

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting conducted at the Horner Park Fieldhouse**

ATTENDEES:

Athene Carras
Pat Casler
John Friedmann
Daniel Honigman
Emily Norkus
John O'Connell
Emily Parkinson
Peter Schlossman
Kirsten Southwell
Geary Yonker
Sara Zimmerman
Carlton Jones (HPNWLL)
Lola Post (HPNWLL)
David Post (HPNWLL)
Rebecca Solano (Horner Park Jazz Band)
Shannon Condon (RMIA)
Anthony Correa (Chicago Hounds)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Introductions

Review of December 2023 Minutes:

- Sara made a motion to approve the December minutes. John O. seconded.
 - All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.

Bylaws Revisions:

- Peter discussed the need to revise HPAC bylaws to reflect the Chicago Park District's (CPD's) Revised Code of Conduct and Park Advisory Council Guidelines.
- Peter, John F., Daniel, and Sara volunteered to review HPAC bylaws.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- The 1099 NEC and 1096 tax forms were filed.
- The 990 Form will be filed with the IRS in February.
- Formal financial reports will be sent under separate cover.

- **Horner Park:**
 - **Exercise Equipment Progress:**
 - Fitness equipment installation is progressing.
 - **Coiled Serpent Mound Progress Report:**
 - No update.
 - **Gym Floors Repair:**
 - No update.
 - **Riverfront Restoration:**
 - John O. thanked the CPD for its improvements.
 - Peter will send thank-yous to appropriate CPD contacts.
 - **Front Lawn Tree Replacement:**
 - New trees will be planted in spring 2024.
 - **Fieldhouse Front Native Shrub Garden:**
 - No update
 - **Other:**
 - Complaints continue about off-leash dogs. Suggestions discussed:
 - Send out “please keep dogs on leash” email blast(s).
 - Contact the Chicago Police (17th District) for more patrols.
 - Eric has returned to the woodshop.
 - Improved Wi-Fi is now available in the Horner Park Fieldhouse.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Kiosk maintenance/alley fence repair:** No update.
- **Jacob Playlot Park:**
 - Some neighbors expressed interest in a riverfront improvement plan.
- **Sunken Gardens:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Needs Assessment Committee:

- The Concert Committee is preparing a proposal for a long-term project at Horner Park, which is to construct a covered stage structure.
 - Concerts at Horner were part of the park’s original vision. A structure may allow us to spread shows more equitably around our parks.
 - Community uses for such a structure include theater groups, educational programming around the park and more.
 - The Committee is fine-tuning an initial proposal; this long-term goal would require HPAC to raise considerable funds.

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- **Fundraising:**
 - Doggie Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 23 from 1-3 p.m.
- **Build and Maintenance:**
 - The DFA recently received \$75,000 in state capital appropriation funds, originally requested by Representative Jaime Andrade in March 2020. The funds would be

added to those earmarked for DFA Phase III; a turf play field in the center of the large dog area.

- The committee is working to provide CPD with project scope and cost estimates.
- The committee thanks Representative Andrade for his continued support.

312 RiverRun Committee:

- The RiverRun is scheduled for Saturday, June 22.
- Peter will contact Friends of the Chicago River, which is considering a similar event.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- No report

Stewardship Committee:

- John F. and John O. will meet with park stewards on February 15.
- Friends of the Chicago River will hold a river clean-up day on May 11.

Concerts Committee:

- The Committee is busy preparing for the 2024 season.
 - One of the highlights will be Manor Bash, which will be held August 24. It will feature an LBP Dance performance and other local acts.
 - This year's concerts will include the following:
 - Phil Angotti, who will perform original material (and some Beatles music)
 - Female singer-songwriter night
 - Tex-Mex night with the great Los Gallos band
 - Chris Narloch's piano recital
 - Horner Park Jazz Band

Communications Committee:

- HPAC's new website design is progressing:
 - Kirsten requested funds to move to Squarespace for improved website design and maintenance.
 - Daniel made a motion to approve up to \$300 for Squarespace expenses. John F. seconded.
 - **Vote:** All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.
 - Kirsten will archive past minutes and work with specific committees to fill out their pages before the new website goes live.
- Kirsten continues to manage stewardship@hornerpark.org emails.
 - She will explore getting a new email address for general info HPAC emails.
- Kirsten will re-engage with CPD signage department about signs for nature area.
- Kirsten continues to develop the HPAC "welcome packet."

Horner BrewFest Committee:

- The BrewFest Committee will have its first meeting of the year on February 22.

New Business:

- **Osprey nest platform:**
 - John F. wants to explore bringing an osprey nesting site to Horner Park.
 - Daniel made a motion to approve pursuing a nesting site. Sara seconded.
 - **Vote:** All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.
- **PAC Special Events form:**
 - Peter discussed forms that must be completed for events in the parks.
- **PAC Annual Report:**
 - Peter needs all committee reports to complete HPAC's annual report to CPD.
- **Solidarity letter in support of CPD workers:**
 - Kirsten made a motion for HPAC to support CPD workers. John F. seconded.
 - **Vote:** All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.

Old Business:

- **Arboretum designation:**
 - John F. continues to investigate getting a Horner Park arboretum designation.
 - Send any questions or concerns to him at stewardship@hornerpark.org.

Announcements:

- John F. will present at the PAC Conference on March 9.

Events:

- **March 23, 2024:** Doggie Easter Egg Hunt
- **June 22, 2024:** RiverRun
- **July 19, 2024:** Horner Park BrewFest
- **August 24, 2024:** Manor Bash

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.; John O. seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.

Next Monthly Meeting:

The next HPAC meeting will be Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Horner Park Fieldhouse.