update: Pat. See attached**

**Lt. Drew:** Violent crime down 60%, only 13 crimes in August. 204 W. Broad St., robbery, arrested. 500 Brook Rd., Moped rider stabbed by robber, 4 property crimes, bicycle and thefts from motor vehicles. One care stolen, 214 W. Marshall St., recovered that evening.

**Amy King- Re-building Richmond:** Saturday, September 29, 2007 we will be rehabbing five homes, some work has started on several which are on St. James, Leigh and North First Sts. Cap One very pro-active. Same t-shirts worn by volunteers. Everyone will check in at ACDC at 8:30 and will wrap up at 4 or 5. There will be several port-a-potties available. One homeowner has no heat. Focus on warm, safe and dry improvements. What's to be expected: sign in processed assessed volunteer skills, do what is asked of you. There will be a team leader at each project. Need runners to carry drinks, lunches, etc. The Board will recommend that we donate \$1,000 as an organization. Moved and seconded. The motion was passed. Amy also noted that there is a commitment to do a beautification project at ACDC.

**Pythagoras Foundation- Tyler Potterfield,** Program Chair. Small 501 c-3 does free training in building methods by doing projects. The foundation is requesting a contribution to the Jackson Ward project, a property owned by Sixth Mount Zion on Duvall St. Two classes one in masonry and porch repair. The Board recommended \$2500 as a donation. A motion was made and approved. Potterfield noted that the prerequisite for classes was for people to have some experience. Training is offered to people trying to make a career in the trade using old time methods. Trainees must be at least 16. It was recommended that a work study student from ACDC be included in the class which will be taught by master craftsmen. Other objectives include: a certificate program for each class; connecting with employers; looking for a curriculum development person; and, working on tracking folk who get employment. Incorporated in 2003. Do an intensive two-week class. They are not doing the entire house; they have identified a specific component of the house. Will start within the next year and would like to finish up by next summer; still pinning down the schedule. After several questions and some discussion regarding the length of the project, Potterfield agreed to develop a contract outlining the details of the project for agreement for payment of the grant between the association and the foundation.

**Pantele:** Came from a City Council committee meeting. Land use committee will introduce a paper on restricted parking district for Carver, may come into effect in January 2008. Carver decided to have 6 days a week until 10 p.m. Jackson Ward may catch a bit of overflow from the Carver restricted parking. Along with the Broad St. construction, JW may get additional

stress. We need to think about what we want. The hard part is getting the petitions. Met with National Theatre buyers, the group that developed Norva in Tidewater. The venue is first rate everything and attracts a quarter of a million people a year in Norfolk. They plan to host 150 concerts a year and to open a 350 seat restaurant. They want to open by February 2008. Pantele also noted the upcoming 2nd Street Festival and the headliner is "The Average White Band." The National Folk Festival is the next week. This is the last year but Venture Richmond would like to continue it as the Richmond Folk Festival. He was asked "What happened to re-zoning project for Jackson Place?" Residents helped them (the Developers and RRHA) to squash the original plan with the concentration of low income. They'll come back with another plan.

**Shanna Ragland- Consolidated**, Business Development Associate was introduced. She made a few comments and offered the bank's services. She also indicated she is currently a member of the association.

**Call for Nominations**, taking nominations for Board vacancies next month. Charles Finley and Marilyn Milio indicated their desire to continue their service.

**City Lights:** Finley reported that the group met this morning. The project has been on-going on for a little over a year. Right now, the group is focused on the VSU evaluation. The initial draft of the evaluation indicated that we did really well and recommended re-funding. Capital One proposal in, requested \$45,000 this year. We are in good shape with City Lights. The Black History Museum, with Cap One money, hired a full-time E.D. RRHA bought a house on 310 W. Leigh to rehab and sell to someone who works in public service, estimated at about \$280,000.

**Gateway Signage:** Tripp Longest reported he has spoken with several city departments. Can not have any insurance? Trying to get approval for various locations. Locations vary in size and shape. This is as a result of our grant from PM, USA.

**Downtown Master Plan:** The next public meeting will be held Thursday September 27, 2007 at 6:30 at Broad and Adams at the Renaissance.

**Neighborhood Clean Up:** Saturday October 20, 2007. Lauren White with VCU volunteers may help. Lt. Drew will assist with obtaining additional volunteers. May have some Cap One folk.

**2nd Street Festival:** City Lights has a table we set up each year. Will have some giveaways. Asking for volunteers to sit at the table and we need volunteers for walking tours. Cassandra will send around sign up sheet for volunteers.

**Harvest Halloween Party:** Jennifer McClellan will do the Harvest Party again this year and will come to HJWA for volunteers and funds to donate. The event will be held October 31, 2007 at 5:30 to 7:30.

**Potential for Wi-Fi for the Community/Tripp:** Plan to provide a volunteer Internet web access, will create a free network for some folk. Looking at other neighborhoods that could form a blanket network.

**Technology Resource Connections:** Offers free computer classes. Will be moving into an office with Alan Reese.

**Book Drive- Charlie Schmidt.** On 9/29/07, bring books through the drive-in. The library also offers free computer classes.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Demmie Murray, Secretary  
HJWA Board of Directors

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