

Friends of Rouge Park
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2015

Attendance (16 attendees): Ela Jiga-trustee, Roger Corpolongo, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Roger Cheek-trustee, Tom McNulty-membership chair, Paula Trilety, Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Tim Kirsten-DAM, Tamara Dyson, Ricardo Moore (Police Commissioner), Larry Halbert, Martex Conner (FWCA), Mike Jacobs (City of Detroit), Dustin Campbell (Commissioner Alisha Bell's aide), Bobbi Johnson (Franklin Park)

Minutes from February 17 were read and accepted.

Ricardo Moore, Police Commissioner. The Detroit Aeromodelers field was vandalized by ATV riders on March 16. The police were called. They waited 1.5 hours for the police but they never came out. Ricardo Moore said he will follow up. He said he would look into greater enforcement of the ATVs as well.

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin) Income: Kroger Community Awards, \$63.77. Expenses: \$325 for Scotty's Potties. Total balance: \$3,087.64. Kroger renewal required after April 1.

Membership Report: (Tom McNulty) 41 individual and family memberships and seven organizational memberships. 11 memberships expired. Tom will send their email addresses to Paul and he'll send a renewal reminder.

President's Report

1. The City wants to redo four flower beds: Warren & Outer Dr., Joy & West Parkway, Joy & Trinity and at the sculpture. They want to plant another butterfly garden at the sculpture. We agreed to support new plantings at the two Joy Rd. locations, but did not support redoing the Warren site because volunteers have done so much work there. Mike Jacobs from the city supported us. He said the city is looking into adding lighting for the sculpture. Tamara Dyson will be the contact person to work with the city on upgrading the Warren and Sculpture plantings.
2. Greening of Detroit's ~~Our~~ Land+Program. 10 DPS classes visit Rouge Park every season. They will be doing water quality testing at different spots along the river. They need adult volunteers. Several members agreed to volunteer.
3. The National Park Service has agreed to focus on helping to develop a nature trail between Warren and Tireman. They are meeting in the Park with Sally, Mike Jacobs from the city, and a landscape engineer later this week.

Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Association: (no report)

Master Plan Update: The final reports have been submitted and the master plan is now totally complete. Paul agreed to write a narrative to go along with the master plan by next meeting. Mike Jacobs suggested meeting with city officials to share the master plan.

Brennan Rec. Area Update (Mike Jacobs)

Eight benches will be added to the Mile Loop (800-1000ft. between each). Boulders will be placed along Orangelawn to keep cars off the football/soccer fields. All the picnic tables will be replaced with new ones, some with chessboards. A new small picnic shelter will be added near the football/soccer field. They will repair the horseshoe pits. 14 new tables will be added in the octagon shelter. The shelter will be reservable. We suggested adding a sign with the phone number to reserve (needed at Joe Prance too). The playground will be replaced with an added fitness area. Two full basketball courts, and four junior courts will be added, six pickle ball courts and four tennis courts possibly with rental balls and rackets at the pool. All the amenities planned for the pool area (the picnic shelter, splashpad, volleyball court, playground and ADA pathway) were not funded.

DWSD Bioswale and Basin Project . DWSD will be at our April meeting. They will want to walk through the locations before construction begins. Sally and Donna Hall have been consulting with DWSD on deer-proof native plants.

Rouge Park Appreciation Day . May 30. Registration begins at 8:00am. Sally passed around a volunteer sign-in sheet for registration, lunch, etc. Projects will include work on the Sculpture garden (Tamara Dyson). 80 Quicken volunteers will pull garlic mustard and trash (Paul). Roger will work in the river.

Meeting ajourned 7:pm