

MINUTES OF THE FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

MAY 12, 2011	<p>Held at The Stone House at Forest Hill Park Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, Virginia</p> <p>Minutes taken by Vicky Hamrick, Secretary</p>
MINUTES	<p>President Richard Day called the meeting to order at 7:05p.m.</p> <p>The April minutes had been posted to the website for review prior to the meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. There was no discussion and approval passed by unanimous vote.</p> <p>Treasurer Zach Sheldon offered the monthly financial report. The association has current balance of \$18,702.33. He also presented two motions regarding requests for association funds. The first request came from Friends of Forest Hill Park for \$500 towards the Sunday In the Park With Friends event. Discussion followed. David Hathcock from Councilwoman Kathy Graziano's office advised they had donated to the even with the caveat that if the funds were not needed, they would be used towards some other park event. It was clarified that the funds would go towards refreshments, children's activities, etc. and any excess funds would be put towards the implementation of their Master Plan for park maintenance/improvements. Motion was made to approve and passed by unanimous vote. The second request came from within the association to donate \$600 from proceeds of the 5K race, representing \$300 from 2010 and \$300 from 2011, to the Richmond Police Department Sector 312 Bike Unit. There was short discussion, and motion to approve was passed by unanimous vote. Richard Day reminded attendees that the by-laws state that only paid members of the association may vote.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.</p>
MEETING NOTES	
Membership	No report.
4 TH District Update	<p>Councilwoman Kathy Graziano advised that council was working on the City budget. The next district meeting is scheduled for June 8.</p> <p>She also advised that they are working on installing uniform and aesthetically appropriate guard rails along Riverside Drive.</p> <p>She thanked the neighborhood of its tolerance for the South of the James Farmers Market traffic on Saturday mornings.</p> <p>She announced that Vibefest (fundraiser for Positive Vibe restaurant) would be the upcoming Sunday and had moved to The Boulders.</p> <p>She addressed questions and concerns regarding the Forest Hill Avenue widening project in Stratford Hills. She advised that the final plan had been submitted to Urban Development Commission for a hearing in June.</p>

MINUTES OF THE FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

	<p>Mrs. Graziano also promised to look into the report heard by residents at a May 11 meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization that the city had applied for funds to do a study for an additional Forest Hill Avenue widening project through the Forest Hill neighborhood from Westover Hills Boulevard to Semmes Avenue. Neighbors expressed their overwhelming disapproval of such a project, and Mrs. Graziano promised that she would look into it and report back to the association.</p> <p>In addition, neighbors again expressed their concerns regarding heavy and speeding traffic on Forest Hill Avenue, especially with regard to pedestrian or bicycle traffic trying to cross from one side to the other. Solutions such as more four-way stops, Smart Crosswalks, and increased enforcement were suggested. David Hathcock suggested a traffic-only meeting in the near future so issues and ideas could be discussed more fully.</p> <p>Mrs. Graziano addressed questions regarding redistricting following the census, and advised that council will work to maintain neighborhoods within the same district, as well as distributing density as equally as possible (roughly 22,500 constituents per district). The Mayor's office also has a committee, as well as an attorney, for the process.</p>
Safety/Neighborhood Watch	<p>Officer Stacy Rogers encouraged the association to make use of his contact information: cell phone 972-2688, e-mail address stacy.rogers@richmond.gov.com, and the police non-emergency number 646-5100. He reminded attendees that spring usually brings an increase in shed break-ins, and to be good neighbors and watch out for each other.</p> <p>City Traffic Engineer Tawrence Robinson discussed the results of the traffic studies done for Dunston Avenue between Roanoke and 43rd Street, and Reedy Avenue. He advised another study will be scheduled after construction on Forest Hill Avenue and the need for a detour are complete. Vaughan Long of Dunston Avenue offered handouts of possible traffic calming solutions, such as speed bumps/humps and cushions. Traffic circles, traffic chokers, and the speed trailer were also discussed.</p>
Social Committee	<p>Zac Sheldon reminded attendees that the Neighborhood Yard Sale is scheduled for June 4 and the sign up deadline is May 23.</p>
Park Improvement Committee (PIC)	<p>No report</p>
Historic Designation	<p>Carolyn Paulette introduced Nancy Krause, the historian consultant hired by the Historic Designation Committee to work on the Forest Hill application. Ms. Krause presented visual materials as background to their attempt to establish a larger historic context further back than the streetcar period. She explained that the designation includes not just structures, but also other features such as natural landmarks, the river, the creek, roadways, etc. Their current plan is to re-submit the</p>

MINUTES OF THE FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

	<p>nomination to the Department of Historic Resources on June 3, after which the DHR has a 90-day review period. A public hearing will be held September 15 and neighborhood attendance is strongly encouraged. She advised that if the DHR approves the nomination, the designation is automatic, and that national designation would take another 60 days. She further advised that if DHR denies the application, the nomination could be presented directly to the national board.</p>
Announcements/ New Business	<p>Robley Jones introduced Betsy Carr, who will be our new delegate after redistricting. Ms. Carr greeted the attendees and offered her contact information, 698-1069 and delegate.carr@betsycarr.org.</p>