

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes - Feb. 16, 2016

Attendance (18 attendees): Sam Shopinski (National Kidney Foundation), Roger Cheek-trustee, Lorraine Harris, Arthur Edge-vice president, Sally Petrella-president, Paul Stark-secretary, Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paula Trilety-trustee, Barb Matney (WCO), Joe Matney (WCO), Norm Cox (Greenway Collaborative), Eric Tomlinson (Elite Archery), Sarah West, Alan Van Kerckove, Roger Corpalongo, Garrett Dempsey (Sierra Club), Mike Jacobs (Detroit GSD), Lisa Goldsmith (BSHA),

Minutes from January were read and accepted

Treasurer's Report: (Chester Marvin) Jan 19 - Feb. 16. Income: a \$35.00 donation, \$50 for three memberships, \$6.42 from Amazon Smile. The Community Forestry Grant for \$5400 was approved. We will receive the money as a reimbursement when the project is complete. Total income: \$91.42. No expenses. Total \$3599.62.

Membership Report: (Roger Cheek) 1 new member, and 2 renewals. Total: 36 individual and family memberships and seven organizational memberships.

President's report

1. Sally met with Kenyetta Campbell. Cody-Rouge received five more years of funding. Their new director is Kim Newberry. One of their top priorities is their Youth Council and they want to work with us to promote youth activities in Rouge Park.
2. Revive Detroit is hosting a Voter Registration even in the park in June.

Old Business

1. Update from the city (Mike Jacobs). Mike spoke in favor of using the Brennan Pools building for a Community Center. The city is considering a Cricket court between Chicago and Orangelawn. They are adding trees for the parking lot. The city is planning to sponsor a Run/Walk event on July 23: 5K, 3K and one mile routes.
2. DWSD Projects: In April or May work will continue on the Tireman Project. DWSD will provide us with their plans for the Constance Project at our March meeting. The Tireman swale is not draining as designed, they may not have finished. No one came from DDS to explain.
3. National Kidney Foundation (Sam Shopinski) Sam passed around the latest draft of the new brochure for Rouge Park for feedback and discussion. The NKF is supporting the Rec. Dept on the proposed run/walk event in the park this summer. They want to make it a 2-day event with a movie the night before, and other activities. The NKF is working with Tour DeTroit to sponsor an event in Rouge Park for this summer or fall.
4. Greenways Collaborative: (Norm Cox) They have developed a draft web site, Walkbike.info/detroit, for information on fitness activities available in Rouge Park. Norm asked for feedback on the site from the group. They are also working on a design for a SuperPath for Rouge Park that would split a loop of road into designated lanes for cars and for non-motorized use.
5. Community Forestry Grant: A meeting was held with representatives from the City, Greening of Detroit, SCA & FORP. They discussed what will be on the Trailhead Kiosk (trail map, park map, park rules, brochures, scavenger hunt handout, etc.). They also discussed signage to direct drivers to the trailheads and signage for nature interpretation.
6. Scout Hollow Update: (Garrett Dempsey-Sierra Club) Garrett hosted a walk through Scout Hollow with representatives from the city, Greening of Detroit, NPS, FORP, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and others to discuss design, development, programming and hiking trails for the campground area.

New Business

1. Rouge Park Appreciation Day: We briefly discussed ideas for projects for this year's event.
2. Mowing plan: The city is working to finalize their mowing plans. Ball fields need once a week mowing. Picnic areas, Road and trail edges need once every 2 weeks.

Meeting adjourned 7:30pm