

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

Draft Minutes for October 18, 2007

### Attendees:

#### Committee Members:

John Bryan, Sue Cecil, Leighton Powell, Greg Velzy, Jonathan Young, and John Zeugner.

#### Others:

Erika Gay (Venture Richmond), Lisa Townes (City Council Liaison), Emmett Williams (Police Department)

The Committee convened the meeting by unanimously approving the minutes from the September meeting.

The group engaged in a brief discussion relative to Mayor Wilder's proposal for construction of a marina at the Intermediate Terminal. Though no formal sketches have been disseminated, plans could include for example renovation of the Terminal building to house a restaurant. A formal plan is anticipated to be revealed in calendar year 2008.

The Committee was advised of a November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting at Bon Air Elementary school wherein details regarding construction of the new Huguenot Bridge will be publicly discussed.

Chairman Greg Velzy advised the group of continuing efforts to secure funding for locating the U.S.S. Zuni on the James River in Richmond. Ms. Erika Gay (Venture Richmond) informed the group that said efforts have encountered difficulty in securing funding.

Velzy and John Zeugner briefly reported on the status of conservation easements and an anticipated paper introduction at City Council next month.

Zeugner reported on the nominating committee's work and the group engaged in a brief discussion relative to new members.

Lieutenant Emmet Williams (Police Department) discussed the continuing homeless population underneath the Lee Bridge in the vicinity of the Kanawha Canal. Committee members recommended installation of lights and or a surface that would augment efforts by the Police Department to relocate the homeless. Williams also informed the group that this year represented the first year for regular police patrols on Belle Isle.

Ms. Erika Gay (Venture Richmond) spoke to the success of the National Folk Festival and advised of the upcoming Grand Illumination.

Ms. Lisa Townes (City Council Staff) provided an update on green building plans and advised that MeadWestvaco intends to include a green roof on the new facility.

Additional reports included the December 8 Parade of Lights on the James and a November 14 annual City review of the James River Park System.