

<p>MINUTES OF MEETING, FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, August 8, 2007</p>	<p>Held at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 4401 Forest Hill Ave. ----- Minutes taken by Monica Rumsey for FHNA Secretary Vicky Hamrick, who was unable to attend.</p>
<p>WELCOME</p>	<p>Phil Licking, President, opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.</p> <p>July Minutes had been circulated by e-mail in advance to officers and board members, and Phil called for a vote on accepting them. FHNA member-at-large Bill Hand pointed out that he had not received the July Minutes by e-mail and did not find them (or the June minutes) on the FHNA Web site. It was decided that those minutes would be posted on the Web site, and the July minutes would be voted on at the September meeting.</p>
<p>FINANCIAL REPORT:</p>	<p>Roger Clark, Treasurer, reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; July FHNA Financial Statement (attached)</li> <li>&gt; Statement of General Funds does not include July bank statement, which had not been received as of August 8.</li> <li>&gt; Because T-shirt price is \$10 each, correction should be made to T-shirt sales figure: \$20, not \$21.</li> <li>&gt; \$50 in Newsletter Ad revenue should be added to July report.</li> <li>&gt; \$1200 current year adv. revenues; \$1400 newsletter printing expenses.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Roger reported that he had some questions about the \$1285 in funds allocated from 2007 House Tour for James River Park; some confusion in sending the money to Richmond Rec and Parks Foundation for "James River Park Fund," which, so named, does not exist. Roger will make 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt at transferring funds to RRPF. [Subsequent research by M. Rumsey determined that partner fund is "Friends of James River Park" and submitting it to that account should resolve the confusion.</p> <p>Roger also reported that he had recently spoken with Ralph White, who offered several suggestions for spending those funds in Forest Hill Park as well as James River Park:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Install a Trolley Car Interpretive Sign in Forest Hill Park</li> <li>2) Install comprehensive Bike Trail Maps in both James River Park and Forest Hill Park.</li> </ol> <p>Discussion ensued as to the need for more signs in Forest Hill Park (Grace LeRose) and whether biking trail map is premature since trails are still being worked on (Monica Rumsey).</p> <p>Monica asked whether Ralph White should be suggesting interpretive signs for Forest Hill Park. FFHP has been considering interpretive signage program and has trail signage funds already allocated.</p>

	<p>3) Ralph White's 3<sup>rd</sup> suggestion, that the gift funds could be applied to the \$4000 cost of a trail excavator that "does a bench cut that is self-maintaining," per Phil.</p> <p>Decision was made that Phil will contact Ralph and reconfirm that gift was intended to be spent in JRP, not FHP.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>&gt; Roger then addressed topic of 43<sup>rd</sup> St Festival of the Arts (Sat, Sept 15) and presented Robin Cage's suggestion that FHNA support be doubled from \$250 to \$500. Doing so would put FHNA logo on festival banner and posters, and include logo and information in festival brochure.</p> <p>Membership table would again be provided.</p> <p>Motion was moved and seconded; general discussion noted that this event helps raise public awareness of our neighborhood and contributes proceeds from art sales to charity [Freedom House]. Vote was unanimous that FHNA contribution would be \$500.</p>
<p>FRIENDS OF FOREST HILL PARK</p>	<p>Monica Rumsey, FFHP board representative , reported:</p> <p>1) Sunday in the Park with Friends, July 15: Event was reported to have been highly successful; higher attendance than ever before; music, food, children's and nature activities were well attended; unveiling of Joe Brooks playground marker and historic sign went off well.</p> <p>2) Speaker proposal for a future FHNA meeting: Representative of VA Dept of Environmental Quality to make power point presentation and answer questions about current studies and plans to remediate bacterial count in Reedy Creek and James River.</p> <p>Enthusiastic response from those attending; David Hathcock suggested that speaker be put onto 4<sup>th</sup> District Council meeting on Sept 12 (same date as next FHNA meeting). Suggestion was approved.</p> <p>[FOLLOW-UP: Speaker declined to present program at a meeting hosted by a city official, which would have added further political and bureaucratic concerns to the program. Speaker has been rescheduled for FNHA meeting on Oct 10, with residents of Westover Hills, Woodland Heights, and Reedy Creek neighborhoods to be invited to attend.</p> <p>3) Friends of FHP have been working with LeClair Ryan legal counsel to draft bylaws and articles of incorporation for FFHP, as first step in securing nonprofit status, independent of Richmond Rec. and Parks Foundation.</p>

	<p>4) Suggestion to publish safety notices in Forest Hill Flyer, to allow those residents who do not have e-mail access to know what is happening in neighborhood.</p>
<p>SOCIAL COMMITTEE</p>	<p>Grace LeRose reported that:</p> <p>1) 3<sup>rd</sup> Music in the Park will be held this coming Sunday, August 12, from 6 to 8 pm. Bluegrass.</p> <p>2) Annual Forest Hill Plant Swap will be held Saturday, October 20, 10 am to Noon. To participate please contact Dana Cooper <a href="mailto:danecoop@comcast.net">danecoop@comcast.net</a></p> <p>3) Grace asked to have a picture of the Forest Hill T-shirts on the FHNA Web site. Will be done.</p>
<p>MEMBERSHIP</p>	<p>In absence of Vicky Hamrick, this report was unavailable for the meeting.</p>
<p>New Business:</p> <p>PATRICK HENRY CHARTER SCHOOL INITIATIVE UPDATE</p>	<p>Patrick Henry Charter School Initiative representatives Richard Day and Gina Wojtysiak gave updates on progress in establishing the former Patrick Henry Elem. School as a charter school.</p> <p>1) This would be the 1<sup>st</sup> community-based charter school in the Richmond District.</p> <p>2) Plan to set up as K-5 initially (later K-8), with total est 124 students, 16:1 student/teacher ratio.</p> <p>3) By Sept 1, group hopes to put in application to Richmond City School Board.</p> <p>4) Under the name Richmond Partnership for Neighborhood Schools, group has applied for 501(c)3 status; hope is to have this by mid-Oct. If successful, state of VA would provide 80-90% of per pupil allotment.</p> <p>5) Group has developed a budget, a curriculum, and a mission statement.</p> <p>6) Will focus on community-based school concept with a “green” perspective: use Forest Hill Park as learning resource; serve organic meals, apply energy-efficient plan for building heat, light, and a/c; possibly serve as a model application for Va. Dept of Environmental Quality for a public bldg. that maximizes environmental efficiency.</p> <p>7) Will welcome Title 1 children</p> <p>8) Need letters of support from neighborhood assns, corporate support, friends and family donations.</p>

	<p>9) If plans go well, may open by Sept. 2008.</p> <p>10) Meetings are held every Tues. evening at 8 pm, Berryman Center, 32<sup>nd</sup> &amp; McDonough Sts. in Woodland Heights.</p> <p>11) FMI contact <a href="http://www.patrickhenrycharter.org">www.patrickhenrycharter.org</a></p> <p>-----</p> <p>It was decided that this issue will be the featured program at the FHNA September 12 meeting, when perhaps more area residents will attend.</p>
CITY COUNCIL NEWS	<p>Kathy Graziano reported that:</p> <p>1) There will be a district meeting at St. Lukes' Lutheran Church on Weds, Sept 12. All invited to attend.</p> <p>2) Budget process is completed.</p> <p>3) School Board has been told to evacuate City Hall by Sept 7, move to former Seaboard Coastline Bldg. on Broad St. near Westwood.</p> <p>4) 26 area business leaders have sent a letter to the City asking for a charter change to have School Board members appointed rather than elected. KG noted that this suggestion reverses previous voters' decision to have School Board representatives elected, not appointed. If the business leaders' charter change is enacted, such action would bypass city voter input.</p>
COMMUNICATIONS REPORT	<p>Brent Teneffoss reported the next Forest Hill Flyer will be printed and distributed in time to help promote the 43<sup>rd</sup> St. Festival on Saturday, Sept 15. To that end, copy and photos must be submitted by August 10 or asap thereafter. Plea was repeated for help in securing advertising and followup in getting payments for same.</p>
SAFETY COMMITTEE	<p>Luke McCall reported that several incidents have occurred recently in this area; they will be reported in the upcoming Flyer as well as posted on the FHNA Web site.</p>
Old Business	No discussion.
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.