

Friends of The James River Park

Friends of James River Park Minutes

February 13, 2007

Members Present: Molly Dellinger-Wray, Maureen Egan, Ralph White, John Zeugner, Anne Wright, Richard Taranto, Betsy Slade, Winnie Canup, Mary Helen Sullivan, Ken Hopson, John Johnson

Meeting was called to order by Molly Dellinger-Wray who reported that we have \$9,382.42 in the bank which includes \$5,200 from the Ruth Camp Campbell Foundation.

Volunteer Tour Guides: John Johnson reported that approximately 12 volunteers have expressed interest in the program. March 24 will be the first training day. The ideal number of volunteers would be between 12 and 15; that way 3 or 4 guides could be regularly scheduled for general tours and 3-4 for specialty tours.

Trash/Recycling bins: Molly received two (not so promising) responses to an email requesting volunteers to construct trash bins. Maureen contacted First Contractors.org, a 501c3 working with foster care children. Ralph is to send their director, Larry Lindsey, plans for the containers. Maureen's husband, Ed, will also help with construction.

Memorial Bench: A gentleman has contacted Molly about placing a memorial bench at Huguenot Flatwater in honor of his brother. We need to determine the cost of such a bench for this and future requests. All bench installments should be of the same backless design now used in the park. A cost for the plaque must also be determined.

Conservation Easement: The Capitol Land Conservancy and the Richmond Recreation & Parks Foundation have both definitely agreed to hold the JRP conservation easements. The Virginia Outdoors Foundation may serve as a third holder. The easements must be presented to and approved by the City Council.

City Council Tour of Park: Kathy Graziano and Marty Jewel have agreed to co-host the city council tour of JRP. The date for the tour is to be determined.

Park Survey Information has still not been compiled by VCU representative Cliff Fox. He must be presented with a deadline.

Pump House will be turned over to Richmond Rec and Parks on May 1. Current long range plans include raising @ \$8 million for historic renovations which will include a dance hall, office space, restaurant, gift shop and classroom space.

April 21 is Earth Day with the theme of Greening Greater Richmond

May 27 will be a citywide Jamestown 2001 Extravaganza John will check on possible tie-ins for FOJRP.

Ralph White reported that there are still serious problems with the double yellow line on the road at Pony Pasture. The park has a possible gift of some land opposite the exit ramp at Pony Pasture. This would mean that the park would extend to both sides of the road. There is a possible problem with the future fish stocking programs on Belle Isle because crayfish and tadpoles used for the release are from West Virginia and therefore not "native species."

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.