

Friends of Rouge Park Minutes
Wednesday, June 18, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Sharon Mioduch, FORP Vice President.

Introductions were skipped. Those attending included: Sharon Mioduch; Chester Marvin; Paula Trilety; Tom McNulty; Lisa Goldsmith; Di Allgood; Jason Haskins.

The minutes of May 21st were unavailable due to the secretary's absence.

The Treasurer's Report informed attendees that our current balance is \$414.46. Tom reported that we currently have 48 active members and 9 organizations.

The President's Report was not given due absence. Sharon stated she would be working on recruiting new members over the summer, as funding our organization is always a concern. We also decided we should discuss a dues increase in the fall, perhaps \$10 individual, \$20 family, \$50+ organization. Additionally, we felt it would be self serving to try to find athletic sponsors for the FORP. Suggestions included Dunham's, REI, Foot Locker, Dick's Sporting Goods, Cabela's, The Running Store, New Balance, Gander Mountain.

Di suggested that members get something for their membership. Her suggestions was that we produce a tri-fold map of the park including the points of interest with our development focus areas highlighted. Points of interest would be indicated with icons for: wetlands, bike trail, cannon, Sorenson House, Derby Hill, Brennan Pools, Driving Range/Golf Course, tennis courts, NIKE Missile Base, Scout Hollow, totem pole, walking trail, Elite Archery Range, play scapes, Black Horsemen/Buffalo Soldiers Stables, Police Firing Range, Tobaggan Hill, pavilions, Tireman Bridge, Spinoza Bridge, Joe Prance In-Town Youth Camp, nursery, Nature Center, prairie, Stone Bridge, Detroit Aero-Modelers Field, ball diamonds. We additionally felt it would be worth the investment to purchase corrugated signs to post around the community. They would read Rouge Rescue/Appreciation Day, FIRST SATURDAY IN JUNE, Joy Road and Spinoza Drive. This way they could be stored and reused yearly.

Regarding "Organization Reports" Lisa reported that Ace Plumbing donated workers and materials to repair the roof at the horse stables. They will be having a day-camp in July which will teach children about the history of the Buffalo Soldiers and engage them in activities.

Sharon thought Appreciation Day went well. Paula gave accolades to our chef and stated we got several renewals and new memberships as well as several volunteers for Fun Day. Lisa thought the horse rides went well, but there were not as many kids, likely because the scouts stayed in Scout Hollow to work. The activities were well spread out. Lisa knows she needs to coordinate with her group better so the barn is staffed by 8 a.m. next year. Tom thinks we need different stations for the attending groups, so registration is separate from information (Greening, REI, Fun Run, Radio Patrol, AeroModelers, etc.) Everyone agreed Ken Cockrel coming was a plus. Tom likes this location best, although the location may need to move next year because of the Tunnel Project. *QUESTION: Should Ken Cockrel, Gabe Leland, and Alisha Bell be sent thank you notes from the organization?*

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Concerning the Fun Run, Di has been assured that the road will be repaired between W. Outer Drive and Dover by the end of June. Our request for the run has been sent to the city and the progress of it proceeding through city government will be checked upon every week to ten days. One hundred sponsor letters will be mailed out tomorrow asking for contributions, monetary and other. Di expressed a need for helpers to hit businesses on the main arteries (Telegraph between W. Warren and Plymouth; Warren, Joy Road and Plymouth between Beech and Evergreen, and between Evergreen and Southfield) as well as churches in the area. Di will cover the churches; Sharon will take Warren between Beech Daly and Evergreen; Paula will take Telegraph between Warren and Plymouth. Di also suggested we invite ROTC and Reserves to walk for free and that we target school track teams. It was also suggested that we try to give an incentive to the organization that recruits the largest number of participants and volunteers for the 5K Run/Walk. Organizations will also be asked to set up a table with information about their organization on October 5th, 5K Run/Walk date.

Jason updated us on the Tunnel Project. The south tunnel bid is complete. Three companies competed for the job. The project has not yet been awarded. The construction management site will house ten trailers; 8 for management, one for security, and one a "changing trailer". The project should begin Sept.16, 2008 and end 52 months later. The next bid is for Eliza Howell, North and begins on March 9, 2009. Underground operations on the Tunnel Project will run 24/7.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Our next meeting will be on September 17th at St. Suzanne's School beginning at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Paula Trilety for Paul Stark.