

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

Attendees:

Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Alan Mueller
John O'Connell
Peter Schlossman
Deb Groh (Chicago Park District)
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Carlton Jones (HPNWLL)
David Post (HPNWLL)
Lola Post (HPNWLL)
Bob Brobson (Lane Softball Boosters)

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Review of August 2022 Minutes:

- Amy motioned to approve the minutes. John O. seconded. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- We completed the transition to a new bank account, after addressing several fraudulent charges.
- We have opened a new PayPal account under treasurer@hornerpark.org. The old one will technically remain open due to PayPal policy, but HPAC will no longer accept contributions there.
- The final numbers for Summer Concerts, Brewfest and RiverRun will be summarized in the Financial Reports to follow, which will be sent under separate cover.
- HPAC would like to thank Diane for her tireless efforts in getting this addressed.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **Lane Tech Softball Booster Club turf softball fields proposal:**
 - HPAC hosted a public meeting at the Horner Park Fieldhouse on 8/23. Peter sent minutes from the meeting under separate cover.
 - Roughly 60 people attended, including four HPAC voting members.
 - Several topics were discussed, including turf, maintenance costs, playing/practice schedules, weather/climate impact, positioning of batting cage, dugouts, restrooms, future commitment, impact to field accessibility (e.g., field size) given the proposed changes (e.g., mounds, baselines), HPAC oversight, budget estimates, impact to park.
 - Bob made a motion for HPAC to write a letter of support for the current proposal as is and has been presented. Amy seconded the motion.
 - There was one vote in support, three opposed and one abstained. The motion was rejected.
 - Potential modifications suggested by HPAC include using an alternative to artificial turf and updating the field dimensions.
 - Next steps are to be determined.
 - **Nature Play Space / Wendell's Garden:**
 - Fencing and additional work has been completed; some work remains.
 - Once ready, a "build" event may be held.
 - **Exercise Stations and Benches:**
 - Additional funding has been secured from the 33rd Ward office; however, time is running out this year for further improvements.
 - **Walking Path Repair/Replacement:**
 - The path has been outlined, possibly indicating work in progress.
 - **NW Portage Walking Museum / Earth Mound Project:**
 - No update.
 - **Underpass Planting:**
 - No update.
 - **Bottle Filler Progress:**
 - No update.
 - **Other:**
 - Deb will be bringing back Turkey Trot; she requested from \$150-\$300. John O. made a motion for HPAC to allocate up to \$300 for Turkey. Amy seconded. All in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Kiosk Maintenance:**
 - No update.
 - **Other:**
 - John O. has been watering; he trimmed down overgrowth at Eastwood
 - The tire swing is broken, and a request has been made for its repair
 - The old-fashioned lights have been fixed.

- **Jacob Playlot Park:**
 - Jay asked to get an electrical outlet for concerts; Deb put in the request a while ago but recently followed up with another electrician. It should be ready to go in time for the September 9 concert.
- **Sunken Gardens:**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- No report.

Concerts Committee:

- We have our last show of the season September 9 at Jacob Playlot Park. It is the first show at Jacob, so HPAC is excited to activate another park for music. This is the Old Town School of Folk Music's show, with Jess McIntosh and Aaron Smith. Their music is described as "Americana."
- Anyone who would like to volunteer at future concerts should contact Jay Lyon at jay@lyoncommunications.com.

Horner BrewFest Committee:

- John F. requests funds to go towards ash tree treatment. The cost would be roughly \$6,600 to treat the 70 ash trees.
- John O. made a motion for HPAC to allocate up to the cost of the treatment. Alan seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.
- John F. and Peter still want to debrief Kiala and Deb.

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- **Fundraising:**
 - The Burning Bush Event on August 4th went well. There was a great turnout, and the event raised more than \$3,500.
 - The Calendar Contest is in the voting phase; the DFA hopes to have calendars available for sale online in October and at the Farmers Market on October 15.
 - The DFA is considering a Howl-O-Ween event at Stay on October 29th.
- **Build and Maintenance:**
 - No build update.
 - Ongoing maintenance continues; the DFA is considering large stones as additional landscaping and water management around the spray pool area.

Stewardship Committee:

- John O'Connell will organize a fall prep day at Manor Park in October, likely on Saturday October 15 from 9am-12pm; the final date is to be determined.

Communications Committee:

- Facebook posts were published about the softball field proposal and alerting folks to the Guatemalan parade closures.

Website Committee:

- Minutes through July 2022 have been posted on the HPAC website (hornerpark.org).
- The calendar would be updated.

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

New Business:

- **Ruby Cleaners development proposal:**
 - The owner wants to redevelop and rezone the Ruby Cleaners lot.
- A recent stargazing event, sponsored by Joe Guzman was held at Horner Park recently.

Old Business:

- The Ecuadorian Festival was originally scheduled for August 13-14 but was cancelled.

Announcements:

- None.

Motion to Adjourn:

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

Next Monthly Meeting:

The next HPAC meeting will be October 5 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Horner Park Fieldhouse.