

Friends of Rouge Park - Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2017

Attendance (23 attendees):

Chester Marvin (FOTR)-treasurer, Paul Stark-secretary, Sally Petrella-president, Paula Trilety-trustee, Roger Corpolongo, trustee, Tom McNulty-trustee, Roger Cheek-membership chair, Tamara Dyson, Marty Bastien, Eric Tomlinson-Elite Archery, Al Van Kerckove, Peggy Dankert, Barb Matney-WCO, Joe Matney-WCO, Jim Gallagher, Juliana Fulton-City of Detroit, Garlin Gilchrist, Al Williams, Gary Gilchrist, Sophie Stockum, Tiffany Tilley-Wayne County Clerk's office, Kahmari White-TetraTech

Minutes from September were read and accepted

Treasurer's Report for the period from Sept. 19- October 17: (Chester Marvin)

Income: \$50 one organizational membership renewal. Expenses: \$0. Balance: \$6714.16.

Membership Report: (Roger Cheek): One renewal, three new members. Total of 36 regular memberships and 12 organizational memberships.

President's Report

1. Lisa Goldsmith passed away. She was our corresponding secretary and instrumental in organizing and running the Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Center. We are working on a plan to plant a memorial tree and plaque at the barn.
2. A board meeting was held on October 12 to develop a five year plan for the park, and for our organization and to discuss other issues.
3. Sally met with Risa Hiser from the Trust for Public Lands regarding funding for protecting natural areas.
4. Grow zone & Reforestation signs. The city paid for ten new signs that are now being produced and will be placed in the park soon. Mowing concerns were discussed: Peggy Dankert recommended not mowing in the killdeer nesting area by the horse stables. Paula Trilety suggested mowing farther in from the paved path on the east side of Outer Dr. from Joy to Tireman. Joe Matney suggested mowing to create a clear view of the basketball court from Spinoza for safety reasons.

Tireman Bioswale Update (Kahmari White - TetraTech) Starting next week, the contractor will till the swale area and plant 4800 native plants and a few trees. They plan to finish by Oct. 27. All the boulders will be removed. The Constance project won't begin until 2019.

Scout Hollow Update Sierra Inspiring Connections Outdoors has been working on the Joe Prance Nature Trail. The Sierra Club and the City have a matching grant to hire Garrett Dempsey and a new city employee to develop programming at Scout Hollow.

Update from Detroit Parks & Rec (Juliana Fulton): Juliana is working with The Motor City National Heritage Area on a grant for FORP to restore the Sorenson Promenade. Paula moved that we spend \$50 to join the Motor City National Heritage Area (we need to be member to apply for the grant). The city is hoping to get another grant for more promenade improvements and a more accessible entrance. The Trust Fund grant has been resubmitted for Brennan Rec. Area, the Joy & Spinoza Cozy Corner Area and the Sorenson Rec. Area.

Greening of Detroit Update Greening is currently seeding native plants in the south end of the Prairie Pathway.

NKF Report. Sam Shopinski is working with Juliana Fulton and John Armstrong and will build a kiosk on October 21 at the southern Prairie Pathway entrance similar to the one at the Stone Bridge nature Trail. They

will need a generator and volunteers to help erect it.

Board Elections

Paula agreed to take the Corresponding Secretary position and Peggy Dankert agreed to take Paula's Trustee position. All of the rest of the positions will remain with same people.

New Business

1. Eric Tomlinson brought up a concern regarding an unauthorized dog training program in the archery range. Paula Trilety will contact Officer Heather Ivy.
2. Children on ATVs have been shooting deer in the Sorenson Area. The police have spoken to them but have not seized the vehicles or made arrests yet. People are urged to continue to call 911 every time you see them.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.