

**The Friends of Rouge Park
Minutes
Oct. 28, 2009**

Attendance: Tom McNulty-Detroit AeroModelers, Chester Marvin-Friends of The Rouge, Sally Petrella-President, Paul Stark, Eric Tomlinson-Elite Archery, Paul Schwab, Lisa Goldsmith-Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Center, Carla Thomas, Paula Trilety-West outer Drive Civic Assoc., Michelle Joyner-Wayne County Commissioner Alisha Bell

Minutes: Accepted as read

Treasurer's Report, Chester Marvin: Total \$4702.12. Proceeds from 5K Run \$1726.00

Membership Report, Tom McNulty: 42 individual and family memberships, 9 organizational memberships.

President's Report, Sally Petrella

1. Tunnel Project Update: DWSD removed the fence blocking the bicycle path. They repaired the section of bike path they had destroyed. They donated some of the fencing to the Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Center.
2. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The Alliance of Rouge Communities put in for grant money for Rouge Park and Eliza Howell. We won't know until May if they are approved. Part of a grant is for projects throughout the Rouge Watershed.

5K Run Wrap Up

Tasks yet to do:

1. Send free membership and thank you letters to those who collected donations.
2. Send thank you letters to donors and sponsors and give them free T-Shirts
3. Send invitation to other 5k runs to move their run to Rouge Park next year.

Suggestions for 5K Run next year:

1. If it's cold, we need felt tip pens. The ballpoint pens did not write well.
2. We need an instruction sheet for people doing registration.
3. We need two tables for registration. One table for people who are pre-registered. The second table for people registering on the day of the race. The pre-registration table only needs one person.
4. The day of registration table needs two people. Then we need a couple registration sheets apiece for the day of registration table.
5. When setting up registration, we need to be in the sunshine. We froze!!
6. Plan a face to face meeting with the police well before the race to explain in detail exactly what we need to happen on the day of the race. Such as:
 - A. Exact number of barricades needed per intersection, and exact intersection at which to place them.

- B. Exact time we need Joy Road closed at (8:45).
 - C. An officer to drive through the park at get the parked cars off the route by 8:45.
 - D. Bring maps of the route and detailed written instructions to give the police at the meeting.
7. Incorporate the donor sheet into the run application.
 8. Bring binoculars for Finish line staff to read upcoming runners numbers.
 9. More safety pins to put on numbers. Put pins IN the envelopes!
 10. Do better at directing people to raffle after race.
 11. Move food and water to pavilion for the raffle.
 12. Add award or prize for most donations collected.
 13. Add award for fastest dog?
 14. Give donor collectors a free FORP membership.
 15. Have volunteers placed within sight of entire route, with radios, in case a runner collapses.
 16. Ask New Balance (refused us in '08) and Running Fit (who donated use of their timing clock) to sponsor us.
 17. Letter to City Council need to be more detailed.
 18. Promote door prizes more.
 19. Promote fact that dogs are welcome (put on application).
 20. Promote team participation.
 21. Need a theme. Sweetest Day? Halloween? Etc.
 22. Pick a date without conflicts (NOT the same weekend as Belle Isle's Run).

New Business

1. City Elections: After the election we should arrange a meeting with the new City Council.
2. Paul offered motion to give all \$100+ sponsors of next year's 5k Run free FORP memberships.
3. \$1000 Capacity Building Grant: We discussed applying for this grant to help us develop a Master Plan and Strategic Plan for our organization.
4. Board Elections: Opened the floor for nominations. Paul Stark nominated Paula Trilety for President. She declined.
5. Kroger Community Awards program: We discovered that the UPC code can not be shared with our members by posting it on our web page. We need to send our members a hard copy only.

Announcements

1. Carla Thomas-On Nov. 12 at 4:30 pm there will be a dedication ceremony for the new sculpture by Larry Halbert entitled "Growing Together" in Rouge Park on the northeast corner of Rouge Park Drive and Spinoza. There will be a follow up gathering at the Don Bosco Hall
2. Friends of the Rouge is sponsoring a "Brews of the Rouge" Fundraiser on Nov. 11 at Liberty Brewing Company in Plymouth.

Next Meeting: Nov. 18