

Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Committee

Approved Minutes for May 12, 2005

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Ralph Hambrick, Sue Cecil, Catherine Harold, James Rogers, Greg Velzy, Jonathan Young and John Zeugner.

Others:

Nick Britton (VCU Graduate Student), Bob Steidel (DPU) and Ralph White (James River Parks).

The meeting convened with a unanimous approval of the minutes. Subsequent approval of the minutes, Mr. James Rogers introduced himself as a new member of the Committee.

Mr. Nick Britton, a graduate student at VCU, delivered a presentation on a Regional James River Access Planning Study. Britton included among existing problems, an absence of access and signage. Signage, or lack thereof, pertained to both identification and directional. This problem led to a discussion among the Committee that concluded with a consensus that further action was needed.

Mr. Bob Steidel (DPU) fielded questions from the Committee regarding the proposed water line in the general vicinity of the Pump House. Ralph Hambrick recommended that the Committee formally endorse removal of the existing pipeline, reinforcement of the Washington Arch and the eventual re-watering of the Canal. The Committee was in concurrence.

Steidel further advised that the Memorandum of Understanding pertaining to the 14th Street Takeout had been completed and that all parties were in agreement. Steidel reported that DPU would assume responsibility for opening and closing the gates. Ralph White recommended opening the gates at approximately 9:30 a.m. on weekdays in order to prevent commuters from inappropriately using the parking facility. White further reported that the Department of Parks and Recreation had \$18,000 for the construction of tiered steps for takeout.

The Committee adjourned at 2:00.