

Friends of The James River Park



Board Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2006

Present: Molly Dellinger-Wray (President), Ken Hopson (Vice President), George Wickham (Treasurer), Loren Field, Ralph White, Sue Cecil, John Zeugner, Winnie Canup

Old Business

1. **The Charlie Bridge** was dedicated on 12/17. The ceremony was very much appreciated by Charlie Slade's widow, Betsy Slade, friends and family. Donations in Charlie's memory were accepted by the FOJRP in the Charlie Slade Memorial Fund.
2. **The Fourteenth Street Bridge Take-Out** is now open. Lorne is installing signs. Hours of operation are being reviewed and may be adjusted according to appropriate park usage. FOJRP donated approximately \$12,000 for the take-out construction and signage.
3. **Conservation Easements:** There will be a meeting on January 19 in the Byrd Park Roundhouse to plan for the city's January 24 Conservation Easement meeting. Chess Goodall, Molly Dellinger-Wray and others will attend this planning session.
4. Anne Wright has met with VCU's Cliff Fox regarding a **James River Park Survey**. The survey will determine: visitation totals, user demographics, park usage and geographic draw. We will probably use an "intercept" survey as people enter the park.

New Business

1. The **Lazarus Tract** is to become designated parkland. Nathan Burrell is in the process of laying out trails to link old Stony Point mall to the Fashion Park in a 4 to 5 mile loop. Trails may also link Cherokee Rd. and Riverside Drive. This land will be passive park.
2. FOJRP voted to donate \$1,400 to **engrave two signs:** One noting Dr. RB Young, James River preservationist; and one for Louise Burke, instrumental in the protection of the Pony Pasture area.
3. Sue Cecil will review and make recommendations for **FOJRP by-laws**.
4. Last year's membership drive and annual picnic was held in conjunction with clean up day, June 10. We will continue this event this year at the same Pump House location. We would like to develop and sell a **T-shirt** at this event.
5. FOJRP will invite members to the **April 22 Fish Festival** from 10-3 and will set up a booth (possibly including a video/slide presentation) to recruit new members.
6. On Sunday April 23, FOJRP will provide leadership for the **Fish Re-stocking Program** on Belle Isle. Members will be invited to man a membership/donation table; participate in special nature and history tours and help manage re-stocking efforts.
7. Increasing fundraising and development efforts for the park were discussed. We need to begin to develop a **master plan** and the fiscal involvement to sustain the park.