

Friends of Rouge Park Meeting July 16, 2008

Attendance: Paul Stark, Sally Petrella, Thomas McNulty, Stan Spiewak, Chester Marvin, Eric Tomlinson, Jason Haskins, Paula Trilety, Di Allgood, Jack Smiley, Dan Wroblewski, Stephanie Wroblewski, Lisa Goldsmith, Frank Nemecek (WCO)

Minutes: Accepted as read

Treasurer's Report Chester Marvin. Total: \$984.60 (incl. \$500 donation to 5K run)
Membership Report Tom McNulty. 36 individual/family and 7 organizational. 43 total. Sharon sent renewal requests to lapsed members but hasn't received responses yet. We received several new memberships from the Black horseman's Assoc. and Buffalo Soldiers. Lisa Goldsmith chose to consolidate them into one organizational membership.

Presidents Report:

Great Lakes Commission Grant

The city is moving very slowly in getting the grant money so they can reimburse us for the money we spent for the RPAD. Chester Marvin needs to complete paperwork to become an official vendor then we can apply for reimbursement from the city. We are reimbursing people who made small payments for our event from our treasury. Total grant came to around \$2300.

Butterfly walk

Butterfly walk was a great success. We should plan to do more of these in the future. We need to get path mowed in the prairie for butterfly walks and wildflower walks.

Warren & Outer Drive Sign

Paul and Sally put more screws in the sign to keep the letters from falling. Sally asked for someone to take responsibility to update the sign. Eric Tomlinson volunteered. Paul said that people are responding to the sign by visiting our web site.

Master Plan

We need to get a grant to pay a consultant firm like Hamilton-Anderson to write a master plan for the park.

Scout Hollow

Student Conservation Assoc and Greening of Detroit got a \$5000 grant from the Skillman Foundation to restore the steps. Work should be starting. .

Hour Magazine

Hour Magazine did an article about Belle Isle. We should get them to write an article about Rouge Park.

Organizational Reports:

Buffalo Soldiers

Buffalo Soldiers day camp program is going well. 20 children are participating. On July 24, there will be a Ribbon Cutting Dedication Ceremony for the Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Center. They now have 10 horses boarded there. Membership in the Buffalo Soldiers is \$100/yr. A volunteer work day is planned for Saturday, July 19 to continue working on the building.

Elite Archery : (Eric Tomlinson): First Olympic Junior Archery Tournament planned for Saturday, July 19 in Rouge Park. Kids will be coming from all over Michigan!

Rouge 5K Run

October 5 (backup day Oct. 12).

81 Sponsorship requests have been mailed out. Di and Paula are walking door to door to the area businesses recruiting sponsorships.

School Bands performing at the race: Child singing National Anthem? (Ask Ms.Hall)
Road has been repaired!

Donations: \$500 from Weiteka. Panera's donated free bread, once a month for a year.

Di suggested asking Fire Stations and Police Dept.s ????

Di will send Paul .pdf of application to put on web page.

Jason will work with Paul on making a link to pay with Paypal.

We need a tri-fold map promoting the park and FORP. And list events Oct-Oct. Sally & Paul will work on this (include history of park and wish list for future).

We could have information tables about organizations in the park: DAM, Elite Archery, Community Org.s, etc.

Sally will ask Franklin Park Clown Lady to volunteer.

Di is meeting with a person with a lot of experience with planning 5K runs.

We need to make signs saying "Mile 1" etc. Paula will look into getting them.

We need banner saying "Friends of Rouge Park"

Expenses: copies, flyers, letters and mailings \$99 so far.

Di will send invitation letters to public officials.

Next mtg: July 30, Aug 13, 27. Sept. 3, 10, 17 and 24th all at 6pm.

Macy's at Fairlane offered volunteers for Race Day.

Other Reports

Jason gave update on Tunnel Project: Contractors have been chosen. Cost is over \$316,000,000 so far. It will end up costing around \$700,000,000 when all is said and done.

New Business:

Tree planting grant: Paul Everyone approved.

Next mtg 9/17/08