

Fan District Association
Board of Directors Meeting
208 Strawberry Street
February 10, 2014
MINUTES

Board members and officers present: Bill Montgomery, Tricia Bryant, Tim Treinen, Bennette Burks, Matthew Stanley, Brian Baird, Colin Kelly, Christina Murray, Jenna Mosman, Roger Whitfield, Sally Holzgreffe

Guests: Lynne Lancaster, City of Richmond; Tom Stallings, Mayor of West Avenue, Officer Greg Felton

Presentations (10 minutes each):

3rd Precinct Report

Sargent Smith

Since two men arrested for break-ins there have been no issues car thefts or burglaries. Prevention: Lighting around house, locking house doors and windows, hiding possessions in cars. Electronics stolen. City police are reactivating the bike patrol which is very effective.

VCU Report

Officer Felton

Crime:

1. Robbery: Shafer and Grace St. alleys (12:30am)

2. Suspicious activity: VCU campus (1:30am) wasn't reported until 530am

They are going to be more aggressive on campus, possibly using plain clothes officers. CAMERAS – improved/high definition system -100% finished on Monroe Campus. 70% finished on MCV campus. Heavy on Broad and Grace and Lombardy Streets.

3. Randolph area has a situation that similar to the knock out game, they video tape it on cell phones which should help with convictions.

Bike patrol is active now. 13 more new officers will be on bikes in the next few months.

FYI: 650 empty parking spaces in our decks daily. Available space to the public.

Clean Sweet Update

Lynn Lancaster

Special Fund Parking Budget: we are currently spending more than we're making.

\$295,000-expenses \$238,000-income

Lynn's recommendations to save money:

-Graffiti/poster removal – monthly and before house tour -Mulch – once, not three times

-Clean alley's weekly -Clean Sidewalks – bi-monthly -Power washing – drop completely

Concerns about service: Form subcommittee to address proposed contract, where fallen short in the past, find out where we can restructure it.

Clean Sweep in Fan – 4 days per week

CARVER: Clean Sweep in Carver – 1 day per week. Complaints saying Clean Sweep is not doing what they are supposed to be doing. Carver also complained about not ticketing patrons who park illegally for the events at Siegal Center. Neighborhood is overrun with illegal parking. Can the Parking Committee monitor Clean Sweep and report back to the Board? What kind of performance reviews do they receive? If they can't provide the service that is required, do we still pay for the service (fully funded when they don't meet their contract)? The City can bid out the service and there is a 60-day notice for termination. Oversight is a big issue for ensuring service is rendered. City is trying to build some staff capacity to oversee services as needed. It would be helpful to know by April if we want to change vendors so there will not be a break in service.

Approval of minutes from January 6, 2013 board meeting

Motion made by: Tim Treinen

Seconded by: Tricia Bryant

APPROVED by board Colin Kelly abstained.

Treasurer's Report

The FDA insurance policy is fine. Rider is only needed if we are serving alcohol. The new policy is \$10 more than existing policy. Quick books needs to be upgraded and we need to do an examination of the books in April. Christina will serve as Chair of the Financial Examination Committee. We have taken in over \$6,000 in dues. Martin's check (\$11,250) arrived. House Tour total income: \$37,000 Net: \$25,000. FanFare: \$7,000.

Fan Women's Club

May 4, 2014

Bi-Annual Kitchen & Garden Tour

12-5pm

8:00pm

Committee Reports

ABC/Zoning (Burks)

Nothing to report. The Camel wants to extend hours of operation.

Building (Montgomery)

Sign looks great. Matthew will check to see if we have a Pest Control contract for treatment or just for inspection. There seems to be some damage on front door. No objections to spending money on Pest Control contract. Bike rack – to be installed in front of the FDA office. We ordered five racks. The city is planning to put in bike racks around the Fan. We can work with the city and let them install our racks in high-traffic selected locations (Kuba Kuba, Starbucks, Strawberry Street). First rack was \$450, subsequent racks are less expensive.

Code Enforcement (Bryant)

No report

Communications/Website (Baird)

Updates to the website had to be coded and are in the works. Fan rewards card page is in process. Over 600 Emails are opened and read per week.

Education (Theofanos)

No report

Grants (Mosman)

To date we have only received two grant requests for the 2014 grants cycle: one from Fox School (for its annual Strawberry Street festival) and one from the Firehouse Theater. The due date for grant requests is February 28th.

Based on communication with potential requestors, we are expecting grant applications from VisArts, Art180, Fan Women's Club, and from Meadow Park (Hose bib). The friends of Allen Avenue are considering submitting a request, but are working through City approvals for their project and are not sure if the timing will be appropriate. Jenna also reached out to the folks representing the Robinson Street parklets project as well as the Braille Library. No response from them to date. The Grants Committee is meeting

on Tuesday March 4th to review the submitted applications. Recommendations will be submitted to the board for approval at the Board's April Meeting.

Holiday House Tour (Bryant)

Need publicity/sponsorship and hospitality committees. Heather and Tricia are working with Museum District Committee to share ideas about houses on the tour. Brian will send email to Listserv: "If you have recently renovated your home, or *if you would like to be considered* to have your house on the Holiday House Tour, email Tricia".

Membership (Bateman via Montgomery)

127 mail-in renewals, 24 came in by mail following distribution of FanFare. 125 online renewals, 25 came in after the weekly e-mail promo of Fan Rewards. We can clearly see the short term impact of these efforts. Paid members are still only about 25% of our member data base. Mike Bell has been printing and mailing FanRewards cards to members as the new members are processed.

Parking (Treinen)

No responses from coordinators of the bike routes (Jake or Max) concerning questions of parking. Tim's idea for parking at Lombardy and Meadow Parks: If we changed roads around triangular parks to one-way, the available driving lane could become 25 additional parking spaces, parked diagonally. Neighbor support would be required for approval.

Programs (Murray)

Tuesday, February 11 - Volunteer Appreciation at Glave Kocen Gallery

Tuesday, May 13 – Annual Meeting

Summer Concert Series: May 18, 5-7pm – Taters (free); July 20, 6-8pm -Trongone; September 1, 5-7pm– Martha and the Triple Threat

Safety & Crime (Whitfield)

Crimes of the month: Burglary or theft from a vehicle.

There is a move to revise the city noise ordinance. Presently soliciting City Council and neighbor support. Very difficult to get changes in ordinance. Richmond, most lax city in the state. The city is asking us to get behind this ordinance. Neighborhood Watch signs should probably come down since they fading, spray painted, etc. New Neighborhood Watch and Party Patrol signs could be posted to assist crime prevention. People are not calling the party patrol phone number. They are calling 911 or the non-emergency police phone number.

Party Patrol MOU still being reviewed, getting departments to sign off on it. If we don't have City signatures by the Annual Meeting, then we need to reconsider if we need the city as a partner. But we may lose VCU financial support without the MOU.

Trees & Parks (Kelly)

- 12 free trees offered to the FDA from the city.
- April 12 – Clean the Parks event. 8am-12pm Pizza at noon.
- Monroe Park Conservancy update: lease introduced to city Council. A. Parker pushing for a few minor amendments. FDA representative will be probably elected to the board. Capital improvements will be attached to the lease. Future capital improvements go through the normal process for public comment period. Part of the ordinance is that they have to bid it out. Council will consider whether to adopt it. Conservancy has 9 months to raise the money. VCU will maintain the park. If we want input, we need to provide that in the next two weeks. September 2015 – goal for completion.

Motion made by: Roger Whitfield to support lease of Monroe Park to the Conservancy

Seconded by: Tim Treinen

APPROVED by board. Tricia abstained.

8:50pm New Business

FanFare Hand Delivery

Worthwhile delivery! 300 more ordered for remaining deliveries. Suggestion: for rental properties, try to cultivate relationships with members in these properties and email them a PDF to distribute to all residents.

9:40pm Adjourn

Next Board Meeting **Monday, March 3, 2014**