

**Friends of Rouge Park
Meeting Minutes
Mar 16, 2010**

Attendance: Tom McNulty, Lisa Goldsmith, Jasper Lindsey, Chester Marvin, Sally Petrella, Paul Stark, Eric Tomlinson, Rodney Gasaway, Larry Halbert, Michelle Joyner, Carla Thomas, Harvey Santana, Patricia Butler

Minutes from the meeting of 2/16/11 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Total: \$4388.84.

Membership Report: 46 individual and family memberships and 7 organizational memberships.

President's Report

1. The comfort station on Outer Dr. & Rouge Park Dr. will be torn down before May. A contractor will donate the demolition work to the city. Larry Halbert's group will reclaim the materials for re-use in the park, but need to make a arrangements with the contractor first.
2. Rouge Park Visioning Session will be held May 18 at 6-8:30. Becket and Raeder will donate their time and expertise to run the session. We gave them a tour of the park and met with them on March 9 to work out the details. We are still working on confirming a location.
3. A meeting to choose one of three design proposals for the new Rouge Park Amphitheater will be held on March 24, 6pm at Don Bosco Hall. Paid members of Friends of Rouge Park and people who live and/or work in the Cody/Rouge area will be allowed to vote.
4. Feb. 23 Detroit Water Dept Hearing report: DWSD is asking the DNR to change their permit to allow more treated overflows into the Rouge River and modify allowable levels of e.coli bacteria. Nine first flush basins, some in the park, will be built along the original tunnel route from Warren to Pembroke.
5. Rouge Park Appreciation Day, June 4. A letter of request has been sent to Recreation Dept. and City Council asking for a resolution in support of our event. We asked for the use of the grill and garbage cans, and asked that the Joy & Spinoza area be mowed. Detroit Parks Coalition is planning to set June 4 as Detroit Parks Day. It is also Michigan Trails Day.
6. Get Outdoors Day. Elite Archery has planned a tournament at 10am. An Evangelical Group is planning a Fair, possibly including a fun run.

Rodney Gasaway gave a report on the "Downtowns of Progress" plan for Joy Rd. between Southfield and Evergreen: Joy Rd. will be reduced to three lanes, with bike lanes and a greenway added. Work will start, at the earliest, by 2013.

New Business

\$5000 Skillman Foundation grants are available from The Prevention Network for youth programs in the park. Contact Ms. Leverette at the Skillman Foundation for info..

Organizational Reports

Buffalo Soldiers: April 2, 11am, Barn opens for the season and blessing of the horses ceremony.