



Friends of Cedar Lake Minutes

February 11, 2016

Attendees: Dale Todd, Felicia Wyrick, Martin Smith, Charlie Visek, Leland Freie, Ron Gonder, Gregg Stark, Bugs Moran, Rich Patterson, Ron Valenta

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

GCRCF \$34,190.90 CRBT - \$268.53

Expenses paid for January and February 2016

\$2,550 to Confluence (1/8)

\$100 to Shores Event Center

\$9,263 to Confluence (2/8)

\$49 to Ms. Wyrick for open house cookies

Outreach

Jan Aiels from the Indian Creek Nature Center ran the January nature walk with over 50 people participating. Rich suggested a walk that followed the path of the watershed to really help people visualize where the water that runs off into the lake comes from. Ron G. suggested that perhaps we could put together a walk around the lake as a fundraiser. Rich brought up the fact that sunset watching is popular everywhere and perhaps that could be a neat event to hold during the summer months, maybe at the Sag Wagon.

Felicia presented to Sierra Club which has chosen the lake as their community project for 2016. We'll be presenting to an advocacy class at Coe College in February with the hope that some students will develop a project that will help our cause via social media, marketing, etc. We will be updating our website very soon so please provide suggestions to Felicia.

MOU Update

Ralph Russell is advocating for moving forward with the letter of intent to transfer ownership from Alliant to the City. He plans to bring it before Council sometime in March. It will have provisions for liability if testing finds residuals from Alliant's coal burning plant, what may be attributed to storm water, etc. Bill Micheel, Assistant City Development Director, presented some scenarios for funding for Phase II testing should we not receive the EPA Assessment Grant. Alliant seems to be willing to participate in alternative funding scenarios where USGS pays for half of the cost and the other four parties split the remainder. There was discussion about measuring the depth of the lake but no real plan was brought forward. We continue to advocate for increasing the depth for the health of the fishery. The Flood Center may be a good resource for existing data. Tuna brought up the fact that the USGS has drilled holes in order to gauge water levels. Mike is going to see if he can give our group an update on this.

Watershed Management Plan

This is a requirement for applying for the Lake Restoration Fund so they know there is a plan to reduce the amount of sediment that gets into the lake. The City is already working on a watershed management plan with HDR. We met with HDR and they've offered to assist us pro bono. This was presented to the MOU group and while they support this partnership, they don't want us to work in isolation. We need to coordinate with the City's efforts so the overall plan not only meets our needs for the lake restoration fund, but also dovetails with the storm water plan.

Masterplan Update

Copies of the plan were shared with the group and it was suggested that the plan get posted online so more people can see it. Our second open house was very successful with close to 100 people in attendance, including some new faces, reps from city staff, two Linn Co. supervisors, Kris Gulick from Council. The proposed boardwalk was one of the most popular amenities.

There was discussion about funding for long term maintenance of amenities as well as the park land. Perhaps we're talking about an endowment that we should raise funds for while we're doing our capital campaign. There was discussion about MPO funding. Tuna engaged the guy responsible for installing the lighthouse. TBD what the long term plan for it is.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50.

Next meeting: March 10, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Wyrick