

## Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes - Sept. 20, 2016

Attendance (19 attendees): Roger Corpalongo-trustee, Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Paula Trilety-trustee, Tom McNulty-trustee, Sam Shopinski (National Kidney Foundation), Roger Cheek-membership chair, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Garrett Dempsey (Sierra Club), Ricardo R. Moore, Police Commissioner, Arthur Edge-vice president, Lorraine Harris, Barb Matney (WCO), Joe Matney (WCO), Jevne Cuit (WCO), Matthew Miller (Walker-Miller Energy), Mike Jacobs (General Services Dept.), Rodney Gasaway (Joy-Southfield CDC), Lisa Goldsmith (BSHA),

Minutes from July were read and accepted

Treasurer's Report for July19 - Sept 20: (Chester Marvin)

Income: 874.54. Three memberships: \$30, Kroger Community Awards: \$94.50, (3<sup>rd</sup> highest), Expenses: Greening of Detroit: \$100, Spectrum Signs: \$3450, \$20 State of Mich. (for annual incorporation cost), \$76.79 for supplies for the trail. Balance: \$1,130.76. The \$5400 in grant money will reimburse these expenses (except the incorporation expense).

Membership Report: (Roger Cheek) Four new individual/family memberships and one renewal, and one organizational membership renewal. Total: 12 organization memberships and 24 individual and family memberships. We discussed putting out a quarterly newsletter only to paid members, and possibly an annual meeting to boost membership.

President's report

1. DPW says they will repair West Parkway St. south of Joe Prance next spring.

Old Business

1. Report on July 22-23 Run/Walk, Splash Party/Movie. 75 people participated in the Run/Walk. This will be an annual event on the third Friday and Saturday of July.
2. National Kidney Foundation Park Improvements. \$4000 in funds are available for ¼ mile markers for the Brennan Mile Loop and the 5K Loop and three wood signs for the Mountain Biking Trail, Prairie Trailhead, and Buffalo Soldiers, and possibly a directional sign at Joy & Spinoza.
3. Masterplan Update. Julianna and Mike will work on putting our masterplan into a presentable form, probably not until this winter.
4. Report on Aug. 7 Butterfly Walk: 39 participants, 13 species of butterflies.
5. Report on Aug. 13 Botanical Club Walk: Only nine participants due to bad weather.
6. Report on Aug. 17 GM Volunteer Work Day. Incredible effort by a large group (30 volunteers) for over six hours in searing heat clearing a trail through the prairie and hawthorn and buckthorn trees. Other groups trimmed the bike path overgrowth and the Joy Rd. stairs. An Oct. 1 workday is planned to finish clearing the prairie pathway.
7. Report on Aug. 24 Tour for Mayor Duggan. The city did an amazing job of making the park look good for the Mayor. The mayor offered support for closing the park on weekends, closing off redundant park entrances, repainting the roads for bike lanes, signage and other low capital expense projects, and even a few picnic shelters!
8. Report on Aug. 29 Scout Hollow Planning Walk. Botanist Bill Brodovich is doing a plant survey of Scout Hollow next Sunday. Sierra Club (Garret Dempsey) is networking with the YMCA and NPS, and is looking for funding sources for camping programs for next summer.
9. Report on Sept. 9 Stone Bridge Nature Trail Dedication. The interpretive signs, information kiosk and a wooden routed sign along Tireman was completed. We matched the \$5400 grant with \$39,000 of volunteer/work hours.
10. DWSD Bioswale Update. DWSD received authorization for underdrains beneath the bioswale, and for 4500 plants, boulders, and tilling and reseeding the bioswale. Work will begin in about 2 weeks (Oct.3)

New Business

1. Master plan. Mike and Julianna will meet with the board soon to discuss next steps.
2. Prairie Work Day Oct. 1, 10am. Meet at the new sign on Outer Drive south of Joy.

3. Greening of Detroit grant for invasive species removal. The grant is not available yet, but will be soon.
4. Rodney Gasaway shared information regarding possible use of the Brennan Pools for community events.
5. Cody-Rouge 5-year Strategic Planning Meeting. Rouge Park needs to be represented.

Meeting adjourned 7:30pm