

**Horner Park Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday February 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting conducted at the Horner Park Fieldhouse**

Attendees:

Ben Barker
Erica Beutler
Dana Dougherty
John Friedmann
Gretchen Helmreich
Daniel Honigman
Amy Jahnke
Jay Lyon
Peter Schlossman
Kirsten Southwell
Diane Sutliff
Kerrie Rovito (CPS)
Sarah Bethel (Spark Montessori)
Stacy Niemiec (Spark Montessori)
Carlton Jones (HPNWLL)
David Post (HPNWLL)
Lola Post (HPNWLL)
Deb Groh (Chicago Parks District)

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

Review of December 2022 Minutes:

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

Annual Report Review:

- The annual report has been distributed. All officers and committee leads should provide feedback as soon as possible, ideally before February 15.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report:

- We are in the quiet months of the year, so there is little activity in our accounts.
- The 1099NEC and the accompanying 1096 forms were sent in early January.
- Transition continues to Chase Bank, and that will be completed by the end of February.
- The 990 Form will be sent to the IRS by February 28.

- Treasurer's Reports and financial statements will follow under separate cover.
- Please send ideas to treasurer@hornerpark.org.
- **Valentine's Dance Support:**
 - Daniel made a motion for HPAC to spend up to \$200 to support the Valentine's Dance. John F. seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.
- **D&O insurance:**
 - HPAC will be renewing its D&O insurance.

Park Briefs:

- **Horner Park:**
 - **Exercise Equipment Progress:**
 - HPAC approved the larger of the two options for the equipment, of which there will be six pieces of equipment. Peter to follow up with Maria Stone.
 - **Walking Path Repair:**
 - No report.
 - **Bottle Filler:**
 - It has been ordered.
 - **Elevator Repair:**
 - No report.
 - **Other:**
 - The gym floors are being repaired after the water damage from Fall 2022.
 - **Mound:**
 - Planting is tentatively scheduled to start April 15, weather permitting. The mound could be open to the public in fall.
- **Ravenswood Manor Park:**
 - **Kiosk Maintenance:**
 - No report.
- **Jacob Playlot Park:**
 - No report.
- **Sunken Gardens**
 - No report.
- **Buffalo Park:**
 - No report.

Stewardship Committee:

- **Waters School partnership:**
 - Waters students have been working with Friends of the Chicago River on microinvertebrate research and want to get involved in stewardship activities. Kerrie Rovito will coordinate efforts with Deb and the Stewardship Committee.
- **Other:**
 - Kirsten mentioned the continued issue of dogs on the Nature Path. She volunteered to spearhead a new effort to create and place new signage.
 - Diane motioned to create a subcommittee for new signage. Erica seconded. All were in favor, and none opposed. The motion passed.

Concerts Committee:

- The Concert Committee is hard at work on the 2023 season. We will feature our usual number of shows, with many at Ravenswood Manor Park but one again at Jacob Park, and another at Horner Park. Artists include:
 - Grammy-winning saxophonist Frank Catalano
 - Local indie artist Nathan Graham
 - The Red Roses, a great band that covers the music of many different artists
 - Local artists and residents including Neptune's Core
- The committee is also working on a Blues in the Park night at Horner Park, featuring an artist or two from the local Delmark Records label. Another show will feature the music of one of the bands from the survey sent at the end of last season. Of course, the committee will also bring back the Narloch Piano Recital and Le Ballet Petit to round out the season with local flavor.
 - This may end up being part of BrewFest. Details are to be confirmed.
- Here are a few highlights from our 2022 survey; there were 22 respondents.
 - The majority wanted to see the number of concerts in the season stay the same.
 - There was clearly a desire for shows to be spread around more. About half the respondents wanted to either see more shows at Horner or to see a similar number of shows at each location.
 - The vast majority wanted to see the shows remain on Fridays, but some wrote they might like to see some shows on Sunday. We may put one show on a Sunday this year and see how the response is.
 - Some respondents commented about featuring bands that were not just covering one artist, and there was also a request to include some multicultural acts.
- The committee will consider all of this as it looks to make the series more inclusive.

312 RiverRun Committee:

- The committee had its first meeting several weeks ago and will have another soon. RiverRun will be on June 24.
- The committee still needs volunteers. Everyone interested should email Peter.

Farmer's Market Committee:

- The 2023 market season will run from June 3 to October 14. (20 markets.)
- The online application page is live on the Horner Park website (hornerpark.org).

Nominating Committee:

- There will be a strategic planning meeting February 25 at Jay Lyon's office.

Horner BrewFest Committee:

- The date will either be July 14 or 21.

Dog Friendly Area (DFA) Committee:

- **Fundraising:**
 - Calendar sales have wound down.
 - A \$1,000 anonymous donation was received in late December.
 - The next event will be the Doggie Egg Hunt. The DFA Committee will work with Deb Groh on details. (Considering April 1 event date.)
- **Build and Maintenance:**
 - No word yet on plan/costs to bring electricity for fountain operation.
 - Regular cleanups continue. The committee is currently getting quotes for spring mulching work.
- **Administration update:**
 - Erica Beutler has stepped down as chair of the Dog Friendly Area Committee. She will continue the role of liaison with the Park District Department of Planning and Construction to finish the DFA build started in November 2020 and to work with HPAC's treasurer regarding DFA finances.
 - Laura Bolesta, Corinne Fleming and Sara Tews will be heading up the DFAC with Laura taking on communications, Sara fundraising/events, and Corinne coordinating volunteers. They will continue to engage other members to help with these and other responsibilities.
- **Other:**
 - HPAC wants to thank Erica Beutler for all her hard work chairing the DFA Committee over the years.

Communications Committee:

- Amy will wait to send the next HPAC email until Egg Hunt and BrewFest dates are set.

Website Committee:

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

New Business:

- Holiday supplies purchase:
 - Deb will request seasonal décor and/or supplies later in the year.
- Bus stop request:
 - HPAC received a request from Whitney Young students to place items (e.g., umbrellas, handwarmers) in the nearby CTA bus stops. HPAC does not think it can influence this effort, since it would take place outside of park property.
- HPAC internship:
 - Erica suggested creating an HPAC internship to address key tasks
 - Diane motioned to form a subcommittee to explore this, especially compensation and supervision. Erica seconded. All were in motion, with none opposed. The motion passed.

Old Business:

- **Arboretum Designation:**
 - HPAC has an opportunity to apply for arboretum designation.
 - Diane motioned to form a subcommittee to explore this further. Daniel seconded. All were in motion, with none opposed. The motion passed.
 - There was a question about the benefits of the designation; John F. responded that it may create new fundraising opportunities, make HPAC a candidate for grants, new tree varieties, and more.
 - Erica made a motion for John F. to pursue applying for arboretum status, contingent of Chicago Park District support.
 - All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.

Announcements:

- The Valentine's Day Dance will be held on February 10 at the Horner Park Fieldhouse

Motion to Adjourn:

Daniel motioned to adjourn at 8:31pm; Jay seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting:

The next HPAC meeting will be Wednesday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. at the Horner Park Fieldhouse