

Agenda for
Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Committee
February 15, 2018

Call to Order:

Minutes - January 18, 2018

Current Issues:

- JRP Master Plan Statement – Meeting February 2, 2018 – Discussion with Nathan Burrell and Katherine Mitchell

The Historic Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Committee enthusiastically endorses the proposed preparation of a James River Park System Master Plan.

In 1972, the Virginia General Assembly designated this stretch of the river as an historic river with 'noteworthy scenic and ecological qualities' under the Historic Falls of the James Act, and it was incorporated into the State Scenic River Program in 1984, an extraordinary accomplishment for an urban setting. The James River Park System has been an essential reason the James River in Richmond still meets the standards required for such designation. The Master Plan will provide concrete guidance for the continued protection of this wilderness park as an accessible environment in the face of a dramatic increase in popularity.

The Advisory Committee is comprised of state appointed members who have extensive experience with the James River and its surroundings and is charged with advising on all matters related to such. The Committee is fully committed to assisting with this master planning process.

Sincerely,
Gregory J. Velzy

- Follow-up to January 18, 2018 Joint Scenic River Advisory Committees Meeting with Catoclin and Goose Creek: From Lynn Crump – Need response by February 23, 2018 as to involvement/interest by Falls of the James Committee to the items below:

Specific recommendations discussed are:

- Notify the committees whenever there is a field evaluation for a Scenic River designation, in case any are available to participate.
- Create a regular meeting with representatives of all three committees, perhaps every quarter.
 - § Include Scenic Virginia in these meetings
 - § Purpose of these meetings is to create a unified voice for the Scenic Rivers program
- Ask the Board of Conservation and Recreation (BCR) to have Scenic River Advisory Committee representatives meet with BCR to discuss the development of the BCR scenic sub-committee and how to move forward with Scenic River desired activities.
- Develop plans for a robust 50th Anniversary celebration of the VA Scenic River Program and the beginning of the Historic Falls of the James Committee in 2020.
- Develop a common educational program that members of the committees can use as a basis for discussions and presentations with other groups or interested citizens.
- Work on getting VDOT signage code changed so that the Scenic River signs, which are TODS (Tourist Orientation Destination Signs), become identifying signs, like the ones for small communities throughout the state.

At this time, additional input is needed from each committee on how to move forward with which initiatives.

- Riverfront Development Plan:
 - Downriver Updates – Main Street work and Dock St. closure
 - Missing Link Phase - any progress

- EnRichmond – Vauxhall Island - Cede to City of Richmond update
- Venture Richmond Canal Committee plans – Update – Alex Dahm

New Business:

§ Falls of the James - greater visibility in the Richmond community – Signage, Media

Reports -

James River Park System – Nathan Burrell

JRA - Justin Doyle

JRAC -

JROC - Projects - Huguenot Flatwater

FoJRP - Master Plan Funding Update

CRLC – Jane Myers

Open discussion:

Next Public Meeting: - March, 2018

Meetings begin at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room on the 5th floor of Richmond City Hall. Meetings are scheduled for the THIRD Thursday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. If you are not now receiving e-mail meeting notices and wish to receive them, please provide your name and e-mail address to velzyg@verizon.net. If you would like to be removed from the list, so indicate at the above e-mail address.