

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – January 17, 2017

Attendance (29 attendees): Roger Corpolongo-trustee, Paul Stark-secretary, Roger Cheek, Sally Petrella-president, Alan Van Kerckove, Tamara Dyson, Lorraine Harris, Arthur Edge-vice president, Tim Kirsten, Donulae Knuckles-Copeland, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paula Trilety-trustee, Barb Matney and Joe Matney (WCO), Tom McNulty, Mattie Greene, Donna Hall, Eric Tomlinson (Elite Archery), Reggie Gaddies, Tricia Hamzik (YMCA), Lynn Hausch (WACO), Cheryl Whatley, Lana Morton, Rodney Gasaway, Garrett Dempsey (Sierra Club), Peggy Dankert, Kevin Nolan, Miranda Perez, Dustin Campbell (Commissioner Alisha Bell's Aide).

Minutes from November were read and accepted

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin) For the period from October 18 to Nov. 15 - Jan 17.

Total Income: \$421.14. \$120 from 4 individual and 8 family memberships, \$220 in donations and \$79.14 from Kroger.

Total Expenses: \$377.71 for our annual meeting. Balance: \$4993.12

Membership Report: (Roger Cheek)

We received five individual, six family, and three organizational memberships (thirteen were renewals and one was a new member). Total: 25 individual, 12 family and 9 organization memberships.

President's Report

1. The Rouge-a-thon has been rescheduled for April 22. Sally received unanimous approval for us to draft a letter of support for Tour De Droit to present to the City Council.
2. Rep. Sylvia Santana asked for a list of amenities we'd like to see developed in Rouge Park. She is planning a meeting next month with the city to discuss possibilities.
3. Thank you to Peggy Dankert and Donna Hall for helping to report paintball vandals in the Stone Bridge Trail area. The police cleared them out.
4. We have been working with Detroit Animal Control to remove aggressive packs of stray dogs.
5. Gang graffiti was seen on a tree on Outer Dr. north of Warren Ave. We need a volunteer to remove it quickly.

Old Business

1. Annual Meeting. 38 people attended. A big thanks to everyone who helped plan the event and who came early to help set up. The city is planning to promote the use of the Brennan Pools Banquet Hall. The Best Friend Of Rouge Park award was given to Donna Hall and the Best Partner Of Rouge Park award was given to Juliana Fulton.
2. City Update: No update
3. Scout Hollow Youth Camping Initiative Update: (Garrett Dempsey) In December, Sierra Club Outings, DPS and the city worked together to produce a video for DPS teachers about using Rouge Park for environmental education. The planned December teacher workshop was postponed until the spring. They are looking into securing funding for a three-year or five-year plan for the campground. Tom McNulty brought up a possible concern with disturbing ancient native American village grounds north of Joy Rd.
4. Board Elections: All board members agreed by acclamation to remain in their current positions.
5. Kidney Foundation Funded Signage Project (Sam Shopinsky): Spectrum Signs did not complete the signs in December as planned. They plan to wait until the spring thaw to install them.
6. DWSD green infrastructure projects: DWSD installed high curbs for water control and to discourage vehicles at the Tireman swale. The Constance Project is still on hold until the Tireman project is completed. They are considering a project near Orangelawn and Spinoza or near Sawyer St., but nothing is set. There are still several water main leaks in the park that need to be fixed. Arthur offered to submit a list of leaks to the city and DWSD.

New Business

1. We are forming four new working groups for our organization: A natural areas group, a infrastructure improvement group, a park activities group and a membership/fundraising committee. We passed around a sign-in sheet for members to join.
2. RPAD Saturday, May 21.
3. Rouge Park Dr. north of Plymouth has a tree fallen on the roadway. Dustin Campbell, Alisha Bell's aide will look into clearing it.

Meeting adjourned 7:20pm