

MEETING OF THE FOREST HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION June 19, 2012	Held at The Stone House at Forest Hill Park Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, Virginia Minutes taken by Vicky Hamrick, Secretary
MINUTES	<p>President Richard Day was unable to attend so Vice-President Luke McCall called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and introduced the board members in attendance to other attendees at the meeting.</p> <p>Motion was made to approve the May minutes. The motion was properly seconded. Vice-President McCall asked if there were any objections to adoption of the minutes, and being none, the minutes were adopted.</p> <p>Treasurer Zac Sheldon offered the Treasurer’s Report which was received and there was a reported cash balance of approximately \$22,389.</p> <p>Vice President McCall reminded the association that the July meeting was historically cancelled for vacations. Motion was made to cancel July’s meeting, there was no discussion, and the motion passed. A meeting will be held in August.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.</p>
MEETING NOTES	
4 TH District Update	<p>Kathy Graziano reported that construction on a traffic circle at 49th and Clarence (not within FHCA boundaries) is about to begin.</p> <p>She also reported that the City of Richmond will host the Washington Redskins’ 2013 summer training camp. While she admitted that all the details, including the practice locations, had not yet been worked out, this was a benefit to the city and would help “sell” Richmond.</p> <p>Mrs. Graziano thanked the neighborhood for its patience with the Saturday farmers’ market. However, concerns were shared with her about parking and traffic issues, as well as an increase in trash, as the market continues to grow. It was suggested that the park/city provide additional trash receptacles on market day, and consider if parking restrictions are necessary during market hours.</p> <p>Shannon Taylor shared concerns regarding the city’s street-sweeping schedule, and whether four times a year was necessary. She advised that concerns were escalated when someone’s vehicle was towed on street cleaning day. Luke McCall suggested that the schedule may be due to federal requirements to municipalities in the Clean Water Act. Further research and an article in The Flyer were recommended.</p>
Safety/Neighborhood Watch	<p>Lt. McQuail reported that police had responded the previous night to what he called “promiscuous shootings” but had not found anyone with either weapons or injuries. However, he did advise of a recent increase in property damage, including windows being shot out of cars, and that there is also an increase in thefts from yards and sheds. He reminded residents to lock their</p>

	<p>car doors, lock their sheds securely, and not to leave yard equipment in the yard. He also recommended that residents not leave keys in double cylinder door locks, as burglars may break a window and be able to get access. He reported a substantial drop in violent crime.</p> <p>Officer Stacy Roberts reminded neighbors of a common thief currently prowling the neighborhood. Suspect is described as a medium-complexion black male with a gray bushy beard, 5’3” to 5’4” tall, approximately 130 to 135 pounds, who may offer to cut your grass. Lt. McQuail warns everyone to leave nothing in plain view; this guy will steal it. He requested that if you see him, call the police.</p> <p>Officer Roberts also thanked the association for its donation to the bicycle repair fund.</p> <p>Shannon Taylor presented plans to have an ice cream social with child-identification kit giveaway on National Night Out, Tuesday, August 7.</p>
Social Committee	<p>Luke McCall reported on behalf of Dorna Braswell that volunteers are needed to man the association’s table at the South of the James Market on the Saturday immediately prior to Music in the Park Sundays. With regard to the most recent Music in the Park, concerns were raised whether attendance was too great for the intent of the event. All agreed to reserve further judgment until the next event, as the beautiful weather, unusually widespread advertising (including Channel 12 television and the band’s Facebook page), and the Father’s Day holiday may have been contributing factors.</p> <p>Luke reminded everyone that the 43rd Street Festival will be here soon (September 15), and Dorna needs ideas for new neighborhood swag to sell. Dog collars/leashes, pint glasses, and travel mugs have been suggested.</p> <p>Shannon Taylor reported that she has submitted two proposals on behalf of the association for the “Love Your Block Mini-Grant”: one for funds to purchase shrubs and materials to hide the park maintenance sheds and solar motion lights to light the path, and the other for funds to purchase materials to clean up the empty lot at 46th Street and Bassett and install a heavy duty trash receptacle.</p>
Website/Membership	<p>Sue Cline reported that ten new memberships and thirty-one renewals had come in through the website using the new association PayPal account, thanks to the new renewal reminder system.</p> <p>Shannon Taylor reported that Carolyn Paulette is working on a short history walking tour to be offered on market Saturdays as a membership incentive.</p>
Historic Designation	<p>Carolyn Paulette reminded neighbors that the Department of Historic Resources will host another public information hearing regarding the nomination of Forest Hill as a historic district on Monday, May 21 at 7PM at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, and that the Boards will meet Thursday, June 21 at 10AM to consider and most likely accept the nomination.</p>

<p>Announcements/ New Business</p>	<p>Jason Hendricks from Springhill neighborhood was in attendance to solicit support against a new development that has been proposed in their neighborhood. He reported that the Atlanta-based developer proposes a 50-unit residential building with only 37 parking spots. His research indicates that the developer deals mostly with low income or mixed low-mid income projects. Jason brought a copy of the plans, and shared his and his neighbors' concerns over increased crime, decreased property values, and parking problems. The board agreed to review the information.</p> <p>Donald Moss III introduced himself as the city's impact coordinator, and encouraged neighbors to call him with infrastructure concerns. His contact information is: _____.</p> <p>Rick Sabato, candidate for the school board seat, and Johnny Walker, candidate for the Fourth District Council seat, were on hand to introduce themselves. They were advised that the FHCA board will schedule a special forum in the early fall for all candidates to make formal presentations to the neighborhood. This will most likely be a joint effort with Westover Hills and Woodland Heights.</p> <p>Vice President McCall reminded everyone that the association needs a volunteer to step into the role of advertising sales manager, as Phil Licking is stepping down. The duties include meeting with advertisers (a base already exists), getting their feedback, and collecting fees.</p> <p>Officer Stacy Rogers announced that Richmond was in the running for "Best River City" in an Outdoor Magazine contest. Everyone is encouraged to vote.</p>
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