

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday June 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Remote Meeting (Conference Call)**

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Alan Mueller
Daniel Honigman
Peter Schlossman
Diane Sutliff
Erica Beutler
John O'Connell
John Friedmann
Gretchen Helmreich

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

Review of May Minutes:

Peter motion to approve minutes. Daniel seconded. All in favor, one abstention. Minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- The May 2020 reports were sent under separate cover.
- Some large donations this month for DFA: one from Chicago Association of Realtors and another from a private donation.
- Looked into cloud platforms for the books. Most start at \$20/month, but kick up to \$40/month. Doesn't make sense to change now, but maybe later once a new treasurer comes in. QBO (Quickbooks Online) seems to be the best option.
- Will be meeting with Kevin and Peter the next few days to look at the 990 form.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- There will be no regular Farmer's Market in 2020.
- Farmers don't have capacity to do alternative order/delivery options; however the committee is considering alternate market styles, and will coordinate with farmers based on their availability.

- Will serve as conduit for some deliveries, but customers will need to connect directly with farmers. Considering use of the parking lot on Cullom.
- Will post Facebook updates the next couple of days.

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee Report:

- No report.
- Peter will follow up with Deb regarding Horner Park closures and when parts of the park will open (or if she knows).

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **Earth Mound:**
 - Army Corp put out a call for public comments. Will be open for 30 days; then they'll look at comments and reconsider if needed. Deadline for comment June 26.
 - No calls for remediation or land swap, so no additional space needed.
 - Wants to start construction in fall and finish in winter, pending final approval.
 - John motions HPAC draft a letter of recommendation to Army Corp and submit before the deadline. Erica suggests amending approval to include the assumption that no remediation/space will be required. Daniel seconds. All approve, none opposed. **Motion passed.** John F. to work with Peter to draft the support letter.
 - **Nature Play Space:**
 - Daniel suggested smaller nature play space to focus on larger items first (i.e. wave one). Will need to revisit proposal
 - Territory Chicago facilitated a meeting with its student participants meeting with architects and designers about having more of a teen-centric space.
 - John F: suggest the park cut down the dead tree by the baseball fields to keep wood to do something with in the space.
 - **Trees:**
 - Several dead trees near the riverfront area, and one by Berteau. Peter to follow up with Deb.
 - **Other updates:**
 - Grating by back stairs was completed, along with landscape edging at nature space.
 - Bulletin board hasn't been fixed yet.

- Erica asked Peter to also speak to Deb about the broken soccer goal that is laying in pieces on the east side of the park, as someone should pick it up.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - Peter will reach out to Deb about getting the park mowed.
- **Jacob Playlot:** No report.
- **Sunken Garden:** No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - Peter will reach out to Deb about getting the park mowed.

Stewardship Committee:

- John O. sent a brief to most members in advance of the meeting regarding the city's water usage policy. The city requires an RPZ device to tap water from a hydrant which can cost PACs more than \$1,000 for the device and permit. HPAC's decision at this time is to cease using the current cap devices and not invest in the new devices. John O. is still waiting to hear about water procedures at Jacob Playlot and Sunken Garden.
- **Horner Park:**
 - Virtual tree work on Friday, June 12. John F. to send out a link.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - Planters have been planted.
 - RMIA is starting to put together a fund for upkeep of Buffalo Park and tree upkeep; there's also some discussion about cleaning up some of the space around the park.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - Planters have been planted.
 - Most trees survived, but a couple didn't. Discussion about buying trees. John F. will talk to Openlands about what more resilient trees could work in standing water.
- **Jacob Playlot:** No report
- **Sunken Garden:** No report

Communications Committee:

- Daniel and Amy are progressing on conversations with HPAC board members regarding communications. Interviews to complete, and will be followed by high-level recap.

Nominating Committee:

- John O. calling on the Nominating Committee to meet in advance of October board elections. Virtual meeting likely to be mid-July, (either 7/14 or 7/16); will give a couple of weeks' notice.

Concert Committee:

- "Thank you" notes were sent out; nobody has requested their money back.
- Committee hoping to do an informal concert by the end of the year.
- Will probably not move ahead on equipment requests this year.

Website Committee: No report

Old Business:

- **Bus stop name request:**
 - Daniel to try to get information on park usage boosting public transportation. John O. to introduce Daniel to the ATA contact, John F. to the CMAP contact. Erica to send Daniel contact information for Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnan.
 - General support for Daniel to draft HPAC submission letter and support letter drafts from local organizations. Daniel will work with Peter.
- **Recognition for Deb Mell:** We still have the gift card. John F. to pick up the card from Diane and deliver, along with a note. Peter will draft.

New Business:

- We received a request for a protest in Horner Park. Peter will advise the requestor to connect directly with the Chicago Park District.

Announcements: None

Attachments:

- Minutes from May's HPAC meeting (under separate cover)

Motion to Adjourn: Peter motioned to adjourn, Daniel seconded. Motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

July 1 @ 7:00 pm – Horner Fieldhouse if possible; Remote Meeting if not