

**Horner Park Advisory Council  
Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday August 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting conducted at the Horner Park Fieldhouse**

**Attendees:**

Bob Brobson  
Grace Stella Brobson  
Daniel Honigman  
Amy Jahnke  
Jay Lyon  
Mary Martin  
Chris Moran  
Alan Mueller  
Stacy Niemiec (Spark Montessori)  
John O'Connell  
Peter Schlossman  
Diane Sutliff

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

**Review of July 2022 Minutes:**

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

**Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Lots of activity this month with funds arriving and expenses going out for RiverRun, BrewFest, Farmer's Market, and DFA (Dog Friendly Area). Funds received through PayPal, Venmo and Square; admission contributions through Brown Paper Tickets (BPT) and Eventbrite; as well as by direct deposits to the bank.
- The HPAC checking account was defrauded by an unknown person charging personal household expenses. Fifth Third Bank will credit HPAC us for those expenses, as well as for the reimbursement check that was fraudulently deposited.
- Diane opened a new checking account and swept almost all the funds to the safety of the new account. Once the final outstanding checks clear the bank, she will close that old account. Since banking information cannot be changed on the current PayPal account, it will soon be closed.
- Kevin is updating the HPAC donation webpage to accept funds in other ways
- Reports to be distributed under separate cover to HPAC members.

- P&L was revised to show shifting of BPT from BrewFest to RiverRun; however, this does not change the Treasurer's Report for DFA and Concerts.

## Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
  - **Northwest Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
    - No report; there was some discussion about bidding for landscape installation in the fall.
  - **Underpass Planting:**
    - No update.
  - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
    - No update.
  - **Exercise Stations and Benches:**
    - No update.
  - **Bottle Filler Progress:**
    - No update.
  - **Walking Path Repair/Replacement:**
    - HPAC received a query for landscape swale done in conjunction with the walking path repair/replacement.
  - **Fieldhouse Area Shrub Pruning:**
    - The shrubs were trimmed back.
  - **Lane Tech Softball Booster Club turf softball fields proposal:**
    - HPAC will look to schedule a public meeting prior to the Chicago Park District, potentially in the last two weeks of August (w/o 8/22 and 8/29).
    - There was concern about how turf fields would fit into the existing park landscape.
    - It was noted that Lane Tech students would also be available to volunteer for additional park programming.
    - A copy of the latest plans will be posted with these minutes on the HPAC website. (Addendum: The plans [are linked here.](#))
  - **HPNWLL Complaint:**
    - A complaint was brought to HPAC's attention and was briefly discussed.
  - **Other:**
    - Two trees were downed in severe weather on August 3.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
  - **Kiosk Maintenance:**
    - The bulletin board requires some maintenance; it was suggested that it is stained to match the pergola. John O. suggested it as a future stewardship event.
  - **Other:**
    - The two old fashioned lights along Francisco are lit 24/7, and the one by the water fountain is not working. John requested those lights be fixed.
    - There was a request to cut a large bush on the west sidewalk, left gate; Chris and John O. to explore options.
    - The current Manor Park stewards will be unable to water the next few months. John O. to water, and Amy will put out a call for volunteers on Facebook for additional help.

- Chris requested trash cans be consolidated into one location.
- **Jacob Playlot Park:**
  - No report.
- **Sunken Gardens:**
  - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
  - No report.

### **Horner BrewFest Committee:**

- The BrewFest was successful; a full report will be in the next meeting.
- John F. and Peter want to meet with Kiala and Deb to debrief.

### **Concerts Committee:**

- At the July 8 Waco Brothers show at Horner Park, HPAC revealed the new name for the concert series: The John O'Connell Concert Series, presented by the Horner Park Advisory Council. There was a terrific crowd at Horner Park, about 500-600 people, and Horner Park was a great backdrop for the show.
  - John O. read a statement thanking HPAC for the Concert Series naming honor. His statement [is available here](#).
- There are three more shows in this year's series:
  - **August 5 at Manor Park:** The Mary Jane Breakdown (Tom Petty music)
  - **August 19 at Manor Park:** Le Ballet Petit's recital
  - **September 9 at Jacob Playlot Park:** Jess McIntosh & Aaron Smith (the Old Town School of Folk Music show)
- The Committee still needs assistance at shows, mainly in the form of setting up/taking down lights when needed, but also with announcements and more. Currently Jay Lyon and Chris Moran are doing all the shows, but they need additional volunteers to provide relief. Anyone who would like to help should contact Jay Lyon at [jay@lyoncommunications.com](mailto:jay@lyoncommunications.com).
- The Committee might send attendees a survey after the season to gather feedback.
- The electrical issues that impacted the recent Manor Park show have been fixed.

### **Farmer's Market Committee:**

- We are about halfway through the 2022 season. This weekend is market #10 of 20 markets. We run through October 15 this year. Attendance continues to be good.
- The market has had several new vendors this year, including ice cream recently. Overall, it has been a good season.
- Please contact [farmersmarket@hornerpark.org](mailto:farmersmarket@hornerpark.org) with any questions or comments.

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

- Ongoing maintenance continues.

- A build meeting was held August 3 to discuss the remaining work.
  - The Chicago Park District feels it has gone as far as it can to make the current solar/battery operated water feature system work and cannot solve the outstanding issues. It will explore what is required to get electricity there and circle back with us. The current plumbing and water features are all useable; there just needs to be a reliable power source. Unfortunately, there is not a close source to tap, so it would have to do some trenching. It would take out the current bollard activator and controller and replace it with a foot pedal activator and timer system that they have used in other park spray areas.
  - Timing and cost to complete the work are to be determined.
- The July 23 Farmer's Market table went well; there will be another on October 15.
- The DFA Committee will host a fundraising event on Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm at Burning Bush Brewery; online ticket sales were capped at 100 and are now closed; limited tickets (about 25) will be available the day of the event.
- The Calendar Contest will kick off at the end of August.

### **Stewardship Committee:**

- Tali captained the Clean & Green event for Horner Park and Ravenswood Manor Neighborhood with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Ward Office on Saturday, July 23.
  - All parts of the park (with surrounding intersections) were covered; but there were not enough participants to send to Manor Park. (Around 10 people attended.)
  - The 33<sup>rd</sup> Ward office expressed interest in co-hosting more frequent cleanups.
- The Horner Park front garden was weeded.
- Parts of Buffalo Park may require some weeding.
- Someone installed a swing in one of the trees near the sled hill; HPAC will inform Deb so it can be removed.
- HPAC will host a cleanup event in October. More details to come.

### **Nominating Committee:**

- No report.

### **Communications Committee:**

- The calendar on the HPAC website must be updated; Amy will be working on it.

### **Website Committee:**

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

**New Business:**

- None.

**Old Business:**

- None.

**Announcements:**

- A special thanks to all the park staff, volunteers, committee chairs and members and who put in an extraordinary effort to make this July the most successful month in recent Horner Park memory.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

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

**Next Monthly Meeting:**

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