



## JACKSON PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL 34<sup>th</sup> YEAR!

# J.P.A.C. NEWSLETTER JULY 2017 Vol. 24 No. 7

NATURE, HISTORY, RECREATION

**BOARD** elected 11/14/16  
Louise McCurry, President  
Anne Marie Miles, VP  
Gary Ossewaarde, Secretary  
and Newsletter editor  
Dwight Powell, Treasurer

JPAC meets monthly 2nd  
Mondays, 07/10, 08/14, 09/11

**DUES/ VOLUNTARY CONTR.**  
\$35 per person. Opportunity  
levels are available  
TO JPAC c/o Dwight Powell,  
7206 S. Luella, Chicago, IL  
60649. Or in the website.

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[Farah.Tunks@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:Farah.Tunks@chicagoparkdistrict.com)  
773 324-0540.  
**Security** 312 747-2193

**MONDAY JULY 10, 2017 7p.m. (6:30 food setup)**  
**wkg picnic at the Iowa bldg, 56<sup>th</sup> Everett/So Sh Dr.**  
**AGENDA** (Full agenda will be presented at the meeting. Please  
send AGENDA item/additions requests to the president.)  
**Guests, Officer's & Committee reports, Park Safety, PAC**  
**plg, New and Old Business, Announcements. Adjourn**  
**(JPAC us meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. fieldhouse 64<sup>th</sup> -Stony I. Aug. 14)**

**CONTENTS** p1 About/Ann'ts; p2 UPCOMING MEETINGS; p2-3  
Minutes, info; p4 JP CALENDAR (see 7/9 Jazz and appended flyer);  
p 5 Report & thoughts on the park/projects public meetings

**>>> 2017 MEMBERSHIP/DONATIONS** - Mail checks made out to  
JPAC to JPAC C/O Dwight Powell, 7206 S. Luella 60649. (Memb. Is taken  
online but check must be mailed.) (Fiscal agent Chicago Parks Foundation, a  
**WORKDAYS 7/8. 8/12 9 am-12, Bobolink.** [parrybell@ameritech.net](mailto:parrybell@ameritech.net),  
<http://bluestem.info/bobolink>.  
**Wooded Island 7/29 (moved), 10-1** [silevy@jeromelevylaw.com](mailto:silevy@jeromelevylaw.com).

**WEB, links,** <http://www.jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org>

**&/events** **FACEBOOK.** <https://facebook.com/JacksonParkAdvisoryCouncil/>

**Jackson Park in Your Pocket** mobile app- from the website.

**This Newsletter:** [http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters/July\\_2017nl.htm](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters/July_2017nl.htm)

Alt. home, index & Newsletters <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac.html> and

Indexes [www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac), [www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters)

Keep current + news details: <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/jpnewsbul.htm>

ACE Wooded I-news and links- [www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ace2014.htm](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ace2014.htm)

Obama Center <http://obama.com>. and <http://go.obama.org> (/hometown) incl. sign  
up for e-updates

JPAC's Obama Center page [www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ObamaPLibrary.htm](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ObamaPLibrary.htm)

Project 120 [www.Project120Chicago.org](http://www.Project120Chicago.org), [www.gardenofthephoenix.org](http://www.gardenofthephoenix.org)

SKYLANDING [www.skylanding.com](http://www.skylanding.com)

GOLF [www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/golf.htm](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/golf.htm) <http://chicagoparksgolfalliance.org>

BOBOLINK website <http://bluestem.info/bobolink/> JP WATCH, FRIENDS, FOUNDN:

[www.JacksonParkWatch.org](http://www.JacksonParkWatch.org) . [www.fotp.org](http://www.fotp.org). [www.chicagoparksfoundation.org](http://www.chicagoparksfoundation.org)

Friends of the White City: <http://www.friendsofthewhitecity.org>

**ELECTRONIC DELIV OF NEWSLETTER-** [garyossewaarde@yahoo.com](mailto: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 utilization and awareness of park and program and participation in  
planning; and seek alternative funding sources.*

**Notice: Special public meetings** regarding proposed projects, general coordination and framework planning, with updates and public input on park future. **A final Stage 1 meeting will be held July 13, 6 p.m. at South Shore Cultural Center.**

JPAC's July 10 meeting will be its annual planning picnic at the Iowa bldg. Park Safety- police invited. We suggest bringing a chair. Bringing a dish? Arrive a bit early for set up.

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 12 2017 JPAC MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

Louise McCurry opened the meeting at 7 p.m. in the fieldhouse. A quorum was present. New attendees and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes of the May meeting - with a clarification, the minutes were moved by Jerry Levy, 2nded and approved. McCurry reported for treasurer Dwight Powell that we have about \$4,000 in the account after purchasing large fans for the fieldhouse at \$1107.

Reports and guests Adaptive Golf. Larry Labiak and associate described the park district mission that parks be accessible to persons of all abilities, including wounded veterans and survivors of gunshot wounds. Larry is the first department-level manager of programs for such persons. They work extensively with the Ryan Rehabilitation Institute and the Ability Lab and are seeking a place participants can go for mentoring. Several sports now have competitive teams and leagues in the parks for persons with special abilities and needs, including with wheelchairs, and is continually expanding to new sports. This includes a veterans golf camp in conjunction with the Ability Lab. For golf, they have accessible golf carts. They practice at Jackson Park and Diversey Driving Ranges Mondays and Wednesdays. **A tournament will be held September 15, Friday, 1 p.m. in Jackson Park. There will be 24 golfers; visitors are encouraged. Volunteers are needed to attend a planning meeting (several volunteered, for information on this or for registration information on the event, contact [larry.labiak@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:larry.labiak@chicagoparkdistrict.com).**

Golf and park coordinating committees. Jerry Levy, chair, said the committees will meet again after the public meetings presenting the engineering and design reports and proposed golf layouts. Alderman Hairston's golf and park advisory council toured the parks last Thursday. The Alderman spoke of infrastructure and shoreline needs for park and community that should in any case be addressed. CPD Superintendent and CEO Mike Kelly assured that the parks are being evaluated in their entirety, potential plans being coordinated, and public input process being set up leading to comprehensive park plans. He emphasized that the Obama and golf proposals are turning points in really discussing, looking at these parks. Committee members gave feedback.

Program and fieldhouse. Supervisor Bobbie Beckam said that summer camp will have at least 160, more than in recent years. New opportunities will include pickleball for kids and seniors in the fall, including in courts by the fieldhouse and in the gym. He was asked to look into developing a regular adaptive golf program here. Area Manager Farah Tunks called attention to new welcoming flower box plantings and rose bushes at the fieldhouse. The memorial bench will be dedicated at 67<sup>th</sup> and Ridgeland June 17, noon. She also encouraged people to attend and promote the many Night Out in the Parks and other events in Jackson this summer, fall.

History tours. Ray Johnson talked about the Jackson Park history and Columbian Exposition tours he (and occasionally others) leads every Saturday through October at 11 a.m. from the east side of the Darrow Bridge (south of the MSI basin) at the parking lot. Numbers vary to quite large and can last up to two hours, depending on participants' interests and stamina. They are free. Specials can also be arranged, contact [friendsofthewhitecity@gmail.org](mailto:friendsofthewhitecity@gmail.org). They have a website. Suggested was a box for flyers. McCurry showed impressive poster panels by George Rumsey that will be installed on our "history wall."

Safety. JPAC will have a golf cart drive through of the park, including of back areas with Bobbie and Farah Friday to examine and evaluate safety, security, graffiti and repair issues and places. McCurry said JPAC continues to work with very cooperative 3<sup>rd</sup> District police and park security regarding problem places. **2**

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Drummers groups, who drum 7 days a week east of the beach parking lot, asked better marshalling of trash cans and delineation of fire lanes in the lot so people won't miss-park and get tickets. 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Beach was cleaned by JPAC members, teachers and students from Muchin College Prep, and Miss Great Lakes, from Indiana, who is competing in a national water environmental NGO's competition. The beach sweep was assisted by Alliance for the Great Lakes. McCurry asked appreciation for the many large groups from colleges, businesses and service groups from Chicagoland volunteering this spring and summer in Jackson Park. The next will be June 17 It's Your Park Day in Jackson and the Midway inter alia. Missionaries from the local congregation of Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints offered to organize work groups.

New business. Jerry Levy expressed concern and queried whether JPAC should discuss an implication he saw in Preservation Chicago's position (article and letter in the May 31 Hyde Park Herald) that the Obama complex be repositioned in the park to 6300 block of Stony Island, that this would eliminate the fieldhouse or downscale a replacement. Margaret Schmid said this was a misconstruction of the position. Consideration was deferred pending request to take a closer look at the position. [Ed.: The fieldhouse is not mentioned in the letter's paragraph listing the "existing and underutilized" facilities in that block now, but in a following paragraph describing what the complex could include as a community center, "and include a fieldhouse" is stated.]

July 9 afternoon, On the Beach: Remastered- concert at 63<sup>rd</sup> St. in the beach house to honor 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Phil Cohran's (inter alia co-founder of AACM) pioneering jazz series there. [Ed.- Cochran since passed June 28 aged 90- the concert will celebrate his life and career.] Dr. Carol C. Adams introduced the coming event. JPACers will use the occasion also to reflect on the life of its former president Eric Hatchett, who was inter alia sparked the restoration of the bathing pavilion- a plaque has recently been placed naming the upper stories for him—and the Schiff Legacy that funded the interactive play fountain and the serenity garden.

Among the many events offered this summer in the park [see attached schedule] is a series of storytimes with Music for all Ages Tuesday evenings in August at the 67<sup>th</sup>/Ridgeland playlot. Members of **The Lucky Trikes** described their program, which has been in 2 other parks this season. For these and other events visit the park district or [www.nightoutintheparks.com](http://www.nightoutintheparks.com) websites.

Robin Kaufman asked that we continue to be vigilant about private and outside groups wanting to use or locate in parks, citing recent Friends of the Parks Conference sessions attendees from several parks about problems.

Moved to adjourn. Next meeting is expected to be the annual planning picnic at the Iowa Building.

Gary M. Ossewaarde, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

**It's Your Park Day June 17 at LaRabida shores was a smash success-** wheelchair paths, trash, pruning by Scouts 590, Roosevelt students from around the world. Thanks all and to CPD and Chicago Parks Foundation. Other groups come to do service days at a steady pace- thanks to all of them.

**There may be a new concession at 63<sup>rd</sup> St. beach** this summer with a beer & wine taverna and water sport. This was presented at the last ward meeting and had not received its approval as of this writing.

**JPAC is a proud cosponsor of the July 9 commemorative of Jazz on the Beach** (see next page) an opportunity for us to remember former president Eric Hatchett, for whom the beach house balconies are named and the Schiff Legacy fountain.

**We are also proud the park will host September 15 an adaptive golf tournament for**

**Youth sailing program is underway at Jackson Park Yacht Club into Sept.** Visit [jacksonparkyachtclub.org](http://jacksonparkyachtclub.org) or call 773 684-5522 for details, requirements, and registration.

## JUNE / SEPT 2017 EVENTS AND WORK OPPORTUNITIES IN JACKSON PARK

\_Saturdays, 11 am. WHITE CITY free TOURS of history, nature and the Columbian Exposition of 1893 footprint. Meet at the east side of Darrow Bridge (end of the parking accessed from LSD 58th Science Dr. pkg.) Lightning excepted. Ray Johnson, [friendsofthewhitecity@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthewhitecity@gmail.com). special tours available- above email or [commissioner752@comcast.net](mailto:commissioner752@comcast.net).

\_LAKESIDE LAWN BOWLING, southeast of the Museum of Science and Industry. For schedule visit [www.lakesidelawnbowling.webs.com](http://www.lakesidelawnbowling.webs.com). CROQUET ALSO.

\_July 8, Saturday, 9 am-12 pm. BOBLINK MEADOW WORKDAY. Meet at the south end, by Golf Driving Range parking (off Hayes) [parrybell@ameritech.net](mailto:parrybell@ameritech.net). [www.bluestem.info/bobolink](http://www.bluestem.info/bobolink). 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays recurring

**\_July 9, Sunday, 12-6 pm. ON THE BEACH: REMASTERED.** CONCERT CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF KELAN PHIL COHRAN'S ICONIC SERIES and celebrating his life and career. (JPAC will be honoring the upper story naming and plaque for Eric Hatchett and also the Schiff Legacy interactive fountain and serenity garden.) In 63rd Beach House east courtyard. FREE and unticketed. No food or alcohol.

\_July 10, Monday, 7 pm. MONTHLY JPAC OPEN COUNCIL PICNIC & Planning meeting- Iowa building on 56th St. between Everett and South Shore Drive. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays- returns to fieldhouse August 14.

\_July 13, Thursday, 1 pm tee off. GOLF CLASSIC in Jackson Park. Chicago Parks Foundation raises \$ for parks. [www.chicagoparksfoundation.org](http://www.chicagoparksfoundation.org).

// 6 PM MTG ON PARK PLAN, GOLF, OPC- at SO SH CULTL CTR. 7059 South Shore Drive.

\_July 19, Wednesday, 11-2 Senior Day at the Harbor (Museum Shores)- call 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Office, 773-324-5555.

\_July 29, Saturday, 10 am-1 pm. WOODED ISLAND WKDAY. [silevy@jeromelevy.com](mailto:silevy@jeromelevy.com). 4th Sats recurring.

\_August 21, Monday, 12-3 pm. Eclipse of the sun (near total)- there may be a viewing party at 63<sup>rd</sup> Beach.

\_August 27, Sunday, 11 am-4 pm. 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Back to School Picnic at 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Beach.

\_September 15, Friday, 1 pm. ADAPTIVE GOLF tournament.. Volunteers will be needed, and all are welcome. We are very proud to have this event in our park! Info [larry.labiak@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:larry.labiak@chicagoparkdistrict.com).

\_September 16, Saturday, time tba- Adopt A Beach® beach clean.

**Night Out in the Parks** Here are Jackson Park events in this citywide program- some details are not yet worked out. Check out South Sh & Midway online—and their movie and concert schedule is being completed. Full schedule in [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com), [www.nightoutintheparks.com](http://www.nightoutintheparks.com), CPD's My Chi Parks app.

\_August 4, Friday, 6-8 pm. BOTANIZING from a BOAT with lagoon restoration project manager Lauren Umek. (Register with Night Out in the Parks—can arrange to bring your own canoe.) Meet east side of Darrow Bridge.

\_August 8, 15, 22, and 29 Tuesdays, 6-7:30 pm. STORYTIMES W MUSIC at the 67<sup>th</sup>/Ridgeland Playlot (3 blks E. of Stony I.). Deidre Harrison of The Lucky Tykes and audience improvise performance or from beloved books. Visit <https://facebook.com/luckytrikes/?ref+bookmarks>.

Note- rain location is the fieldhouse.

\_August 10, Thursday, 6-9 pm. SUMMER DANCE comes to JP fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony I. Learn, show off!

\_Sept. 1, Friday, 6-7:30 pm. INFERNO MOVEMENTS + Flux Bikes present a participatory soundscape at 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Beach. Build a one-of-a-kind experience.

\_Sept. 15, Friday, 16 Saturday, and 17, Sunday, 6-7:30 pm. HEJLA YATKIN leads DANCE IN THE GARDEN OF THE PHOENIX on Wooded Island. Help create a one-of-a-kind experience.

## **Meetings started on JP Framework Plan, Obama Center, Golf Course, roads and infrastructure**

[This commentary reflects views of its author, Gary Ossewaarde, and not necessarily the Advisory Council]

**WHERE TO READ MORE, POST COMMENTS OR TAKE SURVEYS.** [www.southlakefrontplan.com](http://www.southlakefrontplan.com), [www.southlakefrontplan.com/join-conversation-posting-comments-idea-wall](http://www.southlakefrontplan.com/join-conversation-posting-comments-idea-wall). [www.obama.org](http://www.obama.org). <https://go.obama.org/landscape-survey/>. [www.chicagoparksgolfalliance.org](http://www.chicagoparksgolfalliance.org). See also project links on page 1 and Friends of the Parks list of media reports and opinion- from [www.fotp.org](http://www.fotp.org).

About 600 attended the first of this first set of public meetings at South Shore Cultural Center, 150-200 at that at Hyde Park High School, and a large crowd was turned away from the small venue (75 seats) for the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward meeting June 27. The meetings started with 15 minute presentations on each of the four subjects by the Park District, Chicago Parks Golf Alliance, Obama Foundation, and Chicago Department of Transportation, with Smith Group/JJR engineering giving parts of the presentation and moderating. These gave background, vision and objectives, general plans, ways the park would change under each, and timelines. Renderings were either preliminary and conceptual or else mostly large scale rather than detailed. The Obama Center, being the smallest site and somewhat further along in design gave the best sense of the envisioned spaces and programming. Engineering studies are just coming in for golf and for roads and circulation along with the first Tiger Woods firm layout proposal for the golf course. It was evident that coordination has just started, in part because major decisions such as on roadway closures or remakes and who would fund underpasses and shoreline work have not yet been made. In addition, the main projects have expanded although they affirmed each is within its acreage footprints and every displaced feature will have 1 for 1 replacement (although for sports there will be a demand study, with some space possibly being outside this park –it is asserted there is not room enough for both all existing and all new things.) (Also, the Park District is mapping, assessing the state of, and costing every feature in the park.) There seemed to be different timelines, with the Obama Center to go before the Chicago Plan Commission as early as November. The golf planning is ongoing and driven by funds raised and desire for a tournament in 2021. The Framework Plan revision is supposed to put out for comment and meetings later in the summer, with process to be wrapped up by the end of the year—perhaps after major projects have received approval and possibly not giving enough time to be well thought out and as reflective as possible of community consensus and felt park needs. Nor has it been shown that much thought has been given yet to what features and activities should be in Jackson and what in other nearby parks.

The presentations were followed at the first two by breakouts with a mostly-digital survey interspersed with periods for comments and questions. Few questions were answered except where there was felt to be a clear misunderstanding, in part because they said a deliberate decision was made to listen before preparing working versions, and in part because there is as yet insufficient information or no decisions. There were comments and strong opinions pro and con on plans in part or in whole.

So, beyond those or informational matters, and assuming the major projects move forward...

### **What were some of the flashpoints that need to be given persuasive justification or addressed?**

- The road closures, especially Cornell between 59th and 63rd Hayes and Midway EB Stony to Cornell and whether shifting to LSD and Hayes will make new problems and what might ameliorate that
- Sports field replacement /placement/how many (new track and field was shown south of the Obama Center)
- Fieldhouse future and site
- How much outdoor programming at the Center and its impact west and to nature areas as well as its incorporation of the present Perennial Garden site--Golf – can it truly stay affordable and serve the spectrum of users including local and stay sustainable and how much the site can be accessed by the general public
- Decision not to move the Driving Range but expand it at cost to tennis courts and dog friendly area and need for a guarantee not to diminish or impact Bobolink nature area; golf facility encroachment on courts etc on the west side
- Making the golf perimeter and fencing better and more inviting but not putting off communities
- Golf - amount of tree turnover and guarantee of biodiversity and environmental responsibility and gain.
- By far the major issue for South Shore was moving/reconfiguration and full replacement of the nature area.
- Impacts in the neighborhoods

**JPAC's golf committee and the Alderman's council will assess studies and drawings now in hand. 5**



**ON THE BEACH: REMASTERED  
CONCERT CELEBRATING THE 50<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY OF KELAN PHIL COHRAN'S  
ICONIC SERIES AND HIS 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY  
SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2017**

**Noon to 6pm**

**at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Beach House**

**Performers Include:**

AACM GREAT BLACK MUSIC ENSEMBLE

QURAYSH ALI LANSANA

ANG 13

KHARI B

DAVID BOYKIN

MAGGIE BROWN

LINDA COHRAN

DEANA DEAN

DRUM DIVAS

OBA WILLIAM KING

REV. PERNELL MOORE

AYESHA JACO AND MOVE ME SOUL

NAJWA DANCE CORPS

UGOCHI NWAOGWUGWU

AQUILLA SADALLA

AVERY YOUNG

Special Guests: HYPNOTIC BRASS BAND

And More...



FOOD VENDORS ON SITE

ADMISSION FREE!

This event is made possible with the support of  
AACM CHICAGO • AARP • JOYCE FOUNDATION  
JACKSON PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL • CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

For more info visit [FACEBOOK 'ON THE BEACH: REMASTERED HONORING PHIL COHRAN'](#)