



## JACKSON PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL 34th YEAR!

# J.P.A.C. NEWSLETTER May 2017 Vol. 24 No. 5

JPAC- PROTECTING NATURE, PRESERVING HISTORY, SUPPORTING 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, 05/08, 06/12, 07/10

**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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Vandervoort (Nature trail /app)  
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773 324-0540.  
Security 312 747-2193

**MONDAY MAY 8, 2017 7p.m.**

at the fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony Island Ave.

**AGENDA** (Full agenda will be presented at the meeting. Please  
send AGENDA item/additions requests to the president.)

Guests include CDOT

Officer's and Committee reports, incl. park coordinating.  
New and Old Business, Announcements. Adjourn

CONTENTS p1 About/Ann'ts; p2-3 Minutes; p4 news; p5 coming ev

>>> **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.) Basic level: \$35. (Fiscal agent Chicago Parks  
Foundation, a 501c3.) <<<

**WORKDAYS.** 5/13, 6/10 9 am-12, Bobolink. [parrybell@ameritech.net](mailto:parrybell@ameritech.net),  
<http://bluestem.info/bobolink>. Wooded I 5/27 10 am-1.  
[silevy@jeromelevylaw.com](mailto:silevy@jeromelevylaw.com). + SEE EVENTS CALENDAR PAGE 5.

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

<http://www.jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org/events>

**FACEBOOK** (please "like" us). <https://facebook.com/JacksonParkAdvisoryCouncil/>

**This Newsletter:** <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters/May2017nl.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 Library <http://go.obama.org> (/hometown) incl. sign up for e-updates

JPAC's Obama Library 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.*

# Minutes of the April 10, 2017 Jackson Park Advisory Council meeting

President Louise McCurry convened the meeting at 7 p.m., a quorum and total of 22 being present. Intros. March minutes were moved and approved. Noted as clarification by Dwight Powell re: our minutes and a Hyde Park Herald Article—The caddie positions offered by Chicago Parks Alliance starting this year are for freshmen-seniors but freshmen and sophomores are especially encouraged so the youth can receive an optimum of training and mentoring and qualify for college scholarships.

Treasurer. Dwight Powell reported an end of March balance of \$5,793.81. Significant membership renewals and contributions were received, including \$100 from LaRabida Children's Hospital—thank you.

Committee and special reports.

Golf Alliance communication: Four tournaments will be held this year by area clubs, including Women's. Encouragement of high school student sign up for the caddie program was asked so a full contingent can start this spring. McCurry reported on a large meeting of golf clubs, city and park officers, and some stakeholders with the Alliance to share ideas and suggestions and concerns.

Wooded Island workday is coming up – there is lots of trash.

63<sup>rd</sup> beach house area and beyond- Saturday 62 volunteers from the University of Chicago Service Center picked up trash, mulched trees there and mulched new shrubs by the driving range. More UCSC teams will work in the park monthly. UCSC is heartily thanked.

Park in Your Pocket Ap. Fran Vandervoort asked members to view Draft in Vamonde.com (password creation is required) and give her feedback. Once final additions are made, the app will be made public. Fran was heartily thanked for her vision and hard work on the project.

Bobolink. Norm Bell and Gail Parry reported that 25 kids aged 6-12 from Project Vision in Chinatown joined other volunteers for the hard work of re-chipping the path and removing invasives in the wooded area. They also described the nature play space created in Cornell Playlot Park. (Members were asked to think about having one at one of our playgrounds.) Cornell held a wildly successful "play date" for toddler through primary age children and their families April 8. Pictures- [www.bluestem.info/natureplayspace](http://www.bluestem.info/natureplayspace).

Sailing Program. Edmund Gueringer, Jackson Park Yacht Club Commodore, said they can teach 100, but there is already a wait list for this year's sessions. Ages are 8-14. They use what is called bug boats. (The PD program at Northerly Island goes up to age 18- but there is also a Sea Scout program at Jackson. JPYC so far has to charge more than the PD.) The Club, whose membership is going up, is really involved. Next step is a swimming program –people can spread that word and create a demand. Noted: insurance cost for swimming and sailing instructors is high. Learning to swim is important in itself for youth and also is a prerequisite for sailing and boating lessons. Meanwhile, there are swimming learning programs at various Park District facilities—these do fill up right away. Members note there used to be swimming lessons at 63<sup>rd</sup> St. beach. Rental hours at the South Side YMCA could be explored. The harbor also has kayaking groups.

Park and fieldhouse. Registration for summer camp and programs opens online April 25 and in person May 5. (Unlike at some other parks, ours do not fill up immediately.) Programs start June 26. Pickleball by the fieldhouse is ready to go. 22 girls are in spring break camp—the boys are on a trip to Orlando.

On the Table. Jackson Park will host one of these community conversations May 16. [Ed.- in the fieldhouse 6 p.m. More information will be in the Newsletter.]

Social Media. Jake Young reported our posting program is robust (website, Facebook, and Twitter) but we need more of both news stories and pictures. Send Jake your ideas at [jake.r.young@gmail.com](mailto:jake.r.young@gmail.com). For both the website and Facebook use JacksonParkAdvisoryCouncil.

Lakeside Lawn Bowling Club. Open House is Sunday May 21 afternoon. The club bowls Wednesday evenings. While it is a wonderful activity for seniors, they encourage younger people and children and seek new members. Lorrie and Tom Michael reported difficulties with getting needed lawn tending and asked JPAC's good offices. Tom handles club communications-- [bigguylor@comcast.net](mailto:bigguylor@comcast.net).

Earth Day April 22. Louise McCurry described the evolving day-long program, including work at Wooded Island, 57<sup>th</sup> St. Beach, and the Music Court area, also singing and stories.

One Earth Film Festival will also screen “The City Dark” with community speakers and discussion at the fieldhouse at 4:30- Dawn Posey and others described that program and the city- and community-wide One Earth Film Festival held every April-- [www.oneearthfilmfest.org](http://www.oneearthfilmfest.org).

May 6. International Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated May 6, 9 a.m. to noon at the South entrance to Bobolink Meadow (see details in the Newsletter—to volunteer contact Louise McCurry at 773 844-2225).

There will be a foot race in the park that day. Also on that day in the afternoon: our first White City/history/nature tour for the season takes place (see the Newsletter).

May 20- 67<sup>th</sup> /Ridgeland Playground. Big block picnic party and named bench dedication by Chicago Park District takes place Saturday, May 20, 12-4 p.m. This has been organized by Sylvia Brooks and friends. A storytelling program for July Saturday noontimes there is being organized.

Coming in June—June 8, 11:30 a.m.: Chicago Fire Department water safety demo at 57<sup>th</sup> St. Beach; June 15 evening: Jackson Park 5K Classic Run and Walk, funding the Tri-Masters and South East Chicago Commission. (Report by Lanita Ross of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Office)- contact the office regarding participation 773 324-5555.

June 17 is It's Your Park Day- details on work projects and activities are coming.

Golf and park coordination and planning. Chicago Parks Golf Alliance reported meetings with numerous high school coaches and kids in local public and private high schools to promote the caddy program and creating golf teams to play in Jackson and South Shore courses. Golf will remain free to youth. Under the consolidation proposal Junior Golf will have a new facility and the many teams and leagues using the courses will have preferred tee times and low pricing. There will be four tournaments this summer, including Women's. A large meeting was held today by the Alliance and its supporters with representatives of the city and park district, the various leagues, and stakeholder and youth groups—many ideas and concerns were shared. Alderman Hairston's advisory Council and JPAC's Park and Projects Coordinating Committee continue to meet.

Pictures of damage to and needs of the fieldhouse were shared with the Alliance and the Obama foundation, which say that the fieldhouse issue is in their planning. Brenda Nelms asked that JPAC set up a fieldhouse committee to start gathering ideas on what the community wants in the fieldhouse and to call attention to the fieldhouse as a high priority. Kenny Newman urged people to think big for the fieldhouse.

William Hill of William Hill Garden and Gallery reported that he will manage reconstruction of the ecology garden of Hyde Park Academy High School, which is across from the park at 63<sup>rd</sup>, and has grants to create a community mural project under two artists in the 64<sup>th</sup> Street rail underpass.

Safety items included sand drifting at the south end of 57<sup>th</sup> St. Beach impacting the Lakefront Bike Trail, storm damage around 63<sup>rd</sup> St. and La Rabida areas, and Marquette Dr. underpass still flooding. James Farmer expressed a desire for higher priority for security matters in the park. McCurry said it's always on our radar, and security forces have been quite successful in heading off problems as they emerge.

Moved to adjourn c. 8:45 p.m. Next meetings May 8 and June 12, 7 p.m. in the fieldhouse.

Respectfully submitted, Gary M. Ossewaarde, Secretary.

YOUR SOURCE FOR NEWS ABOUT JPAC AND JACKSON PARK-

Website: <http://www.jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org>.

Events: <http://www.jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org/events>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com> # Jackson Park Advisory Council.

To get the Newsletters electronically (or by snail mail), email with your contact info

[garyossewaarde@yahoo.com](mailto:garyossewaarde@yahoo.com). For the links to view the latest archived Newsletters (both PDF and online versions, see page 1 above.

## **Jackson Park in Your Pocket app is now live! Use it plan your park visit or as you visit.**

From Frances S. Vandervoort, Trail and App Project chair:

I'm pleased to report that the high tech, "smart trail " *Jackson Park in Your Pocket,*" that I and other JPAC members have been developing for nearly a year is finally on line and available to interested parties. The trail development was supported by Project 120 Chicago, video-recorded by 720Films.com, and powered by VaMonde.com. The director of Vamonde, Dr. Anijo Mathew, arranged for final editing of *JPYP*. I have benefited through the help of many other organizations, including the Chicago Park District, the Tuskegee Institute, the Biltmore Estate (for the image of Frederick Law Olmsted), and the Museum of Science and Industry.

I encourage you to access this free program through [www.VaMonde.com](http://www.VaMonde.com), choosing a password, then selecting *Jackson Park in Your Pocket*. There are eight "signposts" (focal points), including adventures introducing Jackson Park, Bobolink Meadow, Wooded Island, the Golden Lady, and the Barack Obama Presidential Center. Each comes with a "how to get there" map, photos, videos, and narratives.

JPAC members are convinced that this the appropriate time to promote Jackson Park in an appropriate, meaningful way. We believe that people in Hyde Park and beyond will find this useful and interesting.

**New from the Golf Alliance and on park planning**, as at Alderman Hairston's April 25 monthly ward meeting: (See also in the minutes, above.)

A concept report and drawings should be available and be shared in May. Their engineers, SmithGroup/JJR has taken an expanded survey of grounds and structures (including historic) and their needs both in the golf footprint and nearby and taken into account both extensive input from golf and other stakeholder groups and the potential for park changes from other projects such as the Obama Center. One outcome from discussions is a strong commitment to a state of the art facility for junior golf and to preservation of the Cecil ParTEE golf club headquarters. One of the difficulties is connections for both golfers and the community, especially at 67<sup>th</sup> and South Shore Drive.

Since there are so many moving parts to the project, the concept drawings will show many alternatives. (If x goes here, y and z could go there.) The park as a whole is being taken into account by the various project proposers, CPD, advisory committees and outside groups and their engineers. Alderman Hairston asked for a bit of patience so we can have both real alternatives in park-wide perspective to look at when the larger conversations begin. She is also having conversations on matters from roadway and access impacts to firm protocols for career-building and other community benefits.

**CDOT has installed much-needed curbs and wheel chair crossing** at 59<sup>th</sup> Street and Cornell Drive, an especially difficult crossing that provides access between the Midway and Wooded Island. We are inquiring about adding crossing signals to the existing traffic light.

**Chicago Children's Choir, screening of "The City Dark" are highlights of EARTH DAY in JP.**

A goodly work crew renewed the mulch trail through the middle of **Wooded Island** on April 22 morning. After noon, a different crew picked up 180 pounds of trash on the **57<sup>th</sup> Street Beach and others cleaned Promontory Point and Midway Plaisance**. The Midway PAC had additional activities and entertainment. Starting about 2:30, 75 members of the **Chicago Children's Choir** made their way from 63<sup>rd</sup> St. parking lot through Wooded Island, stopping to sing at Yoko Ono's Skylanding then over to the Columbia Basin and Music Court where the sang again and then picked up and bagged another 180 pounds of trash.

**At 4:30 in the fieldhouse gym, One Earth Festival screened "The City Dark"** that shows the consequences of poor choices for lighting- especially with a blue component. Effects on personal health and sleep as well as wildlife and learning about our universe. Representatives from several organizations & park police engaged with the 70 attendees in discussion about what we can do, including with our park's lighting. **FIND PICTURES OF THESE AND OUR OTHER EVENTS ON THE WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK.**

**Continue such conversations starting with Migratory Bird Day 5/6 and On The Table 5/16.**

## JACKSON PARK/JPAC ACTIVITIES, WORKDAYS MAY AND EARLY JUNE 2017

\_May 6 Saturday-9 am to 12 pm

**International Migratory Bird Family Day.** All kids and adults invited.

Meet at 63 street Golf Driving Range Parking Lot (by Bobolink, off 63rd). Activities include building a bird house, making a bird feeder, competing in bird scavenger hunt, making and creating bird photos, Joining a Bird Count, and taking a guided Bird Walk with a bird guide.

\_May 6 Saturday- 9 pm (evening!)

**"Flashlight Night Tour through Jackson Park"**

Sponsored by Park District, JPAC, and Jane's Walk. Bring your own Flashlight and meet at the Golden Lady statue on 63<sup>rd</sup>/Hayes Dr. midway between Lake Shore Dr. & Cornell Dr.

Register on "Jane's Walk "Website— [www.janeswalkchicago.net](http://www.janeswalkchicago.net).

\_May 8. Monday- 7 pm

**JPAC monthly meeting** (2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays) Fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony Island Ave.

\_May 13 Saturday- **Bobolink Meadow Workday**- 9am-11am+

Meet at 63rd street Driving Range Parking Lot (south entrance of the Meadow). [parrybell@ameritech.net](mailto:parrybell@ameritech.net), [www.bluestem.info/bobolink](http://www.bluestem.info/bobolink)

\_May 13 Saturday- 11 am. **Free Tour of Jackson Park and the 1893 World's Fair.** Meet at the Music Court south of the surface lot south of the Museum. (Pay parking machines) (Additional regular tours start in June and go into October.)

\_May 16 -Tuesday-**On the Table Breakfast at LaRabida**- 7 am- 8:30 am register at [www.larabida.org](http://www.larabida.org).

\_May 16- Tuesday- 6-8:30 pm. **JPAC's On The Table Potluck discussion and meal.**

- Men bring Dessert and Drinks,

- Women Bring main dish or fruits and veggies -Let's celebrate the successes of the Last year Let's plan another great year in Jackson Park. Register at [garyossewaarde@yahoo.com](mailto:garyossewaarde@yahoo.com), info Gary at 773-947-9541.

\_May 19 Friday- 9-6; May 20 Saturday- 9-4. **Hyde Park Garden Fair Annual Spring Sale**

With HPKCC. Hyde Park Shopping Center Courtyard, 55<sup>th</sup>/Lake Park. PAC volunteers welcome.

[www.hydeparkgardenfair.org](http://www.hydeparkgardenfair.org).

**Also:** May 20 Saturday10-2- **South Shore Cultural Center PAC and Open House Committee Geranium and Plant Sale.** 7059 South Shore Drive south entrance colonnade.

\_May 20, Saturday, 12-4 pm. **Picnic and named bench dedication**- 67<sup>th</sup>/Ridgeland playground.

\_May 27-Saturday- 10 am-1pm. **Wooded I. Workday.** South entr. [sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com](mailto:sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com).

\_June 3- Saturday – 1-3 pm. **63<sup>rd</sup> St. Beach Sweep.** JPAC with Alliance for the Great Lakes "Adopt A Beach. Meet east side of 63rd street Beach House. Bring water, sunscreen dress for weather. We have gloves, recycle and trash bags, and scales. Register at [www.greatlakes.org](http://www.greatlakes.org).

\_June 4, **Sunday** 11-1 pm. Join JPAC sponsored U of C **Day of Service** Students and Alumni workday and a Tour of the Wooded Island.

-11 am -begins at MSI west Parking Lot (Cornell Dr. south of 57<sup>th</sup> St.- note, no parking in lot)

-1 pm -Ends at south Wooded Island entrance at 63rd and Cornell parking lot.

Coming: June 8 noon Fire Dept demo 57<sup>th</sup> Beach, June 10 Bobolink Workday, June 12 PAC mtg, June 15 evening Jackson 5K run and walk, June 17 It's Your Park Day cleanup.- am fieldhouse, 1-2 at LaRabida. **5**