

**Horner Park Advisory Council  
Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday May 4, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting conducted at the Horner Park Fieldhouse**

**Attendees:**

Daniel Honigman  
John O'Connell  
Peter Schlossman  
Diane Sutliff  
Alan Mueller  
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)  
Stacy Niemiec (Spark Montessori)  
David Post (HPNWLL)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Review of April 2022 Minutes:**

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

**Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:**

- There were two major expenditures in April: one was for Concerts promotional materials, and the other was for DFA promotional materials.
- Financial reports will be distributed under separate cover.

**Park Briefs:**

- **Horner Park:**
  - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
    - No update on either the grant or the planting status.
  - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
    - No update; all work has been completed. The contractor has not been scheduled.
  - **Bottle Filler Progress:**
    - No update.
  - **312 RiverRun Event:**
    - \$1500 worth of sponsor support has been obtained to date

- Participants will sign up to run on Brown Paper Tickets; the page will be created soon. (Early Bird pricing is \$15 for kids and \$25 for adults; prices will go up to \$20 and \$35 afterwards. Kids are free.)
  - About 40 volunteers will be needed for the event in various functions.
  - There will be an afterparty for the event at Burning Bush Brewery, starting at 11am.
- **Mobile Makers:**
  - No update.
- **Playground Surface:**
  - There was a determination that the Chicago Park District policy is to use fibar, and not rubber.
- **Water Line Excavations:**
  - No update.
- **Fieldhouse Area Shrub Pruning:**
  - There are large shrubs around the southwest of the Fieldhouse; Sarah and Stacy from Spark Montessori to ask Deb if they can turn pruning into a project.
- **Exercise Stations and Benches:**
  - Peter connected with Maria Stone; and it was determined that the initial estimates of \$50,000 may not have included benches. Additional details are pending, based on the response from Maria.
  - An idea was discussed to raise additional funds for benches through a sponsorship program.
- **Other:**
  - It appeared that one of the lights near the tennis court (near Montrose and Manor) was undergoing maintenance. Peter to follow up with Deb.
  - The area near the Henry Horner monument looks great. Thanks to Bogdan for his efforts.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
  - No report.
- **Jacob's Playlot:**
  - No report.
- **Sunken Garden:**
  - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
  - No report.

### **Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:**

- Ongoing maintenance continues. No build update.
- The Earth Day cleanup event was a success. We beautified the dog park and raised another \$1,000 for spring improvements.
- We are about 80% of the way to the \$5,000 goal, thanks in part to a \$500 match offer from the Bailey-Brown family.
- The DFA will have new fibar laid in early May.
- Hoping to plan an in-person summer fundraiser. Details to be confirmed.

- Some discussion of safety cones to be placed over the water hazards (e.g., buffalo box, shutoff). Four cones would be needed.
- Peter has completed the thank you letters for the DFA donations.

### **Stewardship Committee:**

- **Earth Day Report:**
  - The Horner Park Advisory Council staged Earth Day clean ups in all five HPAC-advised parks on Saturday, April 23.
  - Tali Gorovoy reports Horner Park focused on litter cleanup with seven volunteers.
  - Ravenswood Manor Park under John O'Connell engaged in mulching trees, cleaning litter and gardens with 19 volunteers (including six children). Many of the daffodil bulbs planted around parkway trees last fall have sprouted.
  - Peter Schlossman reports Buffalo Park saw cleaned gardens and planters, and he and Sara Zimmerman prepared beds with seven volunteers. New daffodils are also evident.
  - Bea Tersch reports Jacob Park had 20 adults and 10 children to clean up, and two days later spread soil and seed/mesh on the barren hill.
  - Luke Ross directed Sunken Gardens efforts to spread mulch on Friday April 22 with several volunteers, including help from Jacob Park stewards. On Saturday morning, the main job was to smooth out the piles of mulch that were deposited though out the park. A woman from Ravenswood Gardens came by to help finish the job.
- **River Day (May 14):**
  - Bea is organizing a River Day effort on May 14 at Jacob. Plans are to clean up trash, cut grapevines, and to tarp over some weeds.
  - John Friedmann is organizing a River Day cleanup at Horner on May 14 as well. He put in an order for mulch.
- **It's Your Park Day (May 21):**
  - Peter and Sara plan to mulch Buffalo Park on It's Your Park Day.
  - Horner Park is TBD for May 21 and other days, with Tali as steward.
- **Other:**
  - John O'Connell and Sara Zimmerman will meet soon to decide what plants will be needed for May plantings for Ravenswood and Buffalo Parks.
  - Bea would like more CPD grass seeding on the hill at Jacob, due to some erosion.
  - There is continued concern over renegade paths and illegal dog walking on the river path.
  - John O'Connell made a motion for up to \$500 for plant materials (including fall bulbs) for Manor and Buffalo parks. Alan Mueller seconded. None opposed. The motion passed.

### **Concerts Committee:**

- The committee is hard at work on this season's shows; the first concert is May 20.  
Upcoming schedule:
  - **5/20:** Fortunate Sons (CCR)
  - **6/10:** Hōkūle'a
  - **6/24:** Second Hand News (Fleetwood Mac)
  - **7/8:** The Waco Brothers
  - **7/22:** Pat Mallinger and Urban Soul
  - **7/24:** Narloch Piano Recital
  - **8/5:** The Mary Jane Breakdown (Tom Petty)
  - **8/19:** Le Ballet Petit Recital
  - **9/9:** The Old Town School of Folk Music presents Jess McIntosh & Aaron Smith (Americana/bluegrass)
- We are getting closer to our funding goal for this year – but still not there. Please pass the word to anyone and everyone for subscriptions and sponsors! Many thanks to Chris Moran and John O'Connell for their work on sponsorships.
- The program book will be finished late this week; it's not too late to get an ad in or subscribe to get your name in the book.

### **Horner BrewFest Committee:**

- No update.

### **Farmers Market Committee:**

- The Horner Park Farmers Market is excited to open this year for its eighth season! It has typically run from the first weekend of June to the first weekend of October; this season, by popular request, we have added two additional markets. Our 20-market season will be each Saturday from June 4 through October 15. We have many of your favorite farms and vendors returning this season, as well as some exciting NEW farms and vendors joining our community. We cannot wait to see you on Saturday, June 4!
- **Musician stipend:**
  - The Horner Park Farmers Market Committee would like to offer a stipend of \$100 to each week's musical performers as a small token of our appreciation for their talents. In our previous seasons, all music has been performed for free.
  - As there will be 20 markets this season, the cost to offer the music stipend in 2022 would be a maximum of \$2,000. The stipend would be provided via Venmo or check.
  - Diane motions to approve the donation of \$100 per market for each musician. Daniel seconded. All in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.

### **Nominating Committee:**

- No report.

### **Communications Committee:**

- The backdrop for the Manor Park board was completed. Amy submitted \$20 to Diane for printing reimbursement.
- Emails for the concert and stewardship committees were sent out in April. Friendly reminder for all committee leads to please give Amy a week's notice for emails, and to send all content (written and photos) along with the date they would like it sent out.
- Facebook posts for concerts and Earth Day events went live. Amy is working on setting up Facebook event pages for each concert.
- The River Run committee will be reaching out for a post to go live on the Horner Park website.

### **Website Committee:**

- Minutes through March 2022 have been posted on the HPAC website ([hornerpark.org](http://hornerpark.org)).

### **New Business:**

- None.

### **Old Business:**

- **Softball turf fields:**
  - No update.
- **Ecuadorian Festival (August 13-14):**
  - The Chicago Park District will be approving the festival.

### **Announcements:**

- Chicago River Day (May 14)
- It's Your Parks Day (May 21)

### **Motion to Adjourn:**

John O. motioned to adjourn; Alan seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

### **Next Monthly Meeting:**

The next HPAC meeting will be June 1 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Horner Park Fieldhouse.