

**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; fiber 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