

Friends of Rouge Park
Meeting Minutes
Oct. 20, 2015

Attendance (23 attendees): Paula Trilety-trustee, Alan Van Kerckhove, Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Arthur Edge-vice president, Lorraine Harris, Donulae Knuckles-Copeland, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Tim Kristen, Dustin Campbell-Commissioner Alisha Bell's Aide, Gary Stoll-DWSD, Anne Thomas-DWSD/Tetrattech, Roxie Wilson, Mike Jacobs-DRD, Natalie Simpson, Jackie Grant-, Ricardo Moore-Police Commissioner, LaDon Davis, Marshall Bullock-Dept. of Neighborhoods, Tom McNulty, treasurer, Rodney Gasaway, Jac Entringer-Greening of Detroit, T. Ramsey.

Minutes from September were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin) Income: \$428.25 reimbursement from the city for RPAD, a \$33.75 Donation and \$20 in memberships. Total income: \$562.20 No expenses. Balance: \$2855.83.

Membership Report: (Tom McNulty) 30 individual and family memberships and six organizational memberships.

President's Report

There is so much going on with Rouge Park! We may need to hire an employee. We did not get the Keen Grant for the Nature Trail. We did not receive the Forestry Grant for tree identification signage that we applied for.

Green Infrastructure Project in Warrendale . (Natalie Simpson) Four vacant lots in Warrendale have been converted to mini-retention/rain gardens that will drain slowly over a few days after a rain. These are test sites to assess their function and worth.

Master Plan Update

The board is working on putting the master plan into a clear, concise and presentable form.

Old Business

1. City/NPS Update (Mike Jacobs & Juliana Fulton)

No update on the Brennan Rec. Area Project. They are still waiting for funds to be released and to bid the projects out over the next month or two. They are still hoping for the project to break ground in the spring. Juliana surveyed all seven miles of paved paths for places that need repair and trimming. Funding for repaving may become available.

2. DWSD: Tireman Swale and Constance Project Update (Anne Thomas)

A detailed plan for the Tireman Swale was distributed. Construction will be starting this week. Work in the park will be done first. Construction in the neighborhood will be phase 2. The Constance project is delayed until 2016. They are looking at an above ground option. A Nov. 4 meeting will be held to discuss this.

3. Deer Crossing signs (Dustin Campbell). Sally will get input from the board members and send a map showing exact locations where we would like the signs.

New Business

1. National Kidney Foundation/Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services Tour of Rouge Park on 9/30. They have funding for paths, signage and benches. We will meet to discuss it in more detail on Oct. 30.

2. DWSD Restoration of the CSO Tunnel Area (Gary Stoll)

He reported that aggregate was supposed to be removed from the east side of Outer Dr., but FORP members reported it was not. The West side needs to be looked at also. DWSD will investigate both sides for a proper remedy.

3. Christ the King Service Corps: They are offering college seniors the opportunity to work full-time for community organizations (1-2 yrs.). We could possibly have one as an employee for FORP.

4. Scout Hollow Campground Restoration and Programming

The Sierra Club has partnered with a NPS fellow to submit a proposal to renovate Scout Hollow and offer camping for youth in the city. They are putting in a proposal for \$500,000 (including 3 yrs. staff and programming).

5. Winter Programming: Roxie Wilson (Dept. of the Interior intern) wants to do winter programming for Rouge Park.

6. The Our Land Program (Jac Entringer): Thirteen 6th grade classes are using Rouge Park for environmental education. Ann Arbor Trail and Dixon schools are participating. Some 6th graders will help remove buckthorn in November.

7. Walking Club (Donulae Knuckles-Copeland): Walking has moved indoors for the winter.

Meeting adjourned 7:30pm