

## Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2018

Attendance (21 attendees): Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paul Stark-secretary, Sally Petrella-president, Paula Trilety-trustee, Roger Corpolongo, trustee, Tom McNulty-trustee, Juliana Fulton-City of Detroit, Eric Tomlinson-Elite Archery, Sarah West, Tim Kirsten-DAM, Tamara Dyson, Barb Matney-WCO, Marleen White-Burt/Plymouth BC, Erin McDonald, Sally Hackett, Jim Gallagher, Marty Bastien, Jac Kyle-Det. Parks & Rec, R Jesus McNair, Sam Shopinski-NKF, Donulae Knuckles-Well-Able Wellness Walkers, Rachel Felder-Detroit Outdoors.

Minutes from May were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report for the period from May 15-June 19 (Chester Marvin)

Total income: \$1,286.42 We received \$370.93 in memberships, \$33.88 in donations from Kroger Community Rewards, \$6.61 from Amazon Smile and an \$875.00 donation from Kresge (match of Garrett Dempsey's donation). Total expenses were \$416.33. \$255.00 for the memorial tree, and \$161.33 for RPAD. Balance: \$8,464.56.

Membership Report: (Paula Trilety): We have a total of 104 members and 14 member organizations. Our first time over 100 members! Since the last meeting we have 9 new members and 8 renewals.

President's Report

1. Sally met with Eric Kehoe regarding Rouge Park history. He is working on an article for various publications.
2. RPAD Report. We had 304 volunteers and collected 4000 lbs. of trash, 179 cubic yards of invasive buckthorn and honeysuckle, 38 bags of garlic mustard. We built a rain garden at the barn, improved the planting at Outer Dr. and Tireman. Americorps volunteers worked hard and contributed \$1000! They are awesome! The city provided tents and the grill. Suggestions for next year: have people choose a volunteer project when they register, or have Americorps volunteers pre-register by project.
3. Golf Event June 9 Report. Turnout was lower than expected due to the rain, but the event was well organized and successful, though it was not well marketed. An 8 week Summer Golf Camp will be offered this summer on Wednesdays at the Rouge Park Golf Course for ages 7-13.
4. The new person in charge of programming for parks, J.J. Velez met with Sally regarding more programming for the park.
5. Mowing Plan & Prairie Pathway. Sally met with Chris Romeo regarding the awful state of mowing in the park. Paul will meet with a mower on Thursday to mow the Prairie Pathway.
6. The Lisa Goldsmith Memorial Tree Planting on June 2 was an amazing event with three motorcycle clubs, speakers, food, cycle ride, etc.
7. Pony rides are now being offered at the barn on the weekends.

City of Detroit Update (Juliana Fulton)

1. Open Streets July 21 1-5pm. Wayne County still needs to approve the closure of Outer Drive. We still need more Program Partners.
2. Park & Rec Weekend July 20-22. Movie Friday night, 5K run Saturday morning and Jazz and Yoga Sunday morning. Volunteers are needed.
3. Michigan Trust Fund Projects
  - a. The Sorensen Improvements and the Splash Pad at Brennan Rec Area has been delayed until September at the earliest.
  - b. The removal of the tennis courts has begun.
  - c. Boulder Project: Boulders should begin being placed to keep cars off the grass along the roads in the park.
4. New trees have been planted along Pierson for the Sorensen Rec Area.

Scout Hollow Campground (Jac Kyle)

They have received official temporary camping permits from the Health Department (they need a water source to get a permanent permit). They have ten camping events planned for this summer. The Health Department is testing mosquitos for West Nile. Camping is available Wed. – Sun.

Tireman Bioswale Update: 4800 Native plants have been planted in the Tireman Bioswale. Afterwards, the bioswale will officially become operational, holding water for 72 hours after a rain. They have a new maintenance contract in place.

National Kidney Foundation Report (Sam Shopinski)

Sam is working on marketing the Open Streets event to the immediate neighborhoods. He is also working on updating our brochure.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.