

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.