

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday Feb. 3, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Peter Schlossman
Deb Groh
Erica Beutler
John O'Connell
Daniel Honigman
Alan Mueller
Diane Sutliff
Emily Kuhn
Jay Lyon
Teresa Weed (Spark Montessori)
Shawn Pfautsch (Chicago Children's Theater)
Jessica Ridenour (Chicago Children's Theater)
Jacqueline Russell Chicago Children's Theater)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Introductions

Review of December 2020 Minutes

John O. motion to approve minutes. Erica seconded. All were in favor, pending minor copyedits. Minutes were approved. 2020 Annual Report not reviewed/approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Doing 990 form. Just needs to be signed and sent in
- Just received renewal for insurance. \$450 for directors and officers liability insurance. Peter to sign and scan
- John Friedmann requested money (~\$250) for the latest tree inoculation.
- Going to start a financial breakout for the Concerts Committee (similar to DFA).

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Construction progress:**
 - The chainlink construction fencing came down, construction was delayed
 - Bench was broken during construction. Erica to follow up.
- **Other items:**

- Got a sponsor for the last bench; money received.
- Approached Tom Melvin about creating a donor board.
- Brainstorming new fundraiser events.
- The banners are back up.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**

- **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**

- Earth Mound is progressing. Project approved, and now fundraising
 - Will likely be able to use some of the earth dug out from the underpass.
 - Donations can be sent to the Chicago Public Art Group.

- **Nature Play Space:**

- Wendell's Garden pricing/Next Steps:
 - Large batch of wood was dropped off. Peter reached out to Sean for some additional details, but there's been no response yet.
 - Got \$25K from participatory budgeting to use towards permanent structure (e.g. fence).
 - Thanks to Ald. Rodriguez and the community for voting.

- **Bench at NE Park Entrance:** Has been fixed.

- **Riverfront Damage:** Cassi Saari is the new contact overseeing natural areas at CPD replacing Jason Steger. Peter and John Friedmann will follow up with her to report damage and other issues.

- Erica talked to the North River Commission regarding improvements, and raising money.

- **Sidewalk Repair:** Peter to update and resend the sidewalk repair request letter.

- **Flagpole:** The flag has been replaced.

- **Other:**

- CPD is doing limited in-person programming, but still doing some virtual events.
- Talking about opening up fitness centers in spring.
- Toy collection with WGN and virtual holiday craft events went well.
- **Snow sculptures:** Emily to email Amy, social media contest/photo contest at the end of the winter.

- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**

- John O. to talk to OpenLands about the tree planting/care program, and will report back

- **Jacob's Playlot:**

- No report
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - **Dead beech tree:** The stump is still there, and can't be removed with the current weather.
 - A family set up a swing in the park and a jungle gym in the parkway along California; Deb handled/asked them to take down the swing due to park district rules.

Stewardship Committee:

- No report
- **Earth Day:** Unknown, but no permitting is happening until April at the earliest. (If it happens, it'd likely be a small, socially-distanced event.)

Farmer's Market Committee:

- Gretchen planning to apply, no other updates this month

Concerts Committee:

- **Chicago Children's Theater: Horner Park Walkie Talkie**
 - <https://chicagochildrenstheatre.org/event/walkie-talkies/> Shawn is working on a cross-media play inspired by Horner Park. Would be a guided audio walk-type experience through different parts of the park (e.g. the river trail, hill). Springtime -- April, May -- so plenty of time to coordinate.
 - Erica suggested a reminder for the participants/audience to stay on the trails/paths.
 - Deb to confirm that the CPD has no issues with the idea. If there are no issues, CPD can likely promote as well (e.g. through a QR code posted in the park).
- Discussed possibility of moving any 2021 programming to Horner Park, as Manor park may be too small for effective social distancing.

Communications Committee:

- No report

Nominating Committee:

- No report

Website Committee:

- No report

New Business

- **Jay: 'I, Naturalist' app and Horner Park BioBlitz**
 - I, Naturalist (app) / BioBlitz (project): create a project for a geographic area, done via GIS coordinates; take pictures, post them to the project: snapshot of plants and animals.
 - [YouTube video](#) about it.
 - Would like to set up a bioblitz at Horner. Co-marketing/promotion opportunity (with CCT, perhaps?)
- **Girls on the Run**
 - Deb can't give approval, but is in touch with Katie Rosich regarding her request to have the program at Horner. It would have to be coordinated with other programming and activities.

Old Business

- **Bus stop name request:** No update
- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** John has/had the gift card, but no update otherwise.
- **33rd Ward Participatory Budgeting Update:**
 - Funding approved for the Nature Play Area (\$25K), four benches and exercise equipment (\$5K per bench; \$45K total) and lighting for soccer pitch (\$25K)
 - Some concerns in the past about the soccer lighting due to light pollution for nearby neighbors. Ald. Rodriguez's office said it would coordinate. Erica to follow up.
 - Funding for buffered bike lanes across Montrose approved.

Announcements

- Cupid Craft Night on February 9 @ 6:30pm. (Making bows, arrows and quivers)
 - Participants need to register on CPD website.
 - Request for HPAC to promote the event (e.g. social).

Motion to Adjourn:

Diane motioned to adjourn, John seconded. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

March 3 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse if possible; Remote Meeting if not

Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday Mar. 3, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo

Attendees:

Deb Groh
Erica Beutler
John O'Connell
Daniel Honigman
Alan Mueller
Emily Kuhn
Jay Lyon
Teresa Weed (Spark Montessori)
Amy Jahnke

Amy called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Review of February 2021 Minutes

Daniel motion to approve minutes. Amy seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved. 2020 Annual Report approval tabled. not reviewed/approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Sent under separate cover.

Dog Friendly Area:

- No report.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - No report.
 - **Nature Play Space:**
 - Shawn and Eric met to review design, with the goal of streamlining costs.
 - **Riverfront Damage:**
 - No report.
 - **Sidewalk Repair:**
 - Letter pending
 - **Programming Updates:**

- Moving forward with some limited in-person programs for Spring 2021, in addition to virtual programs.
 - Playgrounds are open, with signs reminding park-goers to wear masks and to physically distance.
 - **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**
 - Additional meetings required to determine how funds will be used and where additional items will go (e.g., benches, exercise equipment. Soccer pitch lights were not proposed through HPAC.)
 - Discussion during the April meeting to cover fitness areas.
 - Soccer pitch lights: Deb met with engineers regarding placement/direction of LED lights, and impact on neighbors.
 - Deb to reach out to Alderman Rodriguez-Sanchez's office to determine the status of outreach to immediate neighbors (e.g., if it has been conducted to date, or if there are plans to do so).
 - **Other:**
 - Leaky roof issue in multiple areas in the Fieldhouse. Has gotten progressively worse over six years.
 - Deb to try to quantify impact of leaks to inform potential HPAC letter of concern or speaking at the next board meeting.
 - Want to address the problem before full in-person sessions resume.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - Openlands tree initiative. Park can hopefully get five trees of the 20 total. John O'Connell to be on the planting committee.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - No report.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Stewardship Committee:

- John O. to connect with the committee to get more of an update next month.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- Permit is being submitted. Will try to have a market this year. Unclear on how many weeks it'll run.

Concerts Committee:

- Concert committee money separated out in financials. It's roughly \$3500.
- Will make an email push for additional donations.
- Want to acknowledge existing donors through email.

- Unsure how soon concerts can be held - perhaps July or August.
- Events may have to be held only at Horner Park, to support physical distancing.
- Jay is reaching out to artists who had committed for the 2020 season to gauge interest in participating in the 2021 season.
- Jay is ready to submit a permit application.

Communications Committee:

- Amy and Jay to attempt to get set up on Teams, contact Daniel with questions.
- Jay to put emails together about concerts.
- Send out general email about things opening up (e.g., mound project, classes opening up, farmer's market, participatory budgeting).

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

Website Committee:

- No report.

Old Business

- **Bus stop name request:** No report.
- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** John has/had the gift card, but no update otherwise.
- **Chicago Children's Theater:**
 - Deb has followed up with the Parks Department but the approach forward is unclear. Jay to connect with Deb to determine next steps.

New Business

- None.

Announcements

- None.

Motion to Adjourn:

Amy motioned to adjourn, Daniel seconded. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

April 7 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse if possible; remote meeting if not.

Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday April 7, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo

Attendees:

Stacey Anti
Erica Beutler
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Jay Lyon
Christopher Moran
Alan Mueller
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Shawn Pfautsch (Chicago Children's Theater)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

Review of March 2021 Minutes

- Daniel motion to approve minutes. Amy seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.
- 2020 Annual Report approved and sent to Park District.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Question on miscellaneous \$20 from Benevity. (Was a matching donation from Daniel from his company.)
- Separate \$100 donation from Blackbaud Giving Fund (Standard Insurance)
- Insurance has been renewed.
- Diane to give Peter a checkbook so he can make payments.
- May's treasurer's report will be submitted after next month's meeting, due to Diane's schedule.

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Construction progress:**
 - Pavers have been laid, fence repair and fencing off of small dog area has been started, they hope to finish this week
 - Fountains will be installed next week

- Broken glass unearthed during construction will need to be remediated before reopening. Meeting to be scheduled with the CPD Department of Natural Resources. Solution and timeframe TBD.
 - Two fundraisers planned:
 - Pizza at Lou Malnati's on April 28. 20% of proceeds will go towards DFA for anyone who uses the fundraising code. Erica sent Amy and John flyer for posting online and in Manor Park
 - Online fundraiser with ClimbOn, April 10-23. Will receive 40% of profits from sales when people purchase through link.
- No Doggie Egg Hunt, and no auction given current circumstances.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - Still soliciting bids on the project, that would occur in two phases
 - Will get a donation for fill from the underbridge connector, construction of which starts in June
 - Native plantings would start either in Fall 2021, or Spring 2022.
 - The Irving Park Road Bridge may be completed around June
 - **Nature Play Space:**
 - Estimate on Nature Play Space budget developed with Sean.
 - Possible to reduce initial estimate (~\$75K) by ~\$17K.
 - About \$10K from the HPAC budget has already been committed.
 - Also have a \$25K commitment from Aldermanic Participatory Budgeting funds.
 - Committee meeting to follow. Date to be determined.
 - **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**
 - Diane met with Deb to discuss possible locations for bench and outdoor exercise equipment. Erica to identify additional locations as needed.
 - Deb was in contact with Ald. Rodriguez-Sanchez's office about the soccer pitch lightening project. The alderman's staff is still gathering information before outreach is done.
 - **Sidewalk Repair:**
 - Discussion with North River Commission about a grant for replacing the sidewalk. There was a \$300K estimate for replacing the walk on the East side of the park, along the bike route. NRC is considering a grant application for all or some of the money.

- Peter to update the previous letter and send it to Stacey for submission.
 - **Other:**
 - **Riverfront Damage:** Peter talked to Lauren about potentially opening up other paths to allow riverfront to regenerate
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Openlands tree initiative:** No update.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - No report.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Earth Day:**
 - Lots of interest in Earth Day activities.
 - CPD has decided park cleanup is OK; no mulching or equipment will be provided.
 - Friends of the Park activities will be Saturday, April 24, and could potentially support an event. FotP would likely provide bags, gloves, buckets and water.
 - Peter to contact FotP to express our interest, get the registration link and release documents; will coordinate offline with Daniel.
 - Could also be interest in doing work at Ravenswood Manor Park
- **River Day:**
 - Scheduled for May 8, run by Friends of the River.
- **It's Your Park Day:**
 - Would be May 22, run by the Chicago Parks Foundation.
- **Other:**
 - Emily Kuhn (Stewardship Co-Chair) is moving out of state, and will be stepping down from her role.
 - Daniel motioned to thank Emily for her efforts. Amy seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. HPAC thanks Emily for her effort with both the Stewardship committee and as an HPAC officer!
 - Work order out for taking stuff out of Buffalo Park. Stacey to follow up on.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - Insurance certificate was received. No opening date set as of today, but aiming for June 5.

Concerts Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - Jay has emailed CPD about accepting permit requests, but an application has not been submitted yet. Still unclear when concerts will be able to begin. (Hopefully July or August.)
 - Events still likely to be held only at Horner Park, to support physical distancing.
 - Discussed newsletter and digital giving campaign with Amy for donors and sponsors. An announcement will also be included in the RMIA newsletter.
 - Reached out to last season's artists; so far everyone who participated in 2020 would participate in 2021.
- **Chicago Children's Theater Walkie Talkie:**
 - Scheduled for release on May 1.
 - CCT to partner with CPD on additional Walkie Talkies after Horner Park is completed; will be announced when Horner Park Walkie Talkie is released.
 - HPAC to share desired links for CCT to post on the final event page.
 - Question about whether signage or a QR code could be posted in Horner Park to promote the Walkie Talkie.

Communications Committee:

- **Microsoft Teams update:**
 - Amy and Jay in Teams. Peter and Diane will reach out to Daniel with any questions about getting set up.
 - Jay to meet with John O. about setting up the Concerts Committee ecosystem.
- General email pending updates/input from John F.
- Stacey to share information on CPD summer jobs with Amy to post.

Nominating Committee:

- Several available roles. Nominating committee to meet; date TBD.

Website Committee:

- Minutes posted through February 2021

New Business

- None.

Old Business:

- **Bus stop name request:** No report.

- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** John has/had the gift card, but no update otherwise.

Announcements

- Spring (hybrid live and online) programming currently occurring.
- Picnic and league permits are starting to be issued.

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn, Amy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

May 5 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse if possible; remote meeting if not.

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday May 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Erica Beutler
John Friedmann
Tali Gorovoy
Gretchen Helmreich
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Christopher Moran
Alan Mueller
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Teresa Weed (Spark Montessori)
Sarah Dugan (Chicago Park District)
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

Review of April 2021 Minutes:

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. Peter seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- No report for this month.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - Farmer's Market opens June 5, and will run through October 1
 - Still accepting applications, but the main vendors have been lined up.
 - Working with the City of Chicago to get a permit - a first for the market (likely due to COVID-19). Once that goes through, the permit from the park should go through
 - Once everything is confirmed, marketing efforts will begin

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Fundraisers:**
 - Made \$300+ from the Lou Malnati's fundraiser and \$200+ with the ClimbOn fundraiser
- **Construction progress:**
 - Water fountain and surrounding elements have been installed
 - Holdup item is the remediation with the broken glass; working with the CPD and the alderman's office to identify efficient and cost-effective solutions (e.g. installing new turf). Timeframe is TBD.

Concerts Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - Permit has been submitted. As of the meeting, CPD dictates that events will only be held only at Horner Park, to support physical distancing. As of this writing, attendees will be capped at 100 people due to COVID restrictions.
 - The 2021 season will begin July 23.
 - Sponsor and subscriber mailings will go out this week, as they had to be re-run based on the change to Horner Park.
 - Potential concept to explore: concerts *not* in the park (e.g. a block party)
- **Chicago Children's Theater Walkie Talkie:**
 - No update.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Earth Day Report:**
 - 62 tickets 'purchased' (i.e., for free) via Eventbrite, plus a handful of additional attendees
 - Lessons learned include:
 - pushing the waiver to ensure commitment
 - HPAC gloves perhaps better than t-shirts for gifts
 - Ideas: Bring out kids' work gloves
 - coffee/donuts not necessary
 - remember to ask how people heard about the event (e.g., Facebook, newsletter, Horner Park website)
 - take more pictures!
- **River Day:**
 - Scheduled for May 8, will be co-hosted with Friends of the River.
 - Volunteer registration is full
 - Event starts at 9am
- **It's Your Park Day:**
 - Confirmed for May 22; will be co-hosted with the Chicago Parks Foundation as part of city-wide event
 - Eventbrite page set up; about 15 registrants so far
 - Event page on CPF website page for IYPD
 - Additional push via HPAC email, Facebook page?

- Will need to share email addresses, since usually CPF would run the pages to get emails for the mailing list
- **Other:**
 - Separately, encourage documented lessons learned/recap soon after each event. Document what we did, what worked/didn't work, and what to try next time
 - Upcoming planting opportunities at Sunken Gardens and Buffalo Park; if there's an opportunity for Spark Montessori students to participate, please email Sarah at sarah@sparkmontessori.com
 - Question from John O. on tree mulching; if community groups have tools they want to use for a mulching event, they can bring their own. CPD will not be loaning out tools for use at this time.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - Project is fully funded.
 - Contractor will be selected on Monday, May 10
 - Mound construction will begin this summer; plantings will be installed in Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 (dependent on weather)
 - John F. to work with Amy on rewriting the article.
 - The Irving Park Road Bridge will likely be completed in late June/early July; opening pending landscaping
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Committee met with Sean to discuss ways to bring the price down (e.g., removing or getting fewer boulders, removing or getting fewer log steppers or borders, swapping materials). Should be able to get close to the available budget, but may need some additional funding.
 - Some ideas to help raise the funds include: adding the Nature Play Space as a website donation option; sending to Spark Montessori parents for donations.
 - Amy and Kevin added the NPS to the Horner Park website's PayPal dropdown.
 - Peter to compile a writeup with pictures for the website
 - **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**
 - **Soccer pitch lighting:** Getting priced out, but as of yet, the alderman's office has not communicated with the nearby neighbors.
 - HPAC recommends the 33rd Ward Aldermanic Office hosts a community meeting with neighbors regarding the lighting, and requesting public feedback, if the office hasn't done so already.

- **Benches:** Erica to contact alderman's office with list of recommended locations
 - **Sidewalk Repair:**
 - Peter sent Stacey an updated letter requesting sidewalk repair
 - John F. to confirm that the grant application was submitted by NRC
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Openlands tree initiative:**
 - We will be able to do trees in Manor Park with Openland grants. Sarah Dugan requested a map of proposed locations and trees in the park.
 - John O. to coordinate the response with RMIA regarding its grant application.
 - **Butterfly Garden:**
 - Sarah Dugan (CPD) wants to explore the opportunities to install more pollinator plants in the garden on the west side of the park (and maybe by the alley). John O. believes it's a strategic opportunity to connect the community with the park, for educational programs, etc.
 - John to facilitate discussion; potential interest from Tali in getting involved there and with other stewardship opportunities.
 - **Other:**
 - John to look into improvements to the parkway area outside of the park.
 - Christopher Moran suggested some improvement to the turf near the pergola in lieu of concerts. Christopher connected with a local landscape architect about potential improvements, including potentially installing French drains, regrading and/or resodding the turf. Chris to send Deb a list of requests and initial estimates to determine what CPD can support.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - No report.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Communications Committee:

- No report.

Nominating Committee:

- John O. to connect with other board members about potential officer nominators

Website Committee:

- Minutes posted through March 2021
- Amy motioned for a reimbursement of no more than \$100 to pay for a migration of the HPAC website to another web CMS (if needed). Peter seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

- None.

Old Business:

- **Bus stop name request:** No report, but trying to work through other channels in lieu of initial contact at CTA.
- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** John has/had the gift card, but no update otherwise.

Announcements:

- Yoga events for Summer 2021 have been approved. Additional details to come.

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn, Amy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

June 2 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse if possible; remote meeting if not.

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday June 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Erica Beutler
John Friedmann
Tali Gorovoy
Gretchen Helmreich
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Jay Lyon
Christopher Moran
Alan Mueller
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:12pm.

Review of May 2021 Minutes

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. John O. seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- DFA, Farmer's Market and Concerts committee updates sent to respective leads.
- Diane will give a list of potential donors to Jay, when he drops off checks
- April and May reports sent under separate cover.
- Update from Peter that committee leads are covered under HPAC insurance.

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Construction progress:**
 - Six inches of soil will be excavated from the contaminated area, to be filled by four inches of soil and two inches of mulch. The Chicago Park District should cover costs. No updates yet on timeline.
 - Additional funds will be needed for turf.

- **Fundraisers:**

- Starting to collect assets for the 2022 Dogs of Horner Park calendar.

Concerts Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - Another \$600 in sponsorships has come in.
 - Promotional efforts are in flight, with social posts and emails sent or in planning.
 - As of now, all shows will be at Horner Park.
 - Deb and/or Jay to look into a potential small platform/stage (and supporting logistics, such as dropoff and pickup) for shows at Horner Park. Chris to determine if a drum riser will suffice; if not, he will reevaluate the area and reach out to Peter, Jay and Deb for additional action if needed.
 - Potential concepts for Jay to explore:
 - Concerts *not* in the park (e.g. a block party)
 - Rain policy/alternate locations
- **Chicago Children's Theater Walkie Talkie:** No update.

Farmers Market Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - The Farmer's Market is still scheduled for a June 5 open. (Yay!)
 - COVID restrictions are not too bad now (e.g. separate entrances/exits), should loosen further. Changes include:
 - There will be a table set up at each market entrance point; those tables will have COVID-related guidance.
 - Booths will be spaced further apart, with ropes in between.
 - Gretchen to email Deb with the number of tables/chairs needed.
 - There will be opportunities for HPAC committees to have tables at the market, assuming interactions are brief. Committee leads should let Gretchen know if their committee would like to have a table.
 - An updated list of vendors is posted on the Farmers Market Facebook page. (It now includes a bread vendor!)
- **Yoga:** Classes to resume the second and fourth weeks of each month.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Events Update:**
 - **River Day Report:**
 - 30 people signed up, and about 23 people showed up.
 - Activity limited to trash pickup.
 - **It's Your Park Day Report:**
 - **Horner Park:** 44 signups at Horner; roughly 25 attendees, including one or two people from schools who didn't sign up
 - **Manor and Buffalo Park Mulching/Planting:** 11 signups for the two parks; 8-10 attendees - and they brought equipment.

- Shared email addresses with CPF, per agreement
 - Goal is to develop a repeatable, turnkey process for future events, so that anyone who wants to get involved can host an event.
 - Thanks to Cloud Kitchen for their donation of coupons.
- **Pitch In for the Parks:**
 - June 19 Cleanup was generally OKed by the committee and Deb
 - Deb to connect Tali with schools for potential outreach.
 - Daniel to set up an Eventbrite page for outreach
 - Daniel to connect with Sonia H. at CPF to confirm and
 - John to connect with board members and other stakeholders (e.g. Sarah Dugan from CPD) on other opportunities, such as pollinator planting, mulching, etc.
- **Native Plantings from Mound Area:**
 - 6,300 square feet of native plants in the Nature Area will be destroyed July 15 due to the start of Mound development; however there may be an opportunity to repurpose or sell the plants as a fundraiser.
 - John O. to reach out to Sarah Dugan about what can be done with the plants.
 - Deb was exploring the idea of repurposing some of the plants for the Nature Play Area.
 - Erica thinks some of the plants could be used near the entrance of the DFA.
 - Window is June 9 through July 15 for events, which would need promotion.
- **Other:**
 - The committee met on May 13. Minutes sent by John O. under separate cover.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Fundraising efforts on pause in lieu of Concert Committee efforts.
 - Erica to assist Peter with copy/collateral about the park.
 - Eric, Shawn and Deb started doing cleanup of the branches and other supplies in the space.
 - HPAC has raised most of the money needed.
 - Peter to write Shawn and confirm funding is in place, and how to potentially reduce cost.
 - The NPS has also been added to the HPAC website PayPal dropdown. Diane can also add it to Venmo.
 - **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**

- **Exercise equipment:** Erica is exploring different equipment, including what's been installed at Kosciuszko Park.
 - **Soccer pitch lighting:** A rep from Ald. Rodriguez-Sanchez's office said the office distributed some flyers in the immediate area, but there was no response
 - **Sidewalk Repair:** No update
 - **Other:**
 - **Pickleball:** No opportunity now to increase number of pickleball classes at Horner Park, due to usage
 - **Summer classes:** Up to 20 pods with up to 120 kids for camp.
 - **Fall classes:** Optimistic that classes will be back to 100% in the fall. CPD is putting together schedules.
 - **Dogs off the leash:** The 17th Chicago Police District is ticketing dog owners whose dogs are off the leash. However damage is already being done to the fields.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Openlands tree initiative:** No report.
 - **Butterfly Garden:** No report.
 - **Other:**
 - Trees mulched, and plants were added to the planter at the point during the It's Your Park Day event.
 - Several logs were left in the park. John O. to explore possible uses for them, and reach out to Deb for follow up.
 - John O. made a motion for no more than \$300 for plant and material (if needed) for use at Manor and Buffalo parks. Alan seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - Held successful cleanup events.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - Held successful cleanup events.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - Hosted a successful It's Your Park Day event
 - Bishop's Weed being smothered
 - Thanks to Bea Turner for her kind donation of plants to the park.

Communications Committee:

- New volunteer opportunities page is live on HPAC website. Thanks again to those who sent in volunteer descriptions
- **Microsoft Teams:**
 - Daniel migrated documents and other files in the current HPAC Admin Google Drive over to the Teams site. Plan is to keep what's in Google

Drive, but move to an archive folder at the end of the year, and to cease making updates there.

- Daniel will work with different committees to archive anything in other Google Drives, local files, etc, as well as whoever still doesn't have Teams access to get them started.

- **Officer role descriptions:** Still waiting for a couple. Once all are received, Daniel will create and store a document on the Teams site.
- **Committee descriptions:** In progress. Will be able to use them for the website and other material moving forward.

Nominating Committee:

- John O. is continuing conversations with stakeholders about roles. He's also planning the next committee meeting (hopefully in person!) Date is TBD.
- Daniel continues to work with Officers to provide role descriptions for future use.

Website Committee:

- Minutes posted through April 2021 on the HPAC Website.
- Monthly Dreamhost price has gone up.

New Business

- None.

Old Business:

- **Bus stop name request:** No report, but trying to work through other channels in lieu of initial contact at CTA.
- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** John has/had the gift card, but no update otherwise.

Announcements

- **June 11:** North Region Teen Color Run at Horner Park.

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn, Amy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

June 7 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse if possible; remote meeting if not.

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday July 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Horner Park Fieldhouse and via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Suzanne Davenport
Gretchen Helmreich
Larry Hodak
Daniel Honigman
Jay Lyon
Christopher Moran
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Review of June 2021 Minutes

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. Jay seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- No report this month.

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Construction progress:**
 - Remediation from construction is almost complete; fibar installation is in progress, and fences should be back up soon.
 - The activator for the water feature is being fixed, and may not be available right away. A hose and swimming pool were donated; these will be the cooling station for now.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - Received another \$1,000 donation.
- **Other:**
 - Dog park mowed and weeds trimmed; three baby trees were found, and protective fencing was installed
 - Applied for another community grant.

Concerts Committee:

- **2021 Plans:**
 - Book is finished; will be going to print shortly.
 - Still waiting for some checks. Will likely break even on the season.
 - Thanks to John O. and Chris Moran for their assistance during this challenging season.
 - No report yet on a small platform/stage and logistics for shows at Horner Park.
 - Jay met with the Montrose Saloon owner. The Saloon will serve as an alternate location in case of rain.
 - The first concert of the season will be July 23. All concerts will be at Horner Park.
 - Deb to look into producing promotional banners for the season, and will coordinate with Jay as needed.

- **Chicago Children's Theater Walkie Talkie:**
 - An article about the Walkie Talkie was posted on [Block Club Chicago](#).

Farmers Market Committee:

- **2021:**
 - Market on June 26 was shut down due to tornado warnings.
 - Bru Coffeeworks will no longer staff the Farmer's Market, due to business growth.
 - Please forward any new coffee vendor leads to Gretchen.
 - Yoga classes in session the second and fourth weeks of each month.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Events Update:**
 - **Pitch in for the Parks Events**
 - A successful clean up day was held June 19, spearheaded by Tali Gorovoy. There were about 10 participants. More monthly activities are being planned.
 - The Chicago Association of Realtors will staff a cleanup event on Tuesday, July 20 wholly coordinated by Sonia at the Chicago Parks Foundation.
 - Considering a future event on either July 31 or August 14. Tali to staff. August 14 is preferred, to allow sufficient space between events.
 - **Grant Requests:** RMIA has submitted the grant application for several trees to be planted this fall by Openlands, including possibly five at Manor Park. The cost to us for each tree could be \$100. (Tree site and species are to be determined.)
 - John O. makes a motion to spend \$500 on trees for the park - if we need to. Suzanne seconded. All in favor, subject to recommendations or advice from Jerome Scott, the forrester from the Chicago Park District.
 - **Native Plantings from Mound Area:**

- Not able to coordinate, due to other activity related to the Mound Area. (Covered under Park Briefs.)
- **Other:**
 - Luke Ross would like to redo the planter at Sunken Gardens, and asks for \$150 for new plants.
 - John O. made a motion for that expense. Daniel seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.
 - The committee would like to plant bulbs in the parkway at Manor Park this fall.
 - John O. makes a motion for \$100 for that expense. However some of the funds from last month's \$300 may still be available. The vote was tabled.
 - John O. is still discussing the pollinator project at Manor Park and hopes to form a subcommittee soon.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - Broke ground last week; basic structure scheduled for August completion. Final plantings to begin Spring 2022.
 - Sidewalk entrance off Irving Park Road to be closed for bridge work, bike path resurfacing, road underpass and connection to 312 River Run Trail. No word yet from CPD on when the entrance will open.
 - Special thanks to the CPD for coordinating and expediting efforts to receive fill for the mound base several weeks early.
 - Mound Committee planning a ceremony to celebrate mound construction the weekend before or after October 11 (Indigenous Peoples' Day); local tribal leaders to consecrate the site. (John + committee to coordinate.)
 - The committee would like to explore expanding the event to a larger celebration similar to River Fest from three years ago.
 - All generally in favor. Would be a great event to coordinate.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - HPAC will likely have to commit funds for additional expenses for future work. Amount to be determined and voted upon at a later date.
 - **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**
 - **Exercise equipment:** Will likely not be starting construction soon, due to a backlog of projects.
 - **Soccer pitch lighting:** Already installed.

- The lights are set on an automatic timer to shut off at 11pm. Any feedback on the lights (e.g., complaints) should be directed to Deb Groh and the 33rd Ward office.
 - **Frisbee golf proposal:** No update.
 - **Other:**
 - **Anything else:** Programs are filled up for the Summer. Fall classes
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Fibar under swings:**
 - Deb working to remove rocks from under the swing set.
 - **Openlands tree initiative:** See Stewardship Committee report.
 - **Butterfly Garden:** No report.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - Request submitted for gate in CPD system for review.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - Good set of volunteers at the park. Exploring a regular rotation to coordinate efforts.
 - John O. continues to water native plants.
 - Deb is looking into transplanting a ginkgo tree to another location.

Communications Committee:

- **Microsoft Teams:**
 - Daniel is continuing to work with different committees and leads on asset migration.
- **Officer role descriptions:**
 - No update.
- **Committee descriptions:**
 - No update.

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through May 2021 posted on the HPAC Website.

New Business

- **Redistricting map (Jaime Andrade):** Horner Park is now completely in Jaime's district.

Old Business:

- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** No update. Peter reached out to John F. for an update or to get the card back.

Announcements

- Congratulations to our new Chicago Park District Region Manager, Stacey Anti!

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn, Erica seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

August 4 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse and via Google Meet

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday August 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Horner Park Fieldhouse and via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Erica Beutler
John Friedmann
Daniel Honigman
Carlton Jones
Jay Lyon
Tom Mayer
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Review of July 2021 Minutes

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. Jay seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Report sent under separate cover, with two updates:
 - Now keeping track of Nature Play Space (NPS) funds raised.
 - upcoming expected expenditures list because big money will be going out at some point.
- Thank you to Spark Montessori for raising funds for the Nature Play Space!

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Construction progress:**
 - The DFA was approved to reopen on July 9 after six inches of soil was removed from the area disturbed by construction and replaced with four inches of soil and two inches of fibar. Thank you to the Chicago Park District for its remediation efforts.

- The water feature was not operative until July 23rd but was shut off on August 4th because it was running continuously rather than operating in accordance with its programming. It will remain out of order until this problem can be fixed.
- Erica is evaluating some stone that could be put around the water area to reduce mud in that space. Estimates to come.
- Fencing panels supposed to arrive later this month. Their installation will be the last of the contracted phase two work.
- We still need to create and install the donor sign.
- Received report of injured dog who cut paw. Source unclear. Discussed need to get park district to clean up glass around outside of DFA.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - Calendar contest entries being accepted through August 8th. Voting will take place online August 16-22nd and the 2022 Dogs of Horner Park calendar should be available this fall.
- **Other:**
 - Applied for Chicago Works Community Grant

Concerts Committee:

- **2021:**
 - There have been two concerts already. Shows will be each Friday until September 10.
 - Jay now has the MailChimp login and can create and send emails himself.
 - Books have been printed and handed out at the shows; the committee members will also mail them out shortly.

Farmers Market Committee:

- **2021:**
 - Attendance is up around 150% from 2019.
 - Will have rotating coffee vendors. (So far Back of the Yards Coffee and Dulce de Leche Café have participated; others will as well.)
 - There's been positive feedback on the new vendors, and returning vendors are also happy with the market.
 - HPAC and DFA to reach out to committee about staffing a table in the market.

Stewardship Committee:

- There was a successful Pitch in for the Parks event on July 20 with the Chicago Association of Realtors. Thanks to them for participating!
- A Pitch in for the Parks community service day is planned for Horner Park for Saturday August 14, 9-11am. Tali will be the on-site facilitator that day.
- Luke Ross organized a mulch day at Sunken Gardens. He plans to redo the main planter.

- Stewards have been busy maintaining Ravenswood Manor and Buffalo Parks. John recently added to the branch fence.
- John hopes to meet with CPD's Jerome Scott of Forestry soon on the proposed trees along the alley at RM Park. Jerome has approved the siting of trees along the alley.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - Basic mound construction is done, with some covering to protect it during the winter.
 - While the mound ceremony is still planned for October 11 (Indigenous Peoples' Day), its scale is to be determined, given emerging COVID-related guidelines.
 - The underpass is now scheduled for completion approximately mid-September.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Thanks to Spark Montessori's tremendous fundraising efforts to support the Nature Play Space.
 - **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**
 - The deadline for submitting participatory budgeting ideas is August 8. Please submit ideas by then. From there, ideas will be reviewed, and eventually put up for community voting.
 - **Exercise equipment:** Will likely not be starting construction soon, due to a backlog of projects.
 - **Soccer pitch lighting:** No update.
 - **Other:**
 - None
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - No report.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - There was a wasp issue in the sandbox. CPD is working on it.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Communications Committee:

- **Microsoft Teams:**
 - Daniel to start posting draft minutes in Microsoft Teams.
 - Daniel will work with different committees and leads on asset migration when they are ready.

Nominating Committee:

- The Nominating Committee will meet in August. Date is TBD.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through June 2021 are posted on the HPAC Website.

New Business

- None.

Old Business:

- **Recognition for Deb Mell:**
 - No update.

Announcements

- All fall events are continuing as plans. No updates yet due to COVID restrictions.
- With Deb on vacation, Tom Anderson will be HPAC's point of contact.

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn; Jay seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

September 1 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse and via Google Meet

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday September 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Horner Park Fieldhouse and via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Gretchen Helmreich
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Alan Mueller
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Carlton Jones (Illinois Little League)
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Review of August 2021 Minutes

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. Deb seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Adequate funds remain on hand to complete the current initiatives of Dog Friendly Area Phase Two, Summer Concert Series 2021, and the Nature Play Space. We have unallocated funds on hand of about \$28,000 so new ideas are welcome.
- The HPAC Donate webpage now has a drop-down PayPal menu for all aforementioned initiatives, thanks to our tech team. QR code links to our Venmo and PayPal are available from the Treasurer if you would like to include them in your graphics.
- Because our meeting is on the first day of September, formal Treasurer's Reports will be delayed a few days and will be distributed under separate cover. For additional details please email Diane directly, or treasurer@hornerpark.org.

Dog Friendly Area:

- **Construction progress:**

- There has been no construction progress: The replacement/additional fencing has not been installed and the fountain has not been fixed. The committee is awaiting further updates on both.
- The stump by the hotbox was ground down. The coupler on the faucet to hose is leaking, which we need to address, and the Platinum Donor sign is in progress.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - The votes are in on the photos submitted for the calendar contest. We hope to have the calendars published and available for sale next month.
- **Other:**
 - The Committee is extremely saddened by the loss of one of its founding members. Grace Gaughan passed away on August 28th. We are grateful for all that she gave to the dog park and to this community as a long-time neighbor and Chicagoan. Her shining light will be dearly missed.

Concerts Committee:

- The Summer Concert Series has been going well. We have a few shows left, including a Sept. 3 Local Talent show, where we'll have a couple of local bands featured.
- The season ends on Sept. 10. All sponsors and subscribers have been sent their books (unfortunately, we don't have mailing addresses for people who paid via Venmo – something to think about for next year). The books turned out great, and we thank Chris Moran for facilitating that with @properties. They are heavy – almost 6 oz. – and cost \$2 each to mail.
- There are still a few checks to collect but we are mostly there. We will schedule a committee meeting before the end of the year to get an early start on 2022.
- The PA needs are being thought through; the committee has been working with a sound man at the shows with bands, and that's worked out well. It may be that HPAC invests in a smaller PA than we had initially planned, and we work with a sound professional on the band shows. It saves the backs of our volunteers, and the sound is better because it is mixed by a professional. (Volunteer time is better spent fundraising and assisting with mailings vs. lugging around equipment anyway.)
- We do still have to set up and tear down our lighting system, and we could use volunteers with that – as well as with handing out books at the shows. Chris Moran, Pat Nash and Jay have been handling it to this point, and thanks go out to Chris and Pat.
- Diane Sutliff made us some Venmo signs so that people can donate while they are actually at the show, and we've received a little money from that (it was a great idea). Next year we'll include our QR code right on the mailing so people don't even have to fill anything out and send it in.
- Daniel and Amy to reach out to Jay about creating a banner for future events, and possibly setting up a table to collect email signups.

Farmers Market Committee:

- The market is going smoothly this season. Attendance has been up about 25% overall - which is great. Vendors are happy and doing well.

- We've had two new coffee vendors with us so far - Dulce de Leche Cafe (Albany Park) and Back of the Yards Coffee (BotY). Both were well received. We have two more new coffee vendors to introduce in September and October.
- We moved to all electronic payments this year, and that has been great. We've used a combination of PayPal for the application fee and Square for application and market space fees. We like that we can schedule invoices on Square and set auto-reminders.
- We expect to net about \$5,700 this season, for a total of about \$33,800 since the market started in 2014.
- Finally, there are only two free yoga days left (9/11 & 9/25) and only five markets left this season! The last market will be on October 2.

Stewardship Committee:

- No full August report. Committee members have done minimal watering and tending, and John will continue to work with committee members to sustain these efforts.
- There will be another Pitch in for the Parks event on Saturday, September 18 at 9-11am. An Eventbrite page is live, as well as a post on the HPAC website.
- John O. met recently with Tom Ebeling of Openlands; he inspected the RMP site for proposed planting. Openlands will provide a tree for the north point on Francisco parkway. He also thinks there is only room for one more tree on the Wilson alley. Jerome Scott of CPD Forestry has been consulted by Tom and there are no objections. Cost to HPAC may be deferred.
 - There will probably be a planting day on a weekday in the fall. John O, will coordinate with Deb Robinett of RMIA on logistics.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - Phase One has been completed. (The basic structure has been built with surface, covered in temporary rye grass to prevent winter erosion.) The underpass is also complete.
 - Phase Two will begin in Spring 2022 with native plantings and plant construction.
 - Plans for a fundraiser are currently under discussion.
 - Plans for a consecration ceremony on October 11, 2021 (Indigenous Peoples' Day) are in development.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Building materials continue to accumulate near the designated area for the Nature Play Space. The project is still scheduled to go forward with the understanding that CPD is backlogged from COVID-19 delays.
 - HPAC has signed a CPD Funding Partnership Pledge, indicating HPAC will provide more than \$11,000 towards this project. Although we have adequate funds on hand to complete this project as currently described, it

seems wise to continue to raise funds for future additions, replenishment of expendables, and to create a sense of community ownership.

- **Future tasks:**
 - Create signage (a Giving Tree?) at the site with QR links to the HPAC web page and giving portals.
 - Decide on a name (e.g., Wendell's Garden, South Woods, Sundial Park)
 - For additional details, please email Peter or Diane directly, or stewardship@hornerpark.org
- **Participatory Budgeting Projects:**
 - The Alderman's office has received around 150 ideas and its PB committee is processing them.
 - Ideas impacting Horner Park include:
 - Requests to fix the pathways around the park and the river trail.
 - The committee is generally in support of this.
 - Installing a turf soccer field
 - The committee has concerns about its feasibility.
 - Finishing the DFA.
 - Painting paint bike lanes on the pathway.
 - Playground repair and updates, including protection around its zip line and a splash pad for the playground.
 - The committee has concerns about the feasibility of the splash pad.
 - Electric vehicle charging spots in the parking lot.
 - Community garden space.
 - More public art.
 - If HPAC has a strong opinion on or information related to any of these project ideas, it may want to provide it for the PB committee's consideration.
 - **Benches:** A proposal was submitted to Alderman's Rodriguez-Sanchez's office and Chicago Park District Planning and Construction. We understand that the Park District isn't taking on new projects right now, even if they are funded, due to lack of capacity.
 - **Exercise equipment:**
 - The PB ballot item last year for \$45K bundled the exercise equipment project with the benches. The money was intended to cover both projects with \$20K allotted for the benches and \$25K for the exercise equipment. The cost estimates used for PB were derived from conversations with the CPD about installing a few simple pieces such as a pullup bar, parallel bars, a sit-up bench and more; they could either stand together or to be spread around the park. Basic standalone pieces were priced at a couple thousand dollars each with the remainder going toward delivery and installation costs.

- Peter, Diane and Erica volunteered to be on the committee. They walked the park and identified some spaces where the equipment might work best. Erica then walked the park with Deb Groh to review those spaces. The group's thought was to try to integrate the exercise equipment into the park's landscape. Erica has photos of exercise equipment collected from sites around the city.
 - **Next steps:** The committee will create a proposal including the selected sites and examples of equipment to share with HPAC for discussion and approval. Because the park district isn't taking new projects at this time it was put on the back burner this summer.
 - **Soccer pitch lighting:** The project is complete, and the Alderman's office is handling any feedback.
 - **Pickleball courts:**
 - The board was generally in favor of putting out racks to hold rackets, and is generally against a job box, due to ongoing maintenance.
 - Pickleball tournaments and court reservations must go through the CPD permit department.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - No report.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - The wasp issue in the sandbox was resolved.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - There have been some new plantings; key areas of the park have been watered.

Communications Committee:

- **Microsoft Teams:**
 - Daniel will continue to use Microsoft Teams for minutes moving forward, based on the group's response and ability to provide feedback within the document. If you don't yet have access (or are unable to get in), please reach out to him directly.
 - Daniel will continue work with different committees and leads on asset migration when they are ready.

Nominating Committee:

- The Nominating Committee met this week and discussed feedback received during individual discussions with current board members, and others who are HPAC members.
- Current members of the Board have agreed to remain in their roles and titles for another two-year term. However, the Committee will be actively pursuing, identifying, and placing a Co-Secretary in the next few weeks, if possible. Suggestions and nominations are still being solicited.

- At this time, to allow for a month of awareness and other discussion in advance of the vote for officers this next term, we will propose to nominate the following in October:
 - President: Peter Schlossman
 - Vice President: Amy Jahnke
 - Vice President: John Friedmann
 - Secretary: Daniel Honigman
 - Treasurer: Diane Sutliff
- Nominations are welcome from other members before October's meeting.
- The Committee will also be developing a succession plan to position HPAC for a strong, continuous transition to new leadership.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through July 2021 are posted on the HPAC website.
- Diane's been getting bounced emails from DreamHost. Kevin reactivated HPAC's free Google Workspace (formerly Google Suite) for Nonprofits account so we can switch to it. This free service is provided through our TechSoup.org account. I plan to migrate hornerpark.org's email server address from DreamHost to Gmail/Google once I've verified everything will port over smoothly and have archived the existing email accounts. This should fix the bounced email problem, and restore the ability to forward stewardship@hornerpark.org emails to comcast.net addresses, and any other domains that have been blocking DreamHost emails.
- No updates on migration to Wix. Google Search Console reports no major change for hornerpark.org.
- Discussed future QuickBooks options with Diane and Daniel, and shared our old QuickBooks Premier 2015 license via ftp.hornerpark.org so they can download it. I suggested possibly using Amazon's WorkSpaces to host the Desktop version of QuickBooks. Amazon has a nonprofit plan providing \$1000 of credit for 1yr of services, which would let HPAC setup a virtual cloud PC to run QuickBooks on. There's no commitment to this this approach, but I'd like to ask HPAC for permission to apply for the credit so we can move quickly if it proves useful. (We could probably host hornerpark.org on AWS too using surplus funds from that credit.)

New Business

- None.

Old Business:

- **Recognition for Deb Mell:**
 - The thank you card and gift certificate were delivered; she was appreciative.

Announcements

- Fall programs begin next week (i.e., week of September 6).

- The Fieldhouse is back to normal programming and can accommodate rentals and partners once more.
- There is an opening for a physical instructor role at Horner Park.

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn; Peter seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

October 6 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse and via Google Meet

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday October 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Horner Park Fieldhouse and via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

Erica Beutler
John Friedmann
Tali Gorovoy
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Jay Lyon
John O'Connell
Esther Young
Jeff Young
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)
Carlton Jones (Illinois Little League)

Amy called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Review of September 2021 Minutes:

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. Amy seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- September 2021 and fiscal end of year reports sent under separate cover. Committee leads have until the end of October to review and check for errors. Reports will be closed on October 31.
- There was a small reallocation of some August contributions, which were moved from General Contributions and Farmers Market to DFA, where they belong.
- There are roughly \$29,000 in unallocated funds, so ideas are always welcome.
- Fiscal books starting next fiscal year will be kept in QuickBooks Online (QBO), to ensure a more seamless transition to future treasurers. Diane has also compiled a best practices notebook as well for future treasurers
- Diane will be unable to cut paper checks for the next several weeks. If anyone needs a paper check or the debit card number, please contact Peter and Kevin respectively.

Nominating Committee Report – Election of Officers:

- The following individuals are nominated for two-year terms:
 - **President:** Peter Schlossman
 - **Vice President:** John Friedmann
 - **Vice President:** Amy Jahnke
 - **Secretary:** Daniel Honigman
 - **Secretary:** Tali Gorovoy
 - **Treasurer:** Diane Sutliff
 - **Assistant Treasurer:** Daniel Honigman
 - **Assistant Treasurer:** Gretchen Helmreich
- Daniel seconded the nominations. There were no other comments or officer nominations
- **Vote:** All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
- In addition, it was suggested that the executive and nominating committees establish a task force to work on developing future HPAC leaders as it attracts new members.

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- **Construction progress:**
 - The new fence panels were installed on Sept. 14th.
 - The water feature fix is still outstanding; but there's a desire to fix it now. However, water in the parks will be shut off soon.
 - A volunteer is working on the platinum donor sign.
 - Regular DFA maintenance continues.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - MOJO DOG CO. is donating a percent of sales from its grand opening event.
 - Calendars have not yet gone to print.
- **Other:**
 - The Committee would like to plant a tree in memory of Grace Gaughan. Planning will continue into Spring 2022.

Concerts Committee:

- **2021 Season:** We were able to hold eight shows from July 23 through Sept. 10 at Horner Park, and we had some shows with exceptionally large crowds. There was something for everyone, from the ballet recital to jazz to pop and good old-fashioned rock and roll. Having the shows in such a compressed timeline (every week) posed challenges for labor as well as promotions, because there was something to do every week, several times each week.
- **Contributions:** There is only one check outstanding. We received a handful of payments this season via Venmo and PayPal using QR codes that Diane Sutliff created, so we were able to generate another \$200 or so at events. QR codes will be used in our solicitations going forward and in any signage we use.
- **PA System:** The committee is rethinking the PA purchase based on the experience we had with a sound professional this season. Our system does need to be replaced but what that looks like is under consideration now.

- **Next Steps:** A Committee meeting will be set up in November. Anyone interested in joining should email Jay Lyon at jay@lyoncommunications.com. We are hopeful that we may return to Manor and the surrounding parks in 2022. Key 2022 committee needs:
 - Labor (setting up lights at the shows)
 - Assistance with donor mailings
 - Support for show promotion via email, social media (e.g., Facebook) and the website.

Farmers Market Committee:

- We closed the 2021 season of the Horner Park Farmers Market on Saturday, October 2. It was a great season! Our attendance was steady and was up about 25% over our 2019 season. Our new vendors were happy and would like to come back next year. Our veteran vendors were glad to be back with us.
- We moved to all electronic payment this year, which overall was great.
- We do currently have two outstanding invoices due from two vendors and are working to close those.
- Once our books are closed, we expect to net about \$5,700 this season, for a total of about \$33,800 since the market started in 2014.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Events:**
 - **September 18 Horner Park Cleanup:**
 - Fewer attendees than previous events, potentially due to time of year, weather, and Farmer's Market location. There was also a Friends of the River event the same day.
 - **October 23 Manor / Buffalo Parks Cleanup:**
 - Eventbrite page, HPAC website post, and Facebook event are live. Promotion will occur over the next several weeks.
 - **October 13 Tree Planting Day:** RMIA and Openlands will be hosting a tree planting day on Wednesday October 13. One tree will be planted along the Wilson Ave. alley at Ravenswood Manor Park, and another on the parkway on Francisco St. at Manor Ave. at the north point of Ravenswood Manor Park. HPAC has contributed \$200 toward these trees. Volunteers are still needed to plant these trees and others in the Ravenswood Manor neighborhood that morning.
- **Other:**
 - Chris Moran and John O'Connell have recruited new stewards to help at Ravenswood Manor and Buffalo Parks. Jeff and Esther Young have volunteered to help keep the park clean and the gardens tended. John has given them access to the hoses in the JOBOX, as well as a fire hydrant wrench, a wagon with buckets, and a Buffalo box rig with key. It is hoped they can continue to keep the gardens watered during dry spells. John has relinquished many duties there due to recent health issues.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **Irving Park Road Underpass Opening:**
 - The underpass opening was successful. Mayor Lightfoot, Ald. Martin and Supt./CEO Michael Kelly were on hand along with other dignitaries. Michael Kelly acknowledged HPAC and the work of the DFA Committee for raising funds and getting that project constructed. (Kudos to the DFA committee!)
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - **October 11 Coiled Serpent Ceremony:**
 - HPAC published a blog post in support of the project to the website.
 - There will be a larger 'Grand Opening' event in 2023.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Sean Schaffer sent the following list of items for HPAC to complete:
 - **Some record or description of a public meeting:** When, where, were any concerns raised and how were they addressed, etc.) Peter to provide.
 - **Petition:** Can likely provide from prior open house events.
 - **Site surveys:** HPAC to obtain (need 3 surveys over 2-3 weeks / 2 at peak usage times. The Committee may need some assistance.
 - **Letter of support from PAC:** In this case since the PAC is the applicant – a local community org or Alderman.)
 - The written proposal itself should include the following
 - **Play Space design:** Complete
 - **Two-year funding plan:** Complete
 - **Group membership roster:** HPAC to obtain
 - **Maintenance plan:** HPAC to obtain
 - **Suppliers and installation plan:** Need to clarify what this is and if HPAC provides
 - **Plant list:** need to clarify what this is and if HPAC provides
 - **Participatory Budgeting (PB) Projects:**
 - The PB committee is now in the process of soliciting feedback and developing proposals for the ballot, which has not been finalized.
 - Everything is being posted to and comments can be made on a public platform this year, where the Alderman's office wants all conversations to occur so there can be transparency. HPAC should also post its official positions as to any of the below projects on the site. (Individuals can also post their opinions.)
 - Projects submitted that impact Horner Park are as follows:
 - **Repair/Repave Horner Path:** Since CPD is already working on this, we recommend removing it from the list.
 - **Turf Soccer Field:** Discussed in the September HPAC meeting; neither HPAC nor Deb support.

- **Splash Pad:** Discussed in the September HPAC meeting. Neither HPAC nor Deb support, due to space concerns and existing splash pads at nearby parks.
- **Fitness Equipment:** \$25K was already allocated from 2020 PB funds. The plan was to install three or four pieces of equipment. Current funding should cover what's in the original scope, with some extra funding possibly coming from HPAC. CPD hasn't yet assigned a designer to this project, but it may be in 2022.
 - **Current HPAC position:** HPAC recommends sticking with the current plan due to spacing constraints.
- **Community Garden:** there is a process for developing community gardens that includes approval from Park Supervisor, park PAC, site approval (within 100 feet of existing water source with ample sun), gaining petition signatures, completing site surveys, holding community meetings, and having a group to support and maintain endeavor. Deb did not feel there was a good spot for this at Horner and it seems like there needs to be more community support structure in place as funding is only a small part. Additionally, there are 100 community garden spots available at Lawrence and Manor, just six blocks away.
 - **Current HPAC position:** HPAC is generally against this idea, due to space constraints, coordination, and more.
- **Riverfront Stone Step:** There was a request to fix the stone steps; it is currently in the process of getting repaired.
 - **Current HPAC position:** Since this is already being repaired, we recommend removing this from the list.
- **Riverfront Dog Trail:** There was a separate request for a trail that allows dogs, however there may be a CPD rule for nature areas preventing this.
 - **Current HPAC position:** Since CPD does not allow this, we recommend removing this from the list.
- **Dog Friendly Area:** While the DFA still needs funding for Phase Three, including dog-friendly turf play fields, the Alderman's office says it has already given \$50K to the project, and discussions must occur regarding the same project making the ballot twice. HPAC and the DFA feels that (among other reasons) since the Alderman's office spent funds that had been allocated by the previous alderman, since it also limited the available funding listed on the ballot to \$25K, and since the project should be finished, it should remain.
- **Earth Mound:** Additional clarification is required for the request; HPAC was told last year that PB funds could not be used for plantings for the Nature Play Space. The PB committee is following up with the organization to determine the need, and the Alderman's office is following up on whether PB can be used for plantings for purposes of this project. The Mound project also previously received \$25K in PB funds. (It is also unclear whether

the alderman has given the mound project additional funds.)
There are other planned improvements.

- **Current HPAC position:** None yet.
- **Electric Charging Station**
- **Bike Repair Station:** Details to come.
 - **Current HPAC position:** HPAC is in favor of this – including placement and the identification of parties responsible for maintenance – pending additional details.
- **East Path Repairs:**
 - The CPD plans to repair the path next spring. Extent or type of work is still to be determined.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:** No report.
- **Jacob's Playlot:** Bea Tersch will organize a mulch event on October 30. Time TBD.
- **Sunken Garden:** Luke Ross will organize an upcoming event. Date/time TBD.
- **Buffalo Park:** No report.

Communications Committee:

- The committee is working with Stewardship to promote the 10/23 cleanup event.
- The committee is exploring options other than Mailchimp for email marketing.
- No action items.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through August 2021 have been posted on the website. An additional post about the October 23 Buffalo/Manor Park stewardship event has also been published.
- The site continues to function despite an outdated theme and some incompatible plugins. One of these plugins is an automatic backup system; Kevin is working on one-click backups with DreamHost in lieu of this.
- No meaningful change to search/tracking results.
- No progress on Wix site to date.

New Business:

- **Clark-California and Horner Park Fun Run:**
 - Peter met with a Clark Park Advisory Council member about a potential Fun Run from Clark to California to Horner Parks and call it the 312 RiverRun.
 - The idea is to hold it on March 12 (a Saturday), and it would be 3.12 miles (just over 5K), for a round trip. He figures if it snows, we can make it a ski, snowshoe, or sledding event.
 - Deb is open to the event. Amy to work with Peter about forming a subcommittee.

Old Business:

- None.

Announcements:

- Welcome new Area Manager Greg Czajkowski!
- There are two openings at Horner Park: one for a physical instructor and one for a music instructor.
- Recently retired Don Sadofsky is volunteering his time to keep the Horner Park Jazz Band together.
- Deb is working on removing the light post left behind from recent construction
- There will be a re-dedication of LaPointe Park.
- Horner Park is hosting a boxing event on October 14th.

Motion to Adjourn:

Amy motioned to adjourn; Daniel seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting:

November 3 @ 7:00 pm: Horner Fieldhouse and via Google Meet

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday November 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting conducted via Google Meet - meet.google.com/pxy-hyta-obo**

Attendees:

John Friedmann
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Jay Lyon
Alan Mueller
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Esther Young
Jeff Young
Lilia Escobar (33rd Ward Office)
Ald. Rossanna Rodriguez-Sanchez (33rd Ward Office)
Eric Anderson (Clark Park Advisory Council)
Mike Manrique (Clark Park Advisory Council)
Greg Czajkowski (Chicago Park District)
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Stacy Niemiec (Spark Montessori)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Review of October 2021 Minutes:

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. John F. seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- The migration to QuickBooks Online (QBO) is complete. Financial reports for this month will be delayed while details are ironed out (and learning curve is complete.)
- There were no major expenditures or receipts in October.
- Books are officially closed for the fiscal year ending September 2021. Any other expenses or deposits will appear in next year's books.

312 River Run Event – Clark Park Advisory Council:

- The event would potentially be a fundraiser for the Clark Park Nature Play Space.
- Deb is in favor, pending additional details.
- Peter, Amy, and John F. to form a subcommittee to explore this further.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - Peter provided a brief history of HPAC's involvement in the mound project, from the start to the recent Indigenous Peoples Day event on October 11. Unfortunately, there was some vandalism that day as well.
 - Ald. Rodriguez's office has offered to mediate discussions with various stakeholders to determine how the mound will receive appropriate funding for maintenance and programming.
 - The Chicago Park District will host a meeting this week to address these issues; John F. will attend and provide updates.
 - **Participatory Budgeting (PB) Projects:**
 - No Horner Park projects are on this year's ballot.
 - **East Pathway Repairs:**
 - Will be funded by the Chicago Park District.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Forms are still being completed.
 - **Bottle Filler Progress:**
 - Electrical was installed for the water filler fountain. The project is now awaiting approval from the plumbers.
 - **Divvy Bike Proposal:**
 - Divvy requested to install another Divvy Bike station in Horner Park; Deb informed them the park already had one. There has been no response.
 - **Other:**
 - There is a brush pile just north of Belle Plaine. Deb will investigate getting it cleaned up.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - No report.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - No report.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- **Construction progress:**
 - Regular DFA maintenance continues.
 - Phase Two acceptance is still outstanding as the fountain issue has not been resolved.
 - The DFA Committee has requested repair of the low paver area where water collects.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - The calendar should be published and released in November.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Events:**
 - **October 13 Tree Planting Day at Manor Park:**
 - Two oak trees were planted in Ravenswood Manor Park, part of an Openlands/RMIA program. HPAC donated \$200 towards the trees.
 - **October 23 Manor / Buffalo Parks Cleanup:**
 - A community service day was held October 23 in Ravenswood Manor and Buffalo Parks. Gardens were cleaned and 200 daffodil bulbs were planted around parkway trees. The branch fence was also partially repaired.
 - **October 30 Tree Mulching Day at Jacob Park:**
 - Bea Tersch organized a tree mulching day at Jacob Park on October 30. There were 12 participants, a great turnout on a chilly day. (Thanks Bea!)
- **Other:**
 - There will be a Stewardship Committee meeting in the next few weeks. Reach out to John O. for details.

Concerts Committee:

- No report.
- A Committee meeting will be set up in November. (Date TBD.) Anyone interested in joining should email Jay Lyon at jay@lyoncommunications.com.

Farmers Market Committee:

- We are still working to close the two outstanding vendor invoices. Our 2021 books will remain open until we can resolve them.
- The Chicago Park District will open the 2022 permit process early, on November 5
- Planning is in progress for the 2022 season. Tentative dates are June 4 to October 1.

Communications Committee:

- No report.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through September 2021 have been posted on the website.
- The website is still operating normally.
- Thank you to Erica for deleting a bunch of DFA emails to keep us under our storage limit.
- No action items.

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

New Business:

- December meeting: Meeting attendees were in favor of an indoor or outdoor event. Date and location to be determined and shared.
- Deb will investigate graffiti near the Manor Park bulletin board and attempt to clean it up.

Old Business:

- None.

Announcements:

- Online registration for winter programs begins Tuesday 12/7 at 9am.
- Vacancies for the music and physical instructor roles remain.
- Deb met with John F. and Lauren to discuss changes to the river pathway by the Irving Park Road underpass.
- Timers for the pathway lights will be adjusted to reflect the shorter days.
- A wall-mounted fan has been installed in the Fitness Center.
- Several big fans are now in both gyms and the Banquet Hall.
- All queries related to construction projects should now be directed to Deb, to keep supervisors informed.

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn; Peter seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting:

Planned for December 1 @ 7:00 pm; location and date to be determined

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday December 1, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting conducted at John Friedmann's house**

Attendees:

Kevin Anderson
John Friedmann
Tali Gorovoy
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Chris Moran
John O'Connell
David Post (HPNWLL)
Lola Post (HPNWLL)
Ava Schlossman
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Scott Welty (Horner Park Jazz Band)
Sara Zimmerman

Peter called the meeting to order at 8:17pm.

Review of November 2021 Minutes:

- Daniel motioned to approve minutes. John O. seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Additional funds were received for both DFA and Concerts this past month. There were no major expenditures.
- Formal financial reports will follow, since the Board meeting is so close to the end of the month.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**

- No update from the previous meeting, however additional maintenance must be done before Spring 2022 to prevent future erosion.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - No update.
 - **Bottle Filler Progress:**
 - No update.
 - **Divvy Bike Proposal:**
 - A second Divvy dock was installed at Berteau and California, across from the fieldhouse. The bike rack has not been installed yet.
 - **312 River Run event:**
 - There will be a subcommittee meeting the week of December 5. Date and time are TBD
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - No update.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - No update.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - Ben Renney reached out to Peter about clearing out some buckhorn. Peter and John O. to follow up on.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - The committee will discuss the potential removal and eventual replacement of several dying trees along California Avenue. Discussions will begin in February

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- Open issues to the build currently include the water feature repair, a low spot on the patio, and a crack on the activator.
- Water is off for the season and new signs are put up. Fibar and stones around the water feature will need to be added in the spring.
- Calendar sales are in full swing, and t-shirts are currently on sale as well.
- The DFA received a \$1,000 donation from MoJo Dog Co.
- Spring fundraiser planning is in effect. The Doggie Egg Hunt is awaiting approval.
- DFA was not selected for a Chicago Communities Work Grant.

Stewardship Committee:

- John O'Connell and Tali Gorovoy are developing a Microsoft Teams-based tracking system to coordinate projects at all five parks in 2022 (and beyond). This tool will be shared with stewards to help in conceiving and advancing projects and will help better manage projects and overall committee efforts.
 - Stewards will be asked to consider projects and methods over the holidays for potential inclusion in the tracker.
- There will be a Stewardship Committee meeting in January to establish goals and discuss resourcing. Date/time are to be determined.

Concerts Committee:

- No report.

Farmers Market Committee:

- No report.

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

Communications Committee:

- No report.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through October 2021 have been posted on the website.

New Business:

- Plans are to host a BrewFest in 2022. There will likely be a BrewFest Committee meeting in February; the date and time are to be determined and will be announced.

Old Business:

- The graffiti near the Manor Park bulletin board was cleaned up.

Announcements:

- None

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn; Amy seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting:

Planned for February 2 @ 7:00 pm; location and date to be determined