JACKSON PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL 37th YEAR!

J.P.A.C. NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020 Vol. 27 No. 4

NATURE-HISTORY-RECREATION  JACKSON PARK- WE DO IT! WE HAVE IT! BE HERE!

<table>
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<th>BOARD elected 12/09/19</th>
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<tr>
<td>Louise McCurry, President</td>
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<td>Anne Marie Miles, VP</td>
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<td>Gary Ossewaarde, Secretary and Newsletter editor</td>
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<td>Dwight Powell, Treasurer</td>
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JPAC usually meets monthly 2nd Mondays, Feb 10, Mar 09, Apr 13

DUES/ VOLUNTARY CONTR.
$35 BASICTO JPAC c/o Dwight Powell, 7206 S. Luella, Chicago, IL 60649. Or print from website.

CONTACTS
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Dwight Powell (Treas.) 7206 S. Luella, 60649 773 288-4943. dwightpowell216@yahoo.com

Stewards: Jerry Levy (Wooded I sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com
Norm Bell/Gail Parry (Bobolink) normwbell@gmail.com
Nancy Joseph (Columbia Basin) njoseph2008@aol.com
Ed Warden (63rd beach nat area) ewarden@sheddaquarium.org

Chicago Park District- www.chicagoparkdistrict.com
Security 312 747-2193 Lkft Cdr 312-448-3793

MONTHLY MTG- APRIL 13 2020 MON. 7PM AT JP FIELDHOUSE, 6401 S. STONY ISLAND AVE. CANCELLED-all PAC mtgs, events, wkdays thr 4/18

CONTENTS p1 About JPAC/links; pp-2-3 MINUTES; pp3 RESOL ON SHORELINE. WOMEN’S GARDEN ; p4 106 UPDATE. CALENDAR JOIN JPAC FOR 2020. Mail checks made out to JPAC to JPAC C/O Dwight Powell, 7206 S. Luella 60649. (Memb. can be printed from online and mailed with check.) (Fiscal agent Chicago Parks Foundation, a 501c3). Print: http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/JPAC 2020_memb_form.pdf.

FACEBOOK, https://facebook.com/JacksonParkAdvisoryCouncil We do Twitter

BACKPAGES ARCHIVE www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac.
NEWSLETTERS ARCHIVE www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters

MINUTES ARCHIVE http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/minandresolu.htm
Keep current + news details: http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/jpnewsbuls.htm

BOBOLINK website http://www.bobolinkvolunteers.org
Obama Ctr. and related – our continually updated mid 2018 page http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/Obama_Ctr_Reviews_Updates.pdf
GOLF http://chicagoparksgolfalliance.org www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/golf.htm
JPAC’s Obama Center page www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ObamaLibrary.htm
ACE Wooded I info and links- www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ace2014.htm

ELECTR. DELIV Of NL, ADDR UPDATE- garyossewaarde@yahoo.com

The purpose of the JPAC is to provide a forum for …users of Jackson Park; to advise and make recommendations to the Chicago Park District on park improvements and programs (and create/ ensure programs); to encourage long-range planning; promote community use of park & program & partic. in planning, and seek alternative funding.
Minutes of the March 9, 2020 Jackson Park Advisory Council Meeting

Louise McCurry convened the meeting at the fieldhouse and distributed the agenda at 7 p.m., with a quorum present and a total attendance of 21. Minutes of the February meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer Dwight Powell reported a balance of $4,152.44 at the end of February. We received generous gifts [thanks Hyde Park Bank/Wintrust and Fran Vandervoort] and membership renewal of $35 [from Lakeside Lawn Bowling]. [Expenditures were for the second set of preschool furniture and treats for the February 22 event.]

February 22 Black Heroes of Jackson Park kids program. Louise thanked the presenters Andy Carter, Candice Washington, Stephanie Jefferson, and Jamie Claire Flaherty and their organizations. Scavenger hunts, stories, and painting projects helped the kids engage and create. JPAC members assisted. A box of books was given. Members said there is lots of information but you often have to search for it.

Member Pat Harper, President of the Jackson Park Golf Association, described the gala JPGA and women golfer associations held at DuSable Museum February 16 to celebrate Black golf pioneers such as Ted Rose and Walter Stevie. The first Evan Scholarship went to a Jackson Park caddie. The organizations have summer classes for youth golfers and caddies. A video about the pioneers and their struggles is called “Uneven Lies.” She noted that women golfers still face an income disparity. The next program, March 18 at DuSable, will celebrate women golfers, especially African American women golf pioneers. JPGA will hold its invitational September 19 at Jackson Park golf course. Caddie recruitment is underway including in schools in Woodlawn.

Louise noted the energetic Woodlawn Summit March 7, where JPAC had a table in the resource fair. Two dozen took the swimming survey written by the Lurie Drowning Prevention Study. Also there was a large model of the OPC and community programming in the buildings. Blacks in Green and Com Ed promoted solar panels (including for rent) and energy-saving lights and controls. Among speakers, Sen. Durbin announced inter alia convening of area and Great Lakes officials to work on the erosion and resiliency issues.

Increasing lakefront damage all along the South Side was described and discussed by several members. At suggestion of Robin Kaufman, members are asked to go out and take pictures and forward to Louise to submit to officials and agencies; Robin will send some she has. Gary Ossewaarde asked, with Dwight Powell moving and Trish Morse seconding, that JPAC will draft and send to officials and media a letter with resolution urging short and long term action on the shoreline issue. Approved. (The letter as sent is appended.)

Upcoming events, actions, call for volunteers. March 13, Friday- Annual Clarence Darrow readings and wreath toss, east of Darrow Bridge. March 14, Saturday- JPAC’s part in One Earth Film Festival--members (since to be rescheduled). March 21, annual PAC Conference at Malcolm X (since to be rescheduled).

Swim needs and programs- The Lurie-written survey asks about attitudes and experience related to swimming, availability of lessons, and whether a pool would be of value in a new fieldhouse (respondents so far have been unanimous in support for the latter). We will circulate these as we can given the COVID-19 situation. Trina Hollingsworth, Ed.D., shared information and spurred discussion of various kinds of swim and water safety programs, including CPS and CPD. Examples include Kids in the Pool introductory program June 13 at Ellis Park fieldhouse. It was noted that a problem is that many pools are small or in high demand with limited hours (and are tempted to act “territorially”) or are too expensive for local kids. Swimming scholarships often go begging because there is not enough knowledge or understanding of its value. Louise said one approach we should do this summer is have swim and bike safety clinics at the beaches. Trish Morse suggested and moved that we sponsor three swimming scholarships at a CPD pool this summer. It was estimated about $600 would be needed. This was seconded by Andy Carter and approved. Louise will investigate accomplishing this with the Park District. It was noted that Ald. Hairston might be interested in promoting or supporting as she was a champion swimmer at Lab School and does triathlons.

New business. Robin Kaufman asked we investigate a way that persons who have reasons they cannot attend meetings can participate via a conference call.
Announcements. Lanita Ross of the 5th Ward Office encouraged attendance at a meeting hosted by Ald. Hairston on the proposed Woodlawn Preservation of Housing Ordinance March 10 6 p.m. at Hyde Park High School, and a kickoff meeting for the Census to be hosted March 12 at 6 by Congresswoman Robin Kelly at The Quarry Event Space 2423 E. 75th St. (census.gov. Jobs? visit census.gov/jobs or usa.jobs.)

Adjourned by consensus. Next meeting MAY 11 7 p.m. at the fieldhouse [APRIL CANCELLED- COVID-19]

JPAC RESOLUTION- LAKE SHORE EROSION/ DAMAGE ACTION (text as sent to officials, media)

Jackson Park Advisory Council unanimously adopted this Resolution at its March 9, 2020 general meeting:

JPAC supports urgent emergency and continuing action to address severe destruction of the lake shore in Jackson Park, the South Side and the rest of Chicago, and elsewhere in Illinois and the Great Lakes related to unusual high lake levels, storms, and wave action.

In historic Jackson Park, a National Register Property, our Council supplies ongoing documentation of this destruction, which threatens public safety and historic public assets including federal roadways, harbors and piers, bike and pedestrian trails, historic and other structures, beaches, and golf and other recreational fields, and a children’s hospital and which interferes with public access to the public’s waters and with park and regional circulation.

JPAC acknowledges and supports the already undertaken initiatives, task forces, disaster declarations, and search for funding to address the situation in a coordinated way, short term and long term, and for study and action for Great Lakes Shoreline Resiliency.


The current design for the OPC reestablishes the circular feature of the Women’s Garden in its current location and relative elevation (low spot on the site), centering it in the same location as it is presently and at virtually the same diameter. We intend to reuse the stone to reconstruct the walls while incorporating accessible pathways such that the space is able to be used by all. The design maintains 3 access points into the central gathering circle but the access is composed of an accessible surface, instead of the lawn paths there today, and would include the removal of the existing steps in lieu of the new walk.

While you are correct in your assertion that the planting material itself will change, we are replacing and extending the character of the perennial border into the adjacent landscape areas. As you are well aware, with the exception of the small ring of perennial beds at the stone walls most of this area is lawn presently. As a rough means of comparison, the existing Women’s Garden bed areas, composed of perennials and shrubs, measure approximately 22,000 square feet. The proposed Women’s Garden bed areas in the current OPC design more than triple this planting to over 66,000 square feet. Similarly, while there are a series of existing trees in the central garden area that are slated to be removed as a part of the project, many of these trees are declining in health or have structural issues with a potential for long-term problems. To address these removals, we are replacing these trees, and more, in much the same way as we are proposing tree replacements elsewhere on the site. Presently there are 21 trees within what we have defined as the “central garden area” and the OPC planting design currently calls for replacement of those 21 trees plus 13 more bringing the total in this particular location to 34 trees.

Throughout this, I have referred to the current design for the OPC meaning that the current design is still subject to change and further refinement, including an exploration by the Foundation of how to formally commemorate the Women’s Garden space. However, it is our intention to create a space that respects the heritage of the park while expanding and celebrating the landscape that makes it special.
SECTION 106 FEDERAL REVIEW- OPC. UPDATE

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sent an update to the Consulting Parties March 18 summarizing actions undertaken in recent weeks. The update is about communication with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) in Washington (“dispute resolution” and “finding of adverse effect”) that included materials about findings and final comments and answers to the latter. It was a and request for opinion on these. See next steps at the end. Here is a condensation. Gary Ossewaarde. Find links to the full material in the index in https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dcd/supp_info/jackson-park-improvements.html.

FHWA sent a report seeking opinion of ACHP on whether criteria of adverse effect has been correctly applied. Overall and individual findings of adverse effects were made, published, sent to ACHP and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the other consulting parties, opinions/comments were considered and given responses. 20 opinions were submitted. ACHP and SHPO did not object to the findings.

Most of the (non ACHP, SHPO) opinions/objections were to the UPARR finding. FWHA ruled them not applicable to the Section 106 Dispute Resolution (the Undertaking), but they gave responses.

Re: Opinions asking that the OPC be relocated outside of Jackson Park- FWHA says the process has no authority to ask the city to do so, or change the design. February 18 ACHP acknowledged that the FHWA has “…no jurisdiction over the placement and design of the Obama Presidential Center…”

Objections filed to findings of “no AE” on individual properties were deemed not specific so were rejected except for Jackson Park Terrace, for which FHWA submitted documentation. ACHP will submit its opinion within 15 days unless extended another 15.

FHWA will take into account any response from ACHP, summarize that as well as FHWA ‘s rationale for its final decision and share with the Consulting Parties. At that point the Section 106 Review process is complete.

Then the “resolution of adverse effects” step will begin as “we work together to seek ways to avoid, minimize, and mitigate for adverse effects.”

CALENDAR. PUBLIC NOTICE INDEF SUSP OF CPD FLDHSE PROGS, CLASSES.

Workdays, Meetings. All are suspended for various lengths or indefinitely. Earth Day will be rescheduled. Check with our stewards next month about workday re-starts.

Check back about the May JPAC meeting. April 13’s is cancelled.

JPAC is suspending, and will reschedule select, our activities for after May. These include OE Film Fest, White City Tours, Migratory Bird Day and On the Table potluck conversation.

June 6 It’s Your Park Day IS ON, sign up with Chicago Parks Foundation. // As of 3-20, parks stay open—but not playgrounds (thr 4/7 at l), enclosed facilities, or for any gatherings/sports.

WORKDAY monthly schedule -check with the steward contacts re next (COV19).

2nd Saturdays, 9-12 Bobolink Meadow- Meets at the south end by the Golf Driving Range lot. Check with Norm Bell re start at normwbell@gmail.com or www.bobolinkvolunteers.org.

3rd Saturdays, 10-12 Columbia Basin (south of Museum) njoseph2008@aol.com.

3rd Saturdays, 10-12 63rd St. Beach Natural Area Edward Warden- ewarden@sheddaquarium.org.

4th Saturdays, 10-1 Wooded Island. Meet at the south bridge to the Island by the lot at Cornell and Hayes. Contact sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com.

JOBS JOBS JOBS. The Park District has now posted seasonal Laborer, Jr. Laborer, Rec Leader and Lifeguard positions. Visit the CPD website- scroll to the bottom to Site Map.

Jackson Park Golf Assn. Celebrate pioneers in women’s golf- April 18, 6 pm DuSable Museum. Confirm event/ register with JPGA website.