



## General Virginia-Highland Civic Association Board Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2025 - October 6, 2025

### Board Business Conducted Electronically after Official Board Meeting Adjourned

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**VHCA Directors:** Alex B. Jones (President), Melissa Clark (Vice President), Karri Hobson-Pape (Secretary), Miguel Barrios (Treasurer), Johnson Bazzel, Kevin Cronin, Adam Faust, Amy Harward, Karen Isenberg Jones, Mary Frances Jones, Tim Langan

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**September 25, 2025 11:54 am**

Hi everyone,

Now that we've approved the Friends of John Howell Park Operating Agreement, I'd like to make a **motion to vote on an interim Board of Managers**. (Interim bc as part of our major donor campaign, we're recruiting additional board talent, so this slate may evolve in the coming weeks). The proposed slate also includes Miguel/VHCA Parks Chair as an ex-officio member.

Once the board is approved, Jim can sign the Operating Agreement and officially begin our first term. Bios are included below.

Thanks,

Mary Frances

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**Jim Coe**

Although I'm a relatively new member of the Virginia Highland community, I've quickly immersed myself in its schools, sports programs, and civic life. As the father of two boys (8 and 9), I've served as a room parent and a regular volunteer at Virginia Highland Elementary. I also coach youth soccer, basketball, and baseball with Inter Atlanta FC, Haygood Hoops, and Druid Hills Youth Sports.

Most importantly to this group, I serve on the VHCA Parks Committee, where I've led the effort to renovate John Howell Park. Recently, I spearheaded the renovation of 11 benches in the park, but I have much larger ambitions.



I believe the park can be a true hub for our neighborhood—a gathering space that reflects our community’s energy and character. Right now, though, it is in need of significant attention.

Professionally, I’ve had a wide ranging career, first in insurance and finance and later as a cook in Michelin-starred restaurants in New York City. Today, I’m a stay-at-home dad, managing (and cooking for) a busy household while championing projects that bring our community together.

As a Friends of John Howell Park board member, I would continue to push the renovation master plan forward—helping lead a major capital campaign to bridge the gap between city funding and our neighborhood’s vision for a revitalized, vibrant park.

**Mary Frances Jones**

After decades living in town and enjoying all Virginia-Highland has to offer, I finally made this neighborhood my home in 2023 after my partner and I renovated a house built in 1983 on a lot cleared for the I-485 freeway. As an immediate neighbor of John Howell Park, I quickly got involved, joining the VHCA board and working with fellow members to secure a \$100,000 Park Pride grant for the park’s planned renovation. I also helped to consolidate VHCA and VHCL into a single nonprofit—streamlining communication and fundraising for the newly-formed Friends of John Howell Park LLC, and VHCA more broadly.

Professionally, I spent the last decade of my career at an alternative transportation startup in product marketing, communications, and venture fundraising roles – work that fueled my passion for sustainable transit and human-centered urbanism. I serve on the board of Propel ATL (formerly the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition and PEDS), advancing safe, affordable, and sustainable mobility across the city. Prior to that, I served for a decade as a Big Brothers Big Sisters mentor and worked as a policy advocate with CARE, along with other impactful volunteer roles. I hold a BA in English Literature from The College of Charleston and an MS in Human-Computer Interaction from Georgia Tech.

A revitalized John Howell Park is key to our shared vision of Virginia-Highland as a safe, walkable, vibrant community. I see the park not just as green space but as a central gathering place reflecting our neighborhood’s energy and character. As a Friends of John Howell Park board member, I’ll continue working to fund and deliver a revitalized park that brings people together and preserves what makes Virginia-Highland special.

**Chase Johnson**

Chase has lived in Virginia-Highland for the past 14 years and is a former member of the VHCA Board, where he also served as head of the Tour of Homes. He and his wife Leigh are proud parents to Bennett and Sawyer, who attend the YWCA. Inspired by his children and a commitment to neighborhood life, Chase joined Friends of John Howell Park with the hope of creating an outstanding playground and park space for kids and families to enjoy for years to come.

Motions Passed 11 in favor/ 0 opposed.



Miguel Barrios	<i>Approved</i>	Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>
Johnson Bazzel	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>	Karen Isenberg Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>	Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>	Tim Langan	<i>Approved</i>
Adam Faust	<i>Approved</i>		

**September 16, 2025 3:36 pm**

Hi everyone, I'd like to make a motion to approve **VHCA-FOJHP\_Operating Agreement\_FINAL**, attached here.

Thanks,

Mary Frances

Document can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QM4nDm4wpavVsNgIX92XZpUuXoR8hF\\_M/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QM4nDm4wpavVsNgIX92XZpUuXoR8hF_M/view?usp=drive_link)

Motions Passed 11 in favor/ 0 opposed.

Miguel Barrios	<i>Approved</i>	Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>
Johnson Bazzel	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>	Karen Isenberg Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>	Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>	Tim Langan	<i>Approved</i>
Adam Faust	<i>Approved</i>		

**September 13, 2025 4:37 pm**

All,



Since we didn't do this at the September meeting, can you please approve via email so that I can get them up on the website?

Motion to approve:

2025.08.11 Meeting Minutes

2025.08.11 to 2025.09.08 Electronic Minutes between Meetings

See attached.

Thank you!

Karri

Motions Passed 11 in favor/ 0 opposed.

Miguel Barrios	<i>Approved</i>	Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>
Johnson Bazzel	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>	Karen Isenberg Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>	Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>	Tim Langan	<i>Approved</i>
Adam Faust	<i>Approved</i>		

Respectfully submitted by:

Karri Hobson-Pape