

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2018

Attendance (21 attendees): Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paul Stark-secretary, Sally Petrella-president, Paula Trilety-trustee, Roger Corpolongo, trustee, Tom McNulty-trustee, Peggy Dankert-trustee, Juliana Fulton-City of Detroit, Eric Tomlinson-Elite Archery, Garrett Dempsey-Sierra Club, Sarah West, Alan Van Kerckove, Tim Kirsten-DAM, Roger Cheek, Tamara Dyson, James Mills-BSHA, Sally Hackett, Donna Stuckey, Kimberly Cooley, Dustin Campbell-Aide to Comm. Alisha Bell, JaVaughn Perkins.

Minutes from March were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report for the period from March 20-May 15 (Chester Marvin)

Total income: \$1289.22. We received \$615 in memberships, \$646 in donations (\$500 from Tour de Troit). Total expenses: \$745.33. Balance: \$7,036.32.

Membership Report: (Paula Trilety): We have a total of 87 members and 14 member organizations. Our highest totals ever! Since the last meeting we have one new member organization and five organizations renewed, and 17 new members and 18 members renewed.

President's Report

1. The City is looking into repairs for the Warren entrance sign.
2. New grow zone signs were stolen on Outer Drive near Warren. The city will pay for replacements.
3. DWSD replaced several trees that they killed during their work on the sewer line. They also replaced a section of damaged paved bike trail.
4. The Summer Police Parks Detail has begun. Four of the eleven officers will be assigned to Rouge Park Noon-midnight. They will close the park at 10:30pm. Officer Covington is in charge of the Detail: 313-596-2186 office, 734-931-0672 cell.

Report on Recent Events

1. Annual Meeting April 17: It was a successful event. We came out \$3.17 ahead!
2. Rouge-a-thlon: 83 participants. They donated \$500 to our organization after they realized their web site was not working to allow individual donations. There was a LOT of trash! We should do a clean-up before the event next year. They plan to continue the Rouge-a thlon. Tour de Troit is working on including Rouge Park as a stop on the city-wide Tour de Troit ride in the fall.
3. Clean-up March 28: 32 volunteers worked on cleaning around the barn and down Joy Rd. 61 bags (951 lbs.) of trash were collected.
4. Tree Give-away May 5: About 400 trees were given away.
5. A school group of 70 students from Ann Arbor and employees of Detroit Diesel did separate clean ups along Outer Drive.
6. About 20 people came out for the Michigan Botanical Society wild flower walk on the Stone Bridge Trail. After about 45 minutes it poured rain and hailed.

Old Business

1. Sorensen Sign Project: Juliana is working on the information signs for the project.
2. Detroit Open Streets Saturday, July 21, 1-5pm. It has not been officially approved yet.
3. Rouge Park Appreciation Day
 - a. Projects: Sorensen (trail, brush removal, garlic mustard). Tireman: (trash, garlic mustard). Joe Prance: (trash, garlic mustard). Outer Drive Planting. Buffalo Soldiers (rain garden). Roving crew (trash). Camel and picnic table painting.
 - b. Volunteer groups: AmeriCorps-228 people. Rock Ventures-50 people. 104 Scouts.
 - c. Registration/Lunch: Registration will set up at 7:00 am. Registration will begin at 8:00am. AmeriCorps Kick-Off at 8:30. Lunch will be served at 11:30am.
 - d. Scout Camporee: It will be relocated to east of the toboggan hill due to flooding in Scout Hollow.

4. Tree planting and motorcycle ride for Lisa Goldsmith-Sat. June 2 at noon. Two new benches with plaques will be placed as well.

City of Detroit Updates (Juliana Fulton)

1. Splash Pad building: Suggestions included painting a mural or a lattice with vines, or get a volunteer to do the brick work. There was no consensus.
2. Funding is available for grading a soccer field at Cozy Corner. This funding source could also pay for a comfort station, picnic shelters, trees, a walking loop, etc. Support was unanimous.
3. A porta-potty will be placed at Stone Bridge Trailhead May 1 – October 1.
4. Demolition of the tennis courts will be done soon. The Detroit Pistons are funding new basketball courts in their place. They are offering a basketball court for Sorensen Rec. Area but not for five years (unless we decide to apply some friendly pressure).

Detroit Outdoors Program at Scout Hollow (Garrett Dempsey).

Scout Hollow is severely flooded so they are planning to camp just east of the Toboggan Hill. There will be six Scout Units and 100 scouts. They are showing the Black Panther movie at 9pm. Detroit Outdoors had their first training in late April for nine organizations interested in bringing youth out to camp. So far, two groups have asked for dates to camp this summer.

Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Center: Pony rides begin Saturdays and Sunday Noon- 4pm starting June 2.

Tireman Bioswale Update: Native plants will be planted in the Tireman Bioswale on Saturday, May 19.

Peggy Dankert reported that the West Parkway culvert repair will begin soon!

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.