

Friends of Rouge Park Meeting
Feb. 17, 2009

Attendance: Chester Marvin, Paul Shwab, Thomas McNulty, Paul Stark, Sally Petrella, Eric Tomlinson (Elite Archery), Tamara Dyson, Lisa Goldsmith, Terra DeFue (Sen. Tupac Hunter's Aide), Paula Trilety

Minutes: Accepted as read

Treasurer's Report- Total: \$2417.68.

Membership Report: Tom McNulty. 56 individual & family memberships and 12 organizational memberships, 68 total. Unresolved \$50 check from Bank of America was an organizational membership.

Presidents Report:

1) **Meeting with Alicia Minter, Deputy Director of the Recreation Dept.** (currently acting director): Craig Bristow, Vincent Anwunah from the city attended with FORP members Lisa Goldsmith and Sally Petrella. Alicia Minter was very supportive of our organization and our vision and goals for the park. She agreed to contact General Services about getting abandoned comfort stations boarded up. They agreed to support us in closing off access to dumping in the floodplain and other locations and also supported our goal of reforesting upland areas. Sally and Lisa were very positive about Ms. Minter and felt that they have established a good working relationship with her. They also spoke with her about the Greening of Detroit/Student Conservation Organization projects we are planning.

2) **Meyers Nursery Master Land Use Planning Committee** has a March 3, 3pm meeting that Sally will attend to represent FORP. We want to advocate for getting trees planted in the park.

3) We received an email from a person who suggested organizing a classic car cruise in the park. We all agreed it could be a good fundraiser for the park.

Old Business:

-Rouge Tunnel Update: The state has put the project on hold for a month because the city has not completed their audit.

New Business:

1) We need to put a list/map together showing where we want dumping access to the park.

2) We need to design projects for the Greening of Detroit/Student Conservation Organization. Some ideas discussed were:

A) Tree planting, new signs, lighting, sign stating rules, building new bleachers and other beautification projects at the Archery Range. Sally will suggest this project to Evan Major of the Student Conservation Organization.

B) Scout Hollow Nature trails Project. We should involve the Scouts in planning the trails.

Committees:

-**Rouge Park Appreciation Day** - Sharon Miudoch. Paul Schwab suggested organizing a bike rally, possibly involving the Dearborn Cycling Saddleman who routinely use the park for their riding events. Lisa will look into getting City Council approval for all three events. Tom McNulty will begin the process to get our health permit.

-**Discover Rouge Park Day** July 11- Eric Tomlinson. Paula Trilety suggested contacting Detroit Visitor's Bureau to see if they can produce a professional brochure for Rouge Park. Paul Schwab will meet with the Visitor's Bureau.

-**5K Run** - Paul S.

We agreed to have our first Committee meetings at Monterrey Restaurant at 6pm, Tuesday March 3.

Next meeting: Tues. Mar. 17