

## **Commission of Architectural Review (CAR)**

9/24/2013

### Business Agenda

The quarterly business meeting is scheduled for 10/08/2013 at 2101 E. Main St. at 6:00pm. The agenda will include discussion of meeting protocol and provide a refresher on how the commission handles requests for nomination to the National Historic Register.

The recently hired Planner 1 will begin work in November. The planner's responsibilities will primarily be enforcement.

### Consent Agenda

The application related to the property at 609 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. was moved from the Regular Agenda to the Consent Agenda and approved unanimously.

### Regular Agenda

A decision on the 719 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. property was deferred because the application was incomplete and part of the submission had been submitted so late that commission members did not have adequate time for review. The Commission asked applicant several questions (windows, roofing material, front porch, front door placement, etc.) and requested answers when the application is next considered.

## **Mayor's Participation, Action and Communication Team (MPACT)**

9/25/2013

The MPACT meetings are being held at the 701N. 25<sup>th</sup> St. Government Building. After several years of meeting at the Main Street Station or not meeting at all, the attendance at the 9/25 meeting indicated that attendees are glad of the change. It was the best attended meeting in the last 2 years. City received many complaints over the Main Street Station tenure and the fact that the city's presentations preempted what was primarily intended for neighborhood concerns.

## **Community Assisted Public Safety (CAPS)**

### Mr. Earl Weaver's report

Earl Weaver announced he needs referrals regarding illegal boarding houses. Complaints regarding these have fallen to nearly nothing and he knows they are still a problem. This request tied into his statements the CAPS is tasked with handling bug and rodent problems and there is a wide-spread problem in the city with bed bugs....particularly in boarding houses. He cautioned care when buying used furniture, etc.

Mr. Weaver also provided a listing of property to be auctioned by the city on Oct. 24. That listing is available at Motleys.com. Click "real estate" and scroll to the bottom of the page.

In his role as Maintenance Inspector for the City, Mr. Weaver is currently concentrating his efforts on the 2000 block of Venable. The property at 2011 is of particular concern. This house and the row in which it sits are unique to Union Hill. They are an important part of the fabric of our neighborhood and of Venable Street in particular. In a 9/30/2013 conversation, Mr. Weaver assured UHCA that all demolitions and re-constructions will be required to comply with city's historical preservation guidelines. One example of the process working correctly can be seen at <http://chpn.net/news/2008/05-09/back-to-cedar-street-1615>.

#### Additional Union Hill Issues addressed at the meeting

- Uncollected garbage at the Family Market Site
- Weeds taking over landscaping on stair side of Jefferson Park. Mike Evins (DPW) will try to work with Union Hill citizens to clean up the site.
- Garbage cans blocking various sidewalks to pedestrian traffic.
- East End Dump still not open for citizens wishing to dump ""household" debris.
- 2200 block of Burton, between Tulip and Jessamine, has illegal driveways stopping storm water runoff and making it impossible for the city to clean this section of one of the oldest streets in Richmond.
- Failure of pet owners to pick up after their pets.

#### **Follow up to MPACT Meeting of 9/25/2013**

Nancy Lambert and Ann Wortham together with two Sector Lts., the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> precinct CAPS officers and Harold Ford walked through the neighborhood in the area of Venable St. The primary focus the issue related to the 2200 block of Burton St. The piles of gravel making driveways into yards are illegal as clearly stated by every single city staffer Ann has spoken with over the last four years. Getting the city to enforce its ordinance has to date proven impossible.

As a result of the above, Officer Steven D. Thomas forwarded the complaint to Mark Bridgman (PDR) and request action be taken to remedy the situation.

**Information above provided by Ann Wortham and Charles Field**