

Friends of Rouge Park
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2015

Attendance (15 attendees): Roger Corpolongo, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Roger Cheek-trustee, Tom McNulty-membership chair, Paula Trilety, Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Tamara Dyson, Juliana Fulton-DRD, Lisa Goldskith-BSHA, Lada Davis-Gabe Leland's aide, Roxie Wilson-Cody-Rouge, Mike Jacobs-DRD, Reggie Gaddies, Dustin Campbell (Commissioner Alisha Bell's aide).

Minutes from April 21 were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin) Chester requested to move our account to Huntington Bank for convenience. Nine new memberships. Total income: \$115. Expenses: \$331.80 (\$325 for Scotty's Potties). Total balance: \$2836.78

Membership Report: (Tom McNulty) 33 individual and family memberships and seven organizational memberships.

President's Report

1. FOTR and Sierra Club are offering assistance in putting in rain gardens.
2. The rubble from the Outer.Dr. comfort station has been removed. YEAH!
3. The amphitheater berm has been regraded and grass has been planted.
4. Negative Rouge Park news is disheartening. Media falsely reported a body was found. Then they reported on dead dogs in the park (even though the bones found were probably from a deer).
5. Butterfly Walk has been scheduled for July 19, 3:00pm

Update on City Recreation Master Plan (Julianna Fulton)

Mayor gave his input into the master plan, he does not want to close any parks. The plan calls for an upgrade of every park at least once every 20 years. Rouge Park, and other major parks, every 3 years.

Update from Detroit Recreation Dept./General Services (Mike Jacobs)

The Brennan Rec. Area improvements should be going out for bids next week. Work will probably begin in mid-July and be completed by the fall. They are looking for grant funding for the Stone Bridge Nature Trail including a wood chip trail, picnic shelter, trailhead kiosk, porta-potty, etc. The West District will be renovated and city staff will eventually move there.

*Tangent discussion arose on the need for cameras to catch dumpers and missing garbage cans, male hook-ups, etc.

Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Association: (Lisa Goldsmith)

The Buffalo Soldiers applied for a grant from Lowe's for roof repair. Vista Maria will provide volunteers again this summer for 6 weeks.

Master Plan Update: We are still working to set up a meeting with GSD and DRD on the Rouge Park Master Plan

Rouge Park Appreciation Day

1. FOTR received a Creek Cleanup Grant. The grant requires that the work be directly at the river, so we will focus more work on the river. Sally, Paul & Roger walked the stretch of river from Joy to Plymouth. They found some dumping areas to clean and two vehicles. We will walk the rest of the river and the Ashcroft Drain through Joe Prance next week.
2. Wayne County received a grant that requires mapping invasive species before and after our garlic mustard removal. Sally and Paul will map the areas.
3. Food: We are planning for 200 people to feed, hotdogs, chips and cookies.
4. Alisha Bell gave Tiger tickets to raffle off at RPAD.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20pm