

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday June 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting conducted at the Horner Park Fieldhouse**

Attendees:

Erica Beutler
Tali Gorovoy
Deb Groh
Gretchen Helmreich
Daniel Honigman
Emily Lorenz
Jay Lyon
Kiala Moore
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Alan Mueller
Carl Beien (Gross Park Advisory Council)
Bob Brunson (Lane Tech Boosters)
David Post (HPNWLL)
Lola Post (HPNWLL)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Review of May 2022 Minutes:

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

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- Funds continue to arrive for Concerts, and the first disbursements have been made to artists.
- Funds have come in for the re-mulching of the DFA, and those invoices have been paid.
- Funds have come in for the 312 River Run.
- Financial reports will be distributed under separate cover to HPAC members.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - The mound project has been fully funded, with a large grant from Earth Chicago (CPAC as lead partner)
 - Planting should start in June
 - The 312 underpass will be reseeded with native plants
 - The Earth Mound will not be open to the public until 2023, as it takes some time for the planting to take hold
 - The American Indian Center has withdrawn support for the project.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Sean got final budget estimates and is working with the contractor to finalize small design changes. Work will hopefully start soon.
 - Plans are for trees to be trimmed to make the space safer, and to take advantage of the water pooling seasonally at the north end of the space
 - Budget to be finalized (as of this writing)
 - **Bottle Filler Progress:**
 - Deb spoke with Gary about it; the initial estimate of \$2,500 still stands; further discussion was tabled
 - **312 RiverRun Event:**
 - The event will be held on Saturday, June 25 at 10am.
 - About 60 people have signed up so far for the event
 - The volunteer signup is live.
 - Collateral for events and announcements should be sent to Kiala Moore for additional circulation/promotion across the Chicago Park District Area Managers
 - **Walking Path Repair/Replacement:**
 - No update; may start in Fall 2022.
 - **Mobile Makers/New Involvement:**
 - No update.
 - **Water Line Excavations:**
 - No update.
 - **Fieldhouse Area Shrub Pruning:**
 - Deb said she will put in a request to prune the large shrubs around the southwest of the Fieldhouse
 - **Exercise Stations and Benches:**
 - No update.
 - **Other:**
 - There is one dead maple tree at the corner of California and Berteau, by the park entrance.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - One light is damaged; John O. reached out to Deb for repairs.

- **Jacob's Playlot:**
 - No report.
- **Sunken Garden:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Farmers Market Committee:

- The eighth season of the Farmer's Market is starting on Saturday, June 4, and will continue through October 15. The market will run from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Other HPAC committees will be providing materials to promote at the market table

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- Regular maintenance continues. Fresh fibar was laid in big dog area on May 12.
- A hose and pools were put out during Memorial Day weekend.
- In-ground water boxes were painted red and flagged.
- **Build update:** The DFA was told that the manufacturer would be brought in to address the water feature issues at the end of June. No response yet on the low spot that is collecting water.
- One of four spouts on water fountain running continuously. The DFA was told that still flushing lines.
- The DFA committee is hoping to host an in-person summer fundraiser of some sort. More details to be confirmed.
- The \$5,000 fundraising goal has been reached

Stewardship Committee:

- **River Day report:**
 - John Friedmann captained a River Day event at Horner Park on May 14. Approximately 25 volunteers were in attendance
- **Other:**
 - Buffalo Park had a weed and mulch stewardship day on May 21.
 - Extra mulch that was delivered to Manor Park is being distributed; additional mulch was also delivered to Sunken Gardens Park.
 - There will be a Horner Park cleanup day on June 18, organized by Tali Gorovoy.

Concerts Committee:

- Concerts series is underway; the next show is June 10 (Hōkūle'a) at Ravenswood Manor Park, sponsored by the Ravenswood Manor Improvement Association (RMIA).
- The July 8 show (The Waco Brothers) was included in a Time Out Chicago article featuring park shows.
- Collections are almost complete.
- The committee is looking into extra lighting.
- Deb commented that power will be available for Jacob Playlot on September 9
- Additional volunteers are needed for putting up and taking down lights for shows; shows run from 7-9 p.m.
- The program book has been completed, and will be sent out to subscribers and sponsors
- Jay will request social media posts to promote upcoming shows

Horner BrewFest Committee:

- The BrewFest will be on July 15.

Communications Committee:

- No update.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through April 2022 have been posted on the HPAC website (hornerpark.org).

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

New Business:

- **New Area Manager:**
 - The Horner Park Advisory Council welcomes the new Area Manager, Kiala Moore
- **Fractal burner expense:**
 - John O. made a motion to approve up to \$350 for a fractal burner. Peter seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.
- **Motorcycles:**
 - Kids on motorcycles have been seen around the park. If they are spotted, please contact the police and flag for Deb.

Old Business:

- **Softball turf fields:**
 - Bob presented a proposal to Cubs Charities for a \$300K grant to redo fields #7 and #8 (e.g., turf, backstops, etc.); initial budget of \$696K, not including professional fees and additional donations.
 - HPAC expressed concerns about the use of the fields for softball only; the Park District expressed prior interest in the fields being marked for baseball as well.
 - HPAC also raised questions about the following:
 - Where equipment would be stored
 - Privatization of the fields (i.e., ensuring fields remain open to the public)
 - Height/placement of bleachers
 - Whether outfield would be turfed
 - Ongoing maintenance would be required; additional lighting may be required
 - Construction could be completed over the winter.
 - Fields would need to be replaced every 7-15 years, depending on use.
 - Bob to re-send proposal.
 - Bob confirmed no public forum for feedback has been hosted to date; HPAC suggested hosting a public meeting the week of July 25; feedback from the meeting would be considered by HPAC when forming its position
- **Ecuadorian Festival (August 13-14):**
 - The Chicago Park District has approved the festival.

Announcements:

- There is a new music instructor

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn; Erica seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting:

The next HPAC meeting will be July 6 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Horner Park Fieldhouse.