

**Monument Avenue Preservation Society
Board Meeting Minutes (summary)
September 16, 2013**

Present:

Melanie Holloway, Bill Tate, Bill Gallasch, Tom Thomson, Janet Heltzel, Cindy Wofford, Cindy Mabry, Lacy Williams, Coleen Rodriguez, Bill Crosby, Kip Caudle

Guests: Charles Samuels, City Council President and Second District Representative.

1. **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes from the May meeting were accepted with minor corrections.
2. **Treasurer's report.**
3. **Status Report on CAR Matters:**
 - a. Discussed CAR review of windows at 2916 Monument and result of City Council's motion to overturn CAR's decision.
 - b. The VCA special use permit amendment was approved by Council. We got a thank you letter from Duncan at VCA for our support.
 - c. The garage at 1828 was built with a roof that is 4 ft higher than the plans that were approved. CAR will review a set of revised plans showing the changed roofline.
4. **Meeting with Charles Samuels**
 - a. Speed Limit: MAPS proposed a speed limit of 25 from the Boulevard to Franklin. Mr. Samuels said he would support the 25 mile speed limit. Discussion included numerous accidents in the district.
 - b. Board members will schedule a meeting with Tom Flynn to discuss the safety improvements at the Lee Circle. The changes to Lee Circle will have to go thru urban design and CAR. Tentative changes include adding a layer of clear epoxy to the road surface to improve traction, expanding the medians and adding flashing yellow "school zone" lights (though it was noted that Fox Elementary does not have such lights).
 - c. The Board discussed supporting a paper that would require all changes (i.e. including those by the city) within the old and historic district to be approved by CAR first. Charles Samuels expressed his support and his desire to help present this through the city.
 - d. The Robinson Street Association is proposing "parklets" that will go on Robinson. A "Parklet" takes up one parking space for one day and is plantings, benches, etc.
 - e. The Redskins Training Park is currently closed to allow grass and trees to be replanted/refurbished. It should reopen in a few weeks when the grass has recovered,.

- f. See-Click-Fix does not work very well. Citizens Request Services works better. You can call 311 also. or citizens may call Charles Samuels directly at 646-6532 or 690-0898.
- g. This week is Carytown restaurant week. The money raised goes to the city schools.
- h. There is a search for a new superintendent of Richmond City Schools. There will be public meetings about this search.
- i. Richmond is attractive to businesses. The city is growing fast and Richmond is a place people want to come more and more. The River is an attraction. There are some new businesses looking at Richmond.
- j. We will be having town hall style meetings to get feedback from residents on the Redskin training camp.
- k. The Fan Party patrol is in full swing.
- l. Bulk pickup is a continual issue. Drivers are supposed to report bulk pickups so that it can be picked up later. We need to work on the procedure, the policy etc. We are looking at denying parking permits for properties that have bulk trash issues. Sometimes people at one property dump their bulk trash at another property so you can't always go after the owner of the property where the trash is found.
- m. Charles Samuels has money currently in the budget to repair the valleys along the curbs on Monument; the board noted a number of spots where pavers need repair or replacement..

5. Trees Report.

- a. The city is replacing trees in the empty spaces in the medians and sidewalk tree wells. The city planted the wrong trees on Allen.

6. Other:

- a. **Alley cleanup:** Tilly Shiflett is helping the FDA with the alley cleanups. MAPS will coordinate with FDA
- b. **Web Site:** The web site is getting closer.
- c. **Monument Avenue Series:** Thursday night is the third part of the four part series on Monument at the Historical Society.
- d. **Excel Spreadsheet:** Database of members and owners is being updated.

7. Meeting adjourned