



Friends of Cedar Lake Minutes

March 10, 2016

Attendees: Dale Todd, Felicia Wyrick, Martin Smith, Charlie Visek, Ron Gonder, Bugs Moran, Rich Patterson, Ryan Anderson, Mari Phelan, Kate Hawkins, Gregg Stark

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

Treasurer's Report

CRBT \$2003.64

GCRCF \$26,965.47

Outreach

Sag Wagon is displaying our banner on their entry in the St. Paddy's Day Parade. They continue to be a great partner in our efforts. Next cleanup is April 16 from 10 – Noon, sign in at the Sag Wagon. With the vegetation gone on the shoreline, we can more easily access the trash along the shoreline. We will be getting a new tabletop display for our EcoFest table on April 23. The video that Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation put together on our project will be available soon. Ryan presented our Master Plan to the MOU committee with only a few questions and positive feedback was shared.

Shoreline Grooming

We had some push back on the extensiveness of the mowing Parks did on the shoreline. We communicated with Daniel Gibbins and now have a better understanding of the department's plan. They had the staffing resources to trim down the invasive species and will be doing at least two plantings this spring to replenish the shoreline with native species, including pollinators. We discussed the parts of our Master Plan that might impact fresh plantings and they will definitely avoid these areas. They will be a future partner in the vegetative barriers we've proposed in the plan.

MOU Update

The City is drafting a resolution to ask Alliant to start exploring transfer of ownership which will be presented to the Council for approval. The City will find out in April if we've been awarded the EPA Environmental Assessment Grant that will fund the Phase II study of the sediment on the bottom of the lake. If we get it, the testing will likely begin late summer/early fall. This is part of the due diligence process that will facilitate transfer of ownership. If we don't get it, we are working on a Plan B which

would utilize the match offered by the USGS, and split the remaining costs among the City, County, Alliant and FCL.

Masterplan Update

We will be asking the City Council to approve the plan with the understanding that it is a living document that can change. We still believe that we will have support from the Iowa DNR to apply for the Lake Restoration Fund. We are keeping an eye on the Enhance Iowa fund that is in the legislature this session. This will replace the Vision Iowa Fund. We are in the process of hiring a lobbyist to monitor the interest in funding this new effort and other funding sources at the State level. We are also exploring a candidate to help us with our capital campaign to fund the implementation of our Master Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50.

Next meeting: April 21, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Wyrick