

Corrections to Nov. 18 minutes: Remove Chester from attendance, add Ela Jiga to trustees

Friends of Rouge Park
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2015

Attendance (18 attendees): Tamara Dyson, Tom McNulty, Lisa Goldsmith (BSHA), Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Tim Kirsten (DAM), Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Arthur Edge (FNWCA), Lorraine Harris, Donna Hall, Thomas Hall, Roger Cheek, Monica Johnson, Sarah West, Mike Jacobs (Detroit GSD) , Ela Jiga-trustee, Roger Corpalango, Norma Johnson

Minutes from November 18 were read and accepted

Treasurer's Report (Chester Marvin) We had \$385.47 in income (\$160 in membership dues, \$85.47 Kroger Community Awards (third highest ever!) and \$40 donation. Our expenses were \$36.04. Total balance: \$3,038.87.

Membership report: (Tom McNulty) 52 individual and family memberships and seven organizational memberships.

Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Association: (Lisa Goldsmith) Received their 501c3 status. They are still working on getting the oil furnace repaired. Their yearly financial review was completed and submitted to city.

Monica Johnson, Environmental Sustainability Project Coordinator from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America spoke to our group looking for projects to do with 45 high school aged youth in Rouge Park, July 16-18, 9:30 . 4:30. Projects can be 1-3 days, they provide porta-potties, lunch, dumpsters and one adult for each five youths. We provide water. We suggested two projects; one day at the barn, and one day in the prairie

Master Plan Update. The \$5000 grant will be wrapped up by Feb. 9. We will get user friendly map and the completed plan with design details on the Nature Center area and the northwest Joy & Spinoza Area.

Mike Jacobs from the Detroit General Services Dept. gave an update on the \$600,000 improvements coming to the Brennan Rec Area. The plan will include three new basketball courts, improvements to the playground equipment, a new splash pad by the pools, beach volleyball (temporarily, until third pool is rebuilt), a new picnic shelter and new pathway down to it, upgrading all picnic tables, repairing horseshoe courts, rehabbing the football/soccer field with new benches, also ten new benches and mile marker signs and trash cans along the one mile walking loop. The plans for tennis courts and the skate park are on hold. Tamara Dyson suggested we focus next on getting benches along the entire 6 mile walking path. Lisa said she saw some benches stacked up at the West District yard. We agreed to focus on that for next meeting.

DWSD Bioswale Project on Tireman to treat stormwater from in front of homes west of the park. DWSD held a community meeting on Jan. 14. There was no strong opposition from the community. We shared concerns that DWSD would pay to create the project and then provide no funds for maintaining it. They will our meeting in March.

Rouge Park Appreciation Day will be on May 30.

The National Park Service has funded a full time person to work with the City. She will be attending our meetings and working with us on Rouge Park.

Adjourned 7:25pm.