



Friends of Cedar Lake Minutes

August 18, 2016

Attendees: Dale Todd, Felicia Wyrick, Charlie Visek, Gary Thompson, Leland Freie, Bugs Moran, Glenn Kimball, Rich Patterson, Mari Phelan, Kim Barnes, Martin Smith, Mike Kuntz, Bill Schoon, Ron Gonder, John Hanson, Dale Kueter

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

CRBT balance = \$2,016.94 GCRCF balance = \$17,035.02

Outreach

We had the privilege of presenting to the Downtown Rotary and the feedback was very positive. KCRG did a story on the ash pond mitigation plan. We'll be tabling at the Indian Creek Amazing Space event September 17. This will be a good opportunity to reach a new group of people who are supportive of outdoor recreation and amenities. The Hula Hoop event being organized by the Rockwell Collins Rec center that will raise funds for FCL will take place September 24. Still trying to schedule legislator visits which is proving to be a challenge with campaigning in full swing.

Photo Contest

The Gazette has stepped up to help us with our first ever Cedar Lake Photo Contest. They will be creating a landing page to promote the event and allow submissions. They will also be placing some ads in the paper and Hoopla. The contest will run October through November 4.

MOU Update

Transfer of ownership is being discussed between the City and Alliant. Both entities are having their internal legal discussions. The goal is have the transfer completed in 2-3 months, depending on how quickly Phase II environmental testing can be completed. We keep pushing to have the transfer done prior to the next legislative session so we can apply for Envision Iowa and the Lake Restoration Program.

Alliant's ash pond closure plan has been approved by the DNR. The plan includes covering the ponds with clay and putting a grass cap over it which in our opinion is the bare minimum. We had suggested that they investigate putting pollinators there so they can participate in the City's 1,000 acres program. According to Mary Meisterling from Alliant, they are still looking into it.

Master Plan Update

Our consultant from Leon Younger and Pros, the firm we've hired to conduct our feasibility study, pointed out some gaps in our plan, specifically the entrance into the park from downtown. It's the main connection from the Marriott, downtown, Third Street trail, etc. We met with Confluence and they are going to revisit and come back with some ideas for improvement there as well as the underpass connection from St. Lukes and Coe, Shaver Drive where the trail becomes sidewalk, angle parking, etc. We discussed pulling the boat house out of the plan with the hope that a private investor would take that on. We also talked about using the Stickle warehouse, soon to be City property, as a possible location for boat storage, maintenance equipment, etc.

Eye 380 Presentation

Leland Freie and Dale Kueter shared the group's plan for a beautification project they've been working on with Trees Forever that will enhance the area between I-380 and Shaver Rd. The group was formed 8 years ago to take advantage of DOT grant money for planting urban corridor areas with native plantings. Completed projects include the Boyson Rd. exit, an area by Kirkwood and two areas near Wilson Ave. The grant provides two years of maintenance from the IDOT and after that, the funded organization is responsible for it. Their plan involves grubbing the area, i.e removing rogue and non-native species, and replacing them with native plants and shrubs. The plan has to be approved by the IDOT and the City Council. They're hoping to get a resolution passed yet this fall so that work can begin next spring. It will also open up the visibility to the lake from the interstate.

Dale suggested that they coordinate their plan with the Confluence master plan. Exciting progress.

Boat Launch

A huge thanks to Bugs and Tuna for their hours of work on creating a new boat launch area.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00.

Next meeting: September 15, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Wyrick