

## **Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Committee**

Draft Minutes for February 12, 2004

### Attendees:

#### Committee Members:

Chairman Ralph Hambrick, Vice Chairman Sue Cecil, Lynn Newcomb, John Pearsall, Greg Velzy and Jonathan Young.

#### Others:

Edward Alleyne (DPW), Louise Burke (Emeritus Board Member), Brooke Hardin (Community Development), William Judy (Greeley and Hanson), Lyn Lanier (Friends of James River Park), Ralph White (James River Parks), R. B. Young (Emeritus Board Member).

The meeting convened with the announcement that Louise Burke and R. B. Young had been designated Emeritus Committee Members. Burke and Young were long time members of the Committee's predecessor, the Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Board.

The meeting proceeded with an update of the Huguenot Road water main project. Edward Alleyne and William Judy informed the Committee that the unusual amount of rainfall has altered the construction schedule though completion is anticipated in late 2004. Judy advised the Committee that pursuant to the project's permits, river construction has been suspended until July 1. The Committee was informed that a very minimal amount of wetlands would be filled in order to protect the water main. Ralph Hambrick suggested using the area as a demonstration project wherein appropriate grasses could be grown.

Brooke Hardin briefed the Committee on the status of the proposed amendments to the City's Downtown Master Plan. Hardin informed the Committee that the conclusion of a first draft was anticipated in April. Numerous recommendations were communicated including Sue Cecil's proposal to include language providing for maintaining the James River Parks in its natural state, R. B. Young's proposal to include a viewing location from Oregon Hill south of the gazebo, Greg Velzy's proposal to study the feasibility of flat-water kayaking in the Richmond Dock and Ralph White's proposal to include references to scenic views and connectivity of the parks.

Ralph Hambrick circulated a proposed letter to the City pertaining to the Downtown Master Plan and solicited feedback. John Pearsall recommended the inclusion of a proposal for a single river planning district. Jonathan Young recommended

amending “preservation and enhancement of view corridors to the James River” to include “when and where reasonably feasible”. Ralph White recommended amending the same aforementioned language to include “designated”. Hambrick proposed taking up the letter again at the March meeting.

Ralph Hambrick informed the Committee that the City intends on alerting some homeowners that recently completed tree cutting was in violation of the Chesapeake Bay Act.

The Committee reviewed the previous months’ minutes and amended said minutes to replace “manual” with “materials”. The Committee then unanimously adopted the minutes.

Ralph White informed the Committee of the effort being undertaken to designate Riverside Drive as a “scenic” roadway.

The Committee adjourned at 2:00.