October 18, 2005

The Chair of the Historic Jackson Ward Association (HJWA), Charles Finley, opened the meeting.

Moussa Pagate, Engineer for City of Richmond Public Works - Project Manager for the Belvidere and Broad/Belvidere and Marshall Streets median upgrade. It is a V-DOT approved, federally funded project and should be completed in one year. The purpose is to add capacity due to high traffic count which is approximately 42,000 vehicles per day, beautification through landscaping and to create a gateway into the city. It is a $2.5 million project with some funds coming from VCU for the irrigation system.

Chip Markow - requesting a letter of support to acquire a special use permit to renovate 206 W. Marshall St. into a food court, no ABC. Some discussion concerning reservations about parking. Motion to support without reservations. Mr. Markow will come back to this body with updates.

Lieutenant Thomas Nolan - report on Sector 413 (Jackson Ward). Individual robberies are down 30%. There have been some arrests of individuals in the 500 block of North First Street who have been causing problems. Theft from automobiles is up 25%, residential B and E’s are down. Overall violent crime is down 16%.

Ron Stallings of Walker Row - Update on Jackson Commons, a 62 single-family homes project. In addition two apartment buildings at Leigh and Chamberlayne that should be completed in two years.

HJWA by-laws will be voted on at the November, 2005 meeting. Input from association is needed.

Concern voiced about HJWA’s involvement in activities such as the 2 Street Festival, etc. The Chair informed that the association is adjusting to significant changes made within the past year which have been the board and community’s priority.

Discussion of a membership directory.

Need ideas for the December Christmas Party.

First Street properties are 99.99% completed, closing is imminent.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Demmie Murray, HJWA Board Member