



## **1st Precinct MPACT Meeting Minutes**

June 24, 2015 - 6:00PM

East District Center

### **Call To Order**

Hope Cousin, MPACT Coordinator

### **Presentation(s)**

- Allen Rothert, Special Events Coordinator, within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, discussed the Fan Zones and Fan Fest. The Fan Fest will take place at the Richmond Convention Center. At the end of the day, awards will be handed out. In addition to being steps away from the start/finish line, residents, fans, etc. will have the opportunity to interact with 100 vendors and exhibitors, have access to great food and beverages, as well as, have an opportunity to take pictures and get autographs from the cyclists.
- Mr. Rothert explained that the plans for the Fan Zones will be coming out in a few weeks, but he could share that Belvidere, Franklin, Monument, Libby Hill, Governor, Franklin, and N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Streets will be major fan zones.

### **Discussion Items**

**Police Update** – Environmental Officer Harold Ford didn't have any updates, but he took a couple of concerns. One pertaining to a property on Oakwood Ave. and another pertaining to lack of trash cans in the 100 block and 35<sup>th</sup>.

**CAPS Update** – John Walsh, Code Enforcement Operations Manager, introduced John Whealton, 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Supervisor, Richard Salmon Jr., Property Maintenance Enforcement Inspector, and other members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Code Enforcement Team.

- Mr. Walsh gave a summary of his background and current responsibilities. He also shared some of the high's and low's of the department and how he's hoping to implement a plan that will help improve response time between the department and residents.
- He further explained that when he arrived, there were 3,000 vacant buildings. After he and his Inspectors visited all 3,000 properties, they discovered that there were really 1700 properties that were vacant and that the original 3,000 included those that were unoccupied. There is a difference between abandoned and unoccupied properties. Mr. Walsh revealed that the first tax sale on abandoned properties will take place in September and that more information would be forthcoming.
- Donald Andrews, Zoning Officer, introduced himself and gave a brief overview of zoning. There were no questions for him during the public comment period.

## Public Comment Period

- The residents asked questions, such as:
  - **Will Leigh St. be blocked during the races?** We're awaiting feedback from the 5<sup>th</sup> St. Project.
  - **Will streets be published that will be closed?** Yes, the parking plan will be available on Richmond2015.com.
  - **Where can we get recycle bins?** After an Inspector recommended they contact 311, Hope Cousin recommended that they contact Darlene Mallory with the Clean City Commission.
  - **How many properties are vacant with unknown owners?** 500
  - **Can we get a list of the houses that will be placed on sale in Church Hill?** John Walsh gave his card to the resident.
  - **Can someone come and look at the property on 2619 E. Grace? It's clearly an abandoned structure with weeds.** A rep from Code Enforcement took down the info.
  - **When the houses go on sale, is there any length of time for the owners to make repairs?** 90 days
  - **Do you have the authority to force people to keep property/vacant lots up?** We're in the process of changing the ordinance and we are hopeful to have it approved and in place by the Fall.
  - **Is there any assistance for seniors who want to improve their home, but they just don't have the funds to do it?** There are various programs for seniors, but Code Enforcement is working with the Mayor's Office to get Fort Lee, who has already committed to having 40-60 men, help with alleyway cleanups, vacant lots, etc.

We wrapped up with sharing with a resident that after three long years, the owner of 1631 Williamsburg Rd., will be served on his job to be in court on August 18, 2015.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:46PM.

**NOTE: All persons scheduled to present is required to bring a minimum of fifteen (15) copies of all handouts to the meeting.**

**Next Meeting: July 22nd 2015, 6:00PM, East District Center**

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