

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2018

Attendance (18 attendees):

Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paul Stark-secretary, Sally Petrella-president, Chester Marvin-treasurer, Eric Tomlinson-Elite Archery, Roger Corpolongo, trustee, Tom McNulty-trustee, Jim Gallagher, Marty Bastien, Paula Trilety-membership, Sri Sushmitha, Barb Matney, Ladon Davis-aide to Gabe Leland, Marv Mars, Lorraine Harris-Corresponding secretary, Chris Schaecher, Dustin Campbell, aide to Alicia Bell, Sally Hackett

Minutes from September were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report for the period from Sept 18-Oct 16 (Chester Marvin)

We received \$35 in memberships and \$80 in donations. Total income: \$115. Expenses: \$40.34 for our domain name, \$1,470 for boulders at Sorensen Rec. Area. Total expenses: \$1,510.34. Balance: \$7,160.36.

Membership Report for the period from July 17-Sept 18: (Paula Trilety): 4 members renewed and 3 new members joined this month. Total members: 117. Two organizations renewed, total organizations: 15.

President's Report

Voices for Earth Justice contacted us interested in conducting a "Wonder Walk" in Rouge Park next year with an environmentalist and a spiritual leader.

Board Elections

Tom McNulty has chosen not to run for the Board, Marty Bastien is considering running for Tom's trustee position. Elections are postponed until November.

Recent Park Event Report

1. Volunteer Work Day, Oct. 11 with RAI. We had 65 volunteers removing invasive brush and garbage along Outer Dr. and in the prairie.

Old Business

1. Sorensen Signage Project. Posts have been placed but the signs have not been attached. We will wait until the signs are complete to plan a ribbon cutting ceremony, most likely we will wait until the spring.
2. FORP Goals for 2018:
 - a. Parking plan: Paul presented our designated parking plan, the board is working on a letter to the city asking for a meeting to present our proposal to them.
 - b. Hiring Project Manager: Kresge Foundation may be able to assist us in hiring a project manager. Garrett is looking into it for us.
3. Vice president Arthur Edge requested police enforcement of the public nudity/indecency problem along Outer Drive and Rouge Park Drive. Enforcement actions have begun.
4. A Volunteer work day with 40 volunteers from Circle K is planned for Saturday, November 10, 12-3pm
5. City of Detroit Park Improvements: Trust Fund projects in the park (except basketball courts) have been delayed several times and it looks like nothing will begin until the spring. Boulders have been rearranged in Joe Prance Rec. Area.
6. A Halloween day event is being planned by the city at Brennan Pools with a hay ride to Scout Hollow.
7. Detroit Outdoors camping program: They had their last training for the year. They are in need of an alternative camping area for when the hollow floods. Sally has been looking into information on the soil quality at Joy and Lahser where toxic soil from Detroit River dredging was dumped in the 1990s, and having the soil tested for safety.
8. The National Kidney Foundation funded small bridges along the nature trail in Scout Hollow. They will be installed Oct. 27 & 28.
9. Detroit Parks Conservancy update. Paula and Sally have been attending their meetings. They are applying for funding from the Erb Family Foundation for a strategic plan.

New Business

1. St. Suzanne's is now available for our evening meetings. Paula will look into the cost. Barb is looking into the convent and will let us know when it is available.
2. Porta-potties are available for free if we request one from Mr. Burke at Advance Disposal.
3. Our annual meeting is being planned for March 2019 at the Brennan Pools Banquet Hall.
4. Sally Hackett reported a dangerous open pit, apparently a collapsed water line, between the basketball courts and the driving range. LaDon will look into it and we will report it as well.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.