



# WESTOVER HILLS

neighborhood association

Monthly Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2023

**Location – Westover Hills United Methodist Church Chapel**

**Opening (7:00pm)**

Welcome ..... Fran Eckenrode

**Guest Reports**

**Police Department Update ..... Lt. Andorfer**

Lt Andorfer introduced Sergeant Scarborough who is the new acting Lieutenant and executive officer for precinct. Only one major incident: a B&E at CVS in which a brick was thrown through window and beer was taken. If you see something, please call police and provide info. Residents reminded not to warm unlocked car. It will be stolen. Kia and Hyundai will be stolen. Protect your car with a steering wheel lock. Police are offering these free to owners of Kia or Hyundai who live in city. Police have plenty. Email Lt Andorfer or show up at police dept to get one. Lock car doors. Thieves are popping door handles. They will not break window unless something of value is visible. Putting things under seat does not work.

Liz Linka, Commonwealth Attorney replied to question regarding mail theft from blue mail boxes. USP declined to participate in a town hall. Advising not to use blue mail boxes to mail checks or cash. Go inside post office and mail. Have heard that thieves are using this in jury duty scams. Thieves will convince you that you need to VENMO money to sheriff. Calling from 646 phone number. People are falling for scam and losing a lot of money.

How do thieves get into blue boxes? They have stolen master keys from USP employees. Reach out to Lt Andorfer with questions about scams.

**4<sup>th</sup> District Report ..... Kristen Nye/Timmy Siverd**

Kristen Nye, our councilperson, spoke about leaf collection and normal leaf collection cycle. Tuesday is regular trash pickup. Sometimes if trucks are full, they may come back on Saturday. Unlimited bags of leaves will be picked up through end of year.

City is heading into budget process. Highlight : launched new park ranger program. Piloting with 2 park rangers. Asking to double funding to get 4 for James River Park System. The park rangers are not police officers but help maintain order and safety.

Tablespoons is having a Taylor Swift day 8-13. Kristen’s holiday social was last week at Stoney Pt Fashion Mall. New owners trying to restore integrity of mall. Moved from 50% to 80% occupancy.

Question about pipe work being done in neighborhood. Kristen gave out her contact info and DPU emergency line to Nancy Eberhardt who will post.

**School Board Report ..... Jonathan Young**

RPS 200 update. Most elementary schools are in session for 180 days. Two schools (Fairfield and Cardinal) are in school for 200 days as a pilot. First report is favorable and 2 more schools will join the RPS200 program. Jon stated there is no substitute for quantity time. His colleagues just voted for a pay raise. He voted against because he does not think it is merited. The School Board also voted not to release info on graduation shooting. There may have been violations of RPS policy: not convening threat assessment teams and contacting RPS.

Many Richmond schools need to be replaced or renovated. School Board just voted for a Woodville upgrade to accommodate 500+ students when there are currently only 250 students.

**WHUMC Report ..... Erin Thomas/Nicole Timms**

no report

**Treasurer's Report..... Melissa Butler**

Long time WHNA treasurer reported on annual treasurer' activities. There is an annual budget in place each year. A CD has been at low interest rate for many years and was just put in a CD at 4.65%. There is \$24,000 in checking. This balance includes profits of about \$9000 from the successful house tour. Annual dues reminder will be mailed in January. Melissa reviewed expenditures and sources of income for 2023.

Nancy Eberhardt has transitioned membership duties from Rich Meagher. Thank you Nancy for taking over leadership of this very important job. Melissa reviewed expenditures and sources of income for 2023.

**Reports ..... Fran Eckenrode**

- A letter of appreciation was received from Ann Purser, Muse Me/ Tip O 'the Season, and shared with meeting attendees.
- Forest Hills "Run for the Hills" 5ki will return in March, 2024
- Slate of Officers was identified and will be voted on through membership email.
- Robert Kelly is planning a landscape project for the boulevard at Forest Hill Ave and Westover Hills Blvd. Planning will begin in January.
- Tulips were planted along the north end of WH boulevard by Pamela Zell and others in preparation for garden week in April, 2024.
- Bruce Gould shared that the Bank of America building has been demolished and new construction is proceeding. The Westover Bldg is being renovated. No update on Westover Place project.

**Adjourn**