

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2017

Attendance (21 attendees): Roger Cheek-membership chair, Lisa Goldsmith-recording sec'y, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Kevin Nolan, Barb Matney and Joe Matney (WCO), Sam Shopinski (NKF), Paul Stark-secretary, Sally Petrella-president, Tim Kirsten, Juliana Fulton (Det. Rec. Dept.), Tom McNulty, Dee Pearl, R. Jesus McNair, Tricia Hamzik, Reggie Gaddies, Roger Corpolongo, trustee, Sue Norander, Sarah West, Chris Bond, Alicia Bell, Wayne County Commissioner

Minutes from February were read and accepted

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin)

For the period from Feb. 28 to Mar.21: \$19.92 in donations, \$49.12 in memberships, \$61.80 from Kroger Community Rewards. Total income: \$130.92. Expenses: \$0.00. Balance: \$5,326.68

Membership Report:

3 new individual/family, 1 individual/family renewal. One new organization membership. Total: 32 individual/family, 14 organization memberships.

President's Report

1. Sally congratulated Barb & Joe Matney for an excellent interview with WDET about their radio patrol.
2. A new Detroit Parks Conservancy is forming, we need a representative to go to their third meeting on Thursday, March 23.
3. We are considering applying for a NEEF (National Environmental Educational Foundation) grant to hire a staff person for our organization.
4. Wayne County is trying to sell Warren Valley Golf Course. We voted unanimously on a motion to oppose the sale.
5. Sally forwarded the picnic shelter design and pricing info to Rep. Sylvia Santana, so that she can help us to find funding.
6. On March 30 at 2pm, we are giving a tour to a Jennifer Reinhardt of the Michigan Historical Commission to look at some sites in the park.

Update on city grants and Scout Hollow Plans (Juliana Fulton)

The city is working on three grants for Rouge Park: A splash pad for Brennan Rec. Area, a picnic shelter for Cozy Corners, and a soccer/football field, and maybe baseball diamond, for Sorenson Rec. Area. Alicia Bell offered a \$50,000 from Wayne County for capital improvements for 2018. Juliana shared drawings for the small shelter with 6 tables for Cozy Corners. Possibly, six benches along the paved path will be included. The city is applying for a \$10,000 Kresge grant with the YMCA for nature trail improvements. We discussed priorities for the trails.

The Tour deTroit Rouge-A-Thlon is April 22. 39 have registered so far. On the registration form, they are asking for donations to FORP for park projects.

Rouge Park Appreciation Day, May 20. Buffalo Soldiers will pay for the potties. The Social Security office in Warren is sending volunteers. Quicken Loans is sending 70 volunteers. Alicia Bell offered a financial donation. Detroit Audubon is sponsoring a bird walk at 8:00 am on Sunday morning, May 21.

Well-able Walkers begin walking for the year this Thursday, March 23 at 6:30pm.

We broke into our four work groups: Infrastructure, Natural Areas, Activity Planning and Membership/Fundraising for the remainder of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm