



## **Friends of Cedar Lake Minutes**

February 19, 2015

Attendees: Dale Todd, Felicia Wyrick, Martin Smith, Charlie Visek, Brent Neighbor, Mike Kuntz, Tim Moran, Gregg Stark, Gary Thompson, Mike Butterfield, Nate Whipple, Sandy Pumphrey, Dick Mundy, Kate Hawkins, Kurt Nilsson, Dan Miller, Rich Patterson, Marty St. Clair, Stacie Johnson, Mari Phelan, Molly Tackaberry, Gregg Sundberg,

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

Minutes from 1/15/15 were approved.

### **Outreach**

#### **First Board Meeting**

Last fall, we asked for people who would like to be on the board because this was needed to complete our Articles of Incorporation. They have been filed. Board members include:

Dale Todd, President  
Felicia Wyrick, VP, Secretary  
Karen Erger, Treasurer  
Gary Thompson  
Charlie Visek

We had our first board meeting and adopted By Laws. We also reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding and voted to sign that document.

#### **501(c) 3 Status**

Now that we have it, committee members need to be sensitive to the laws regarding advocacy and non-profits. We can advocate, educate and do outreach. We should also be careful to track relevant activity, such as advocating in front of City Council, for example, in terms of time and expenditures. There was also discussion about how to handle future events where money may be invested/exchanged. Liability will also be something we'll have to work through.

#### **Committee Role**

Now that the MOU is in place and we'll be meeting with the City, County and Alliant, we don't know how this will impact the committee's role. Our intent will be to form sub-committees tasked with specific issues such as storm water management, marketing, etc. We'll need help with Master Planning to tweak the plan that we have from

Confluence. There will be a fundraising component. There will be aesthetics that will involve the Garden Club. Wyrick referenced the 1/15 Meeting Minutes which stated:

“This new “entity” is still a work in progress and we will be redefining the role of FCL’s involvement as we move forward. There is no doubt the group’s value will continue even though roles may change.”

We’ll tap into each individual’s area of expertise but we all need to keep advocating and building community support. The board needs input and feedback from the committee.

We have opened an account with the Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation who will manage contributions at a rate of 1%. Two signatures will be required to write a check from the fund. The first cost will likely be our contribution along with the City, County and Alliant to assess the lake area. Next we need to start raising money to pay for the additional work we want Confluence to do to finalize the plan and start putting costs to it. This is estimated at \$15,000.

### **Outreach**

FCL had a table at Paddle Day, a great group to reach out to since paddling is one of the recreational opportunities we want to expand on the lake. We will also have a table at EcoFest. We are planning some sort of publicity stunt for the State of the City event next week. The Mayor has stated that Cedar Lake is one of his top five priorities for 2015 and attendees will have a chance to vote for or against these initiatives in real time. We’d also like to get a table of ten together for more exposure.

We will also begin working on merchandising soon.

### **MOU**

We accepted the shortened version of our more detailed plan we received from the City to get things moving forward.

The first meeting is still being scheduled. Two individuals from each entity will make up the group. Representatives for FCL will be Dale and Felicia; City – Ralph Russell and Steve Hershner; County – Ben Rogers and Linda Langston; Alliant – Mary Meisterling and Jenna Wischmeyer . The Mayor has a pretty tight timeline in terms of transferring ownership so hopefully that will keep things moving forward.

### **TAC Meeting**

“Infiltrators” meeting minutes attached.

Stacie from the Iowa State Water Education Program gave an update on the Rockwell grant for the Eastern Iowa Academy of Arts project. The lot for their expansion is 22,000 sq. feet and just that property alone generates about 500,000 gallons of rainwater a year. With the help of the neighborhood education made possible by the grant, they hope to capture 48% through better practices. This will be a really good example of the results we can see with not much effort.

ISWEP is also applying for an EPA grant which includes the Cedar Lake Watershed and offers education to capture water before it runs into the lake. Including the lake, the watershed is 4.5 square miles with three main drainage trunks going into lake. Stacie will be looking for letters of support from FCL.

Stacie also gave a review of a development by T.H. Sattler on Center Point Road. He received CDBG funds with a contingency to capture 1.4 inches of rainwater runoff from the property. We wanted to make sure that infiltration plans were going to go above and beyond what's required by the EPA. There are plans for bio swales, a cement channel that goes from CPR to the trail constructed from pervious material, also pervious parking lots. This will be a good model as well.

#### **Coe and St. Luke's Meeting**

We had a great meeting with them and they are both on board with our efforts. They are in the process of trying to redo Coe Rd. and part of that is how to clean up the area under the interstate to connect to the trail. Dick Ranson is retiring from his position as Principal with the Hall and Hall and has offered to help with any civil work. We also see an opportunity to bring Confluence in on the planning process. SL's seems to be willing to help pay some of the costs for their time and we would hope that Coe would step up as well.

#### **DOT Meeting**

We gave our presentation to the lead district engineer to bring him up to speed on our efforts. We asked about DOT funds that could help us clean up that area. There aren't any readily available because they have to be tied to economic development. Importantly, we learned that there aren't any DOT restrictions regarding clean up around the interstate supports other than allowing ongoing access for maintenance and repair. This opens up the discussion about cleaning up the ash ponds. One concern that he did express was security underneath the interstate-Homeland Security would be interested.

#### **Flood Protection**

The next round of community input will begin at the end of March. At this point, protection for the lake is still uncertain. Our goal would be ensure that sedimentation is prevented from coming into the lake from the river. If we see a plan that accomplishes this goal without flood protection, we'll consider it.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM

Next meeting: March 19, 2015 at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Wyrick