

Friends of Rouge Park
Meeting Minutes - June 16, 2015

Attendance (16 attendees): Roger Corpolongo, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Roger Cheek-trustee, Tom McNulty-membership chair, Paula Trilety, Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Tamara Dyson, Mike Jacobs-Detroit Recreation Dept., Alan Van Kerckhove, Tim Kirsten, Ela Jiga, Arthur Edge-vice president, Tina Harris, Anne Thomas - Tetratex/DWSD, Alycia Chuney-SCA.

Minutes from May 19 were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin) Nine new memberships. Total income: \$231.45, (including \$58.45 in Kroger Community Awards, \$40 in family memberships and a \$50 organizational membership). Expenses: \$1084.72 (including \$325 refunded from Scotty's Potties paid in May). Total balance: \$2023.96

Membership Report: (Tom McNulty) 35 individual and family memberships and six organizational memberships.

President's Report

1. Model D published an article about the National Park Service work on Belle Isle and in Rouge Park.
2. The Butterfly Walk has been scheduled for July 19, 3:00pm

Tireman Swale Planting Plan Update ó Anne Thomas (Tetratex/DWSD)

Anne distributed copies of the planting plan for the swale along Tireman. The plan includes the species of plants to be planted, and a map of the swale and wetland with planting locations. Five 3-inch diameter Sycamore trees will be planted. The project has been delayed until spring 2016. Volunteers aren't necessary for the initial planting, only for maintenance. The contractors will maintain the plantings (weeding and re-seeding) for two years.

Update from Detroit Recreation Dept./General Services (Mike Jacobs)

Contractors for the Brennan Rec. Area improvements should be chosen by early August, and the work should begin by October and be completed by the beginning of next summer. There have been no changes to the plan since last report. The pools will open June 22. Swimming classes are planned. Chris Romeo is in charge of mowing the Prairie Pathway and FORP can try to coordinate a day to mow the path before the butterfly walk on July 19.

Student Conservation Association Summer Trail Project- Alycia Chuney

The SCA has three crews to work on the Stone Bridge Nature Trail and one crew on the Mountain Bike Trail July 6-14.

ELCA Summer Project July 15 & 17

ELCA volunteers will work at the BSHA barn on July 15. On July 17, they will work with Peggy Dankert and the city herbicide applicators to remove Buckthorn and Hawthorne from the Prairie.

Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Association:

Boy Scouts cleaned muck stalls and did various other jobs. 14 youths with leaders and parents participated. ELCA volunteers painted fences.

Master Plan Update: We are still working to set up a meeting with GSD and DRD on the Rouge Park Master Plan.

Rouge Park Appreciation Day Wrap-Up

The rain held off until after the event. We had 200 volunteers. We filled 103 bags of garlic mustard, 171 bags of trash, collected four truck tires, carpeting, TVs, a washing machine, and a mattress. We weeded the flower garden around the statue, and cleaned at the Joe Prance area and the BSHA Barn. 1078 sq. ft. of area planted with flowers. We never received the \$200 donation promised from Alisha Bell.

Ashcroft Drain

West Parkway is collapsing over the Ashcroft Drain. Sally has contacted several departments to address the problem but no one seems to want to take responsibility.

Meeting adjourned 7:00pm