

Friends of Rouge Park Meeting
Apr. 16, 2008

Attendance: Tamara Dyson, Martha Gruelle, Paul Stark, Sally Petrella, Thomas McNulty, Chester Marvin, Eric Tomlinson (Elite Archery), , Sharon Miudoch, Lisa Goldsmith, Jasper Lindsey, Paula Trilety, Di Allgood, Martin Siml, Paul Bairley

Minutes: accepted as read

Greening of Detroit Presentation: Paul Bairley

- Greening of Detroit plans to spend about \$500,000 to develop the nursery and then spend about \$150,000/yr to run it. An urban agricultural group is using 2 acres for farming.
- We suggested that Greening of Detroit start a compost program that would accept leaves from local neighbors.
- We asked for cedar trees for the new sign flower planting at Warren Ave.
- We asked if the nursery could grow native prairie plants as well. He said yes.
- We discussed the "Green Corps" that will bring 80 high school kids to do in the parks. FORP proposed using a team of these volunteers for a project at Scout Hollow.

Treasurer's Report: Chester Marvin - Total: \$264.60

Membership Report: Tom McNulty. 39 individual & family memberships and 6 organizational memberships: 45 total

-Martha Gruelle presented a draft of email message to send to the 375 email and street addresses from the "Save Rouge Park" petitions. It was approved.

Presidents Report: Sally Petrella

501c3: We received our 501c3 status. Yea!

-Eric suggested we apply for a Michigan Charitable License. He will email Sally info.

Organizational Reports:

Buffalo Soldiers: Lisa Goldsmith: They finally got the key to the horse barn on March 19! Donations of equipment are coming in. They are asking for estimates to improve the roof (\$17,000). They are discussing whether they should invest that much in a building they don't own. They are open 10am-5pm 7 days a week. Suggestions were made to ask Lowe's and Home Depot for roofing and other supplies and then find volunteers to do the work. They are coordinating with the new Joe Prance In-Town Youth Camp to work with them.

The First Beautification Day was held last Saturday, and will continue every Saturday to the end of May.

Elite Archery: Eric Tomlinson no report

Rouge 5K Run: Di Allgood October 5 (backup day Oct. 12) was chosen for the run. Goal is to get Sponsor letters and letter to city out by next week. Next meeting of the 5K Run Committee will be on April 30 at 7pm at Chick's Bar at Warren and Greenview.

Rouge Park Appreciation Day

June 7, 2008

-Sally will meet Monday afternoon with Kim Jones, West District Supervisor regarding Rouge Park Appreciation Day.

-Sally will ask about getting grass cut well before the event.

GLC grant money has cut back funds for setting up tent and paying for the Arts and Scraps activity (\$200). They are still funding lunch, porta-potties, tipping fee for city, etc.

-Lisa sent invites to City Council. Tom hasn't heard back from Health Dept. Council still needs to vote to approve our event before the Health Dept. can give final approval.

-We need to attract sponsors with generous donations for the event.

-Sharon and Paula will contact REI to ask for their participation and sponsorship.

Projects:

-We are expecting about 200 scouts

-Three garlic mustard pull leaders have committed.

-Tamara will do a planting at W. Parkway and Joy

-Martin Siml wants to pull trash from the river and Jasper asked if we can get city to provide winches.

-Sally will ask Sam Lovell to lead a group at the W. Outer Drive planting.

-Jasper suggested putting wood chips on parking area for Scout Hollow. Also repairing wood duck boxes?

-Lisa wants to lead a project at the Horse Barn.

-Archery demonstration at Joy & Spinoza: Elite Archery, Eric Tomlinson

-Flower planting along road going down to Archery range: Elite Archery, Eric Tomlinson

-We need to collect information for each project on the nature of each volunteer job, the number of volunteers needed and the appropriate ages for each projects.

Celebration Activities:

-We need to post "Days Event" poster at registration table.

-Fun Fly: Detroit Aeromodelers

-Horse rides: Buffalo Soldiers/Black Horseman's Association

-Rouge Tunnel Project Info: Sharon will invite Tunnel people.

-Acorn Planting: Greening of Detroit

-Animal Presentation: ?

-Flag Raising-Jasper Lindsay

Next meeting: May 7 6pm, then May 21 6pm

5K Run meeting: April 30 7pm

Sightings in Rouge Park since last meeting: herd of 6 deer, 1 fox and 1 coyote!