

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2018

Attendance (13 attendees): Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paul Stark-secretary, Sally Petrella-president, Jim Gallagher, Marty Bastien, Paula Trilety-membership, Barb & Joe Matney-WCO, Lorraine Harris-Corresponding secretary, Janssen Lemley-Boy Scouts, Mark Bentley-Boy Scouts, Laura Herberg-WDET

Minutes from October were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report for the period from Oct 16-Nov 20 (Chester Marvin)

We received \$135.00 in memberships and \$20 in donations. Total income: \$155.00. Expenses: \$4,520.00 for Sorensen grant spending and \$90 for Scotties Potties, Total expenses: \$4,610.00. Balance: \$2,705.36.

Membership Report for the period from Oct 16-Nov 20: (Paula Trilety): 1 member renewed, 2 expired and no new members joined this month. Total members: 115. Two organizations renewed, total organizations: 15.

President's Report

1. Circle K cancelled their volunteer day Nov. 10
2. Hecter consulting group was chosen for the Cody/Rouge/Warrendale strategic framework. Sally gave them a tour of Rouge Park.

Board Elections Ballots were distributed and collected. The results were: Sally Petrella-president, Arthur Edge-vice president, Chester Marvin-treasurer, Paul Stark-secretary, Lorraine Harris-corresponding secretary, Paula Trilety-membership chair, Roger Corpolongo, Peggy Dankert, Garrett Dempsey, Sam Shopinski-treasurers.

Old Business

1. Sorensen Sign Project: The signs have been installed. We applied for a no-cost extension for the grant since the city still needs to put in the gravel paths and we want to do a ribbon cutting ceremony in the spring.
2. FORP goals, parking issue: Ray Solomon and Mona Ali of the Dept. of Neighborhoods agreed to meet with us on Nov. 29 to discuss first steps toward developing the new parking plan.
3. Part-time employee: Sierra Club's Nearby Nature grant may help us to pay a part-time employee for 20 hours a week for 6 months. We hope to have someone hired by January.
4. City of Detroit Improvements: Basketball courts are complete. Next year, boulders will be placed throughout the park to keep cars off the grass, and the improvements at Sorensen and Brennan should begin.
5. Detroit Outdoors Camping Program: It has been determined that the observation hill site is safe for camping. Two bridges on the Scout Hollow trail have been completed.
6. Buffalo Soldiers: Channel 2 did a nice article on BSHA. They showed a movie on the Buffalo Soldiers at the barn on Oct. 27.
7. Detroit Parks Conservancy Update: They applied for a \$30,000 grant from the Erb Family Foundation to develop a strategic plan for the organization. They will need another \$30,000 grant to implement the plan. Next meeting in December.

New Business

1. Boy Scouts: Their camping event, "Rendevous", has been held in Willow Metro Park with 5,000 in the past. They are planning to bring this event to Rouge Park in 2019. Friday-Sunday, Sept 27-29 in September. They are hoping to make this a regular event. They want to participate in Rouge Park Appreciation Day with a few hundred volunteers.
2. Holiday Party: Dec. 18, 6:00pm
3. Annual Meeting will be held in March.
4. Meeting Place: Paula will look into St. Suzanne. The convent is not available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.