

## HJWA Membership Meeting

April 17, 2007

Meeting opened by Charles Finley, HJWA Board President

Moment of Silence in honor of the students and families affected by the VPI tragedy.

Celebration of Mrs. Mills in recognition of her dedicated commitment of time and service to the Historic Jackson Ward Association. The HJWA honored her with:

A thank you banner made by HJWA board member, Tripp Longest.

A monetary gift and card

An engraved silver bowl

Refreshment break

Minutes reviewed and accepted

**Delegate Jennifer McClellan:** Provided a legislative update. Provided pamphlets entitled, "Guide to Constituent Services. She also has a newsletter that can be found on her web page. During the 2007 General Assembly session the Transportation bill passed; it was part of a comprehensive 3-part package. An amount of \$553 million a year allocated for statewide transportation, 14% went towards transit services. The bill will be funded with increased abuse fees and one-third of this amount will be used to pay off the bond. Electric re-regulation, the cap would have expired this year. Electric companies will have to go back for a rate case. Curbing payday lending did not pass but a lot of headway was made and they were able to cap the interest rate at 7.2%.

**Restricted Parking Permit Program:** David Wall of Public Utilities, worked with Carver's restricted parking program request which, has been submitted to Council. Automobiles display decals to identify the owner lives in a certain neighborhood. The purpose is to enable residents to park in their neighborhood and limit the amount of time non-residential vehicles can park in that specific restricted neighborhood. The restricted parking program is implemented as a last resort when signage limiting parking times doesn't help. Restricted parking can not be used in heavily commercial areas. The advantage of restricted parking is the ability to park close to your residence. However, on street parking is not guaranteed. If there are no spaces near your residence and the time allotted to non-residential has not terminated, you must wait on the designated time to pass. Visitors to a residence may park one hour only and the resident has the option to purchase a guest pass. An annual parking decal costs \$25, a guest pass is \$35 and a visitor is provided with a placket to place in the car window. All-in-all, the neighborhood tailors its program according the residents' specific needs. If a resident parks and does

not have the proper decal, that resident will be ticketed.

Requirements: HJWA will need to get a consensus of the neighborhood; a letter is sent to the city and signatures must be gathered on a petition. The city comes to do a study. There must be 10 contiguous blocks (one block connected to another block). Multi-family units that provide parking are excluded from restricted parking requests. The requirements are to live in the neighborhood and have proof of residency. The city of Richmond enforces the restricted parking system. Jeffrey Powell is the Director of Public Works. Someone from the city can sit with the committee and inform of how the petition must be set up. The study will take a couple of weeks. Residents may request special permits for special events. David Powell can come and speak with the committee. **Motion to go forward with this, seconded...move forward with instituting the parking permit program by writing a letter. The vote is 13 for and 2 against.** Individuals who volunteered to serve on the restricted parking committee will be contacted. Others interested in this committee may sign up after this meeting. Determine the boundaries, from start to end, that will be affected by the restricted parking plan. **Motion to use boundaries in the bylaws except north of the interstate, seconded. 7 for excluding north of Broad St.**

**Adams St. Gateway Green Space proposal:** Presented by Ron Stallings of Walker Row. Jackson Commons, a partnership with Walker Row, RRHA and city of Richmond. A proposal for green space between Adams and Leigh St. ACDC, Walker Row, Jackson Commons partnership. Some beautification at the little triangle. Can HJWA beautify the space with flowers, statue, etc? City Lights came to an agreement on the fencing piece. Martha Suber, Principal of the Adult Career and Development has a work-study program to do most of the maintenance. To keep the fencing, posts, paint fence= \$4,000; a chain link fence will cost \$8,500 and an aluminum fence will cost \$18,000. Ron will do the project development; requesting that the HJWA contribute to this project. Estimate of minimal beautification, landscaper says \$4-5000. Talk to the University of Richmond Design School. Should put up the best fencing. **Motion to use the next 30 days to explore the possibility of alternative fencing and additional funds and not short change the plants (amended), seconded. Unanimous. Come back next month prepared to vote.**

Ron Stallings reports that the Armory revitalization concept is still alive, more information will be provided at a later date.

**Lt. Gary Ladin-RPD Sector 413:** The area of the 300 block of West Broad St.: panhandling. Robberies this past weekend (four armed robberies), 2 young black males with a pistol, pistol whipped victims. Rape in the 400 block of Monroe at 3 a.m. but, was unfounded. Sector is #1 for the highest reduction in crime. Property crime is down 46%. Porch furniture stolen from 623 St. James Street. Sector 413 will participate in the April 21<sup>st</sup> Clean-Up and using misdemeanor folk to help. May have Clean and Sweep. Board Chair, Charles Finley and Board Secretary Demmie Murray met with the Quirk Gallery

owner associated with the Downtown Neighborhood Association. Business owners on Broad and Grace Streets are interested in starting a campaign on how to get business owners to discourage loitering in front of and around their businesses. They are interested in an alliance with HJWA. The next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2007, 4:00 p.m. at the Cornerstone Building; Julie Hassan will attend and represent HJWA.

**Clean-up for April 21, 2007:** Vicki Mollenhaur announces that red HJWA T-shirts will be given to volunteers. White HJWA tee shirts will be sold for \$12 and the long-sleeved shirts will sell for \$15. Large item pick ups, need folk on the truck (2). Recyclable items will be placed in black bags and other items will deposited in orange bags. For beautification purposes, Liza Steele purchased, on behalf of the organization, 20 bags of mulch. It was suggested that a yard sale take place in Abner Clay Park on a second Saturday. Someone suggested a yard sale at Abner Clay Park on a second Saturday.

**Nikki Colomb, of Bio-Tech Park** will set up tours of the facility and will bring back additional information at next HJWA membership meeting

**Russell Roland of Theatre IV**, looking forward to involvement with the HJWA. Handed out tickets to the production of "The Wizard of Oz."

Parking committee volunteers: Janet Armstead, JoAnn Braxton-Lee

<b>New members paid organizational dues:</b>	<b>Steve Bugnack</b>
	<b>Cassandra Blakeney 10.00 check</b>
	<b>#1167</b>

Respectfully Submitted,

Demmie Murray, Secretary  
HJWA Board of Directors

## Historic Jackson Ward Association