



Friends of Cedar Lake Minutes

June 16, 2016

Attendees: Dale Todd, Felicia Wyrick, Charlie Visek, Martin St. Clair, Bill Quinby, Gary Thompson, Leland Freie, Bugs Moran, Glenn Kimball, Madison Clark, Karen Erger, Rich Patterson, Mari Phelan

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

Treasurer's Report

CRBT \$429

GCRCF \$22,010.47

Outreach

We gave a presentation about Destination Cedar Rapids to The Gazette Editorial board which resulted in an editorial endorsement in the paper. Felicia presented at the 55+ group at Dale's church, All Saints. We will be tabling at the Irish District Fest. The opening band again this year is The Voice of Cedar Lake and it's made up of local all stars. We'll also have a booth at the BBQ Round Up Family Fun Day. Felicia also showed the group the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation's annual report which features Cedar Lake.

Support staff and Feasibility Study

We've hired a grant writer to help us find funding sources. She'll be paid by project vs. retainer to help us keep our costs down. We've also hired Leon Younger and Pros to help us with a feasibility study. This is the same company that worked with Confluence and the City on the Greenway plan. The study will estimate the potential economic development impact that revitalizing the lake could have on the community. It will also estimate the costs to maintain the proposed amenities. These numbers will be critical when we launch our capital campaign because potential donors want to know that their donations will make a difference.

We are also talking to a company regarding a study that will project how much key contributors will potentially give. We've also put together an advisory committee of community leaders who will be helping us connect with donors.

Fishing Tournament

Charlie has 17 participants signed up so far. The Sag Wagon is hosting a Cedar Lake Fun Night with a live band for the registration after party on Friday. He has secured door prizes and goodie bags to give away. The tournament will be from 7 am – 12 pm on Saturday.

Event to Benefit the Lake

Brenda Cloud gave a presentation on an upcoming event at the Rockwell Collins Rec Center that will benefit Cedar Lake. They will be attempting to break the world record for the largest hula hoop workout involving 408+ participants. The \$5.00 registration fees will be donated to the Friends of Cedar Lake. They will be promoting the event via a website, Hoopla, etc. and through the Friends of Cedar Lake Facebook page. Once posters are approved, she'll distribute some to our group for posting.

EPA Grant Update

The Gazette reported that the City didn't receive the grant that would have funded the Phase II testing. However, EPA Region 7 staff reached out to City staff to inform them of another grant we could apply for and they seemed very positive that they would award us that funding. We will actually be able to access the money faster than if we had received the original grant. We continue to push for getting this testing done this fall.

Ash Ponds

We met with Alliant to get an update on their plan to close the ash ponds. They have already submitted their plan to DNR and we challenged them to do more, to do something that would be heralded as a stellar project. We suggested that the land could become part of the City's 1,000 acres program and they could plant pollinators there. This would be an opportunity for Alliant to demonstrate its environmental stewardship. They were going to meet with the landscape architectural firm that helped them with the first plan to get their thoughts.

Board Resignation

Charlie has resigned from the board, but will continue to work on projects and support the lake. We appreciate his hard work and the credibility he gives to our efforts as a long time loyal user of the lake.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50.

Next meeting: August 18, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Wyrick