



The Conference Reporter

Vol. 11, No. 1

Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference

Winter 2005



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HPKCC MISSION

The purpose of the Conference is to attend to the civic needs of the community; work toward an attractive, secure, diverse, and caring community; and to promote participation of residents, businesses, institutions, and organizations in programs and activities that advance the interests and concerns of the community. It serves the community as a watchdog, independent voice, and clearing house in the community's ongoing conversation and decisions about those matters which affect and define community life.

Responding to the strongly expressed opinions of many members, the HPKCC Board voted at its December meeting to form a working group to focus on “community safety.” Because of its importance, this focus group would consist of the current chairs of the committees on Condos/Coops, Parks, Schools, and Transit, since safety impacts each of these areas. The Board reached this decision on the basis of a shared sense that, due to what seems to be increased reports in Hyde Park of car jackings, knifings, more visible drug dealing, and more widespread threatening and intimidating behavior, safety is a growing concern for the future well-being of our neighborhood.

Many Board members expressed first-hand experiences with drug dealers and threats of violence, especially in the blocks adjacent to 53rd Street. Some expressed concern that the Chicago and campus police are over-extended and not patrolling 53rd, since Hyde Park is viewed as a relatively safe area; others felt that CAPS meetings were ineffectual.

On Dec. 15, interested Board members met with Bob Mason, head of the South East Chicago Commission. The fact that 15 out of 18 Board members attended emphasized the board's concern. Mr. Mason pointed out that HP-K generally ranks well in the city as a safe neighborhood, but noted a 5% increase in robberies and a 28% increase in burglaries from 1999 to 2003 (figure 1, “Common Sense: Your Guide to Safe Urban Living 2004-05,” by the University of Chicago); the same report shows an 11% drop in violent crime and a 59% drop in sexual assaults for the same time period.

The Conference next plans to meet with area police district commanders. Efforts will continue to publicize the WhistleStop program. Other actions may include a community survey, requesting empty stores on 53rd Street to turn on their lights at night, and a possible public forum on safety.

Community Forum on the State of HP-K Public Schools

by Homer Ashby

On Monday, March 14, 2005 the Schools Committee of the Conference will be holding a public forum on “The State of the Public Schools in Hyde Park/Kenwood.” The forum will be held at the Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, 5480 S. Kenwood Ave. The forum will run from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Featured presenters at the forum will be Virginia Vaske and Norma Rodriguez, Area Instructional Officers of the Chicago Public Schools. Also principals, Local School Councils, and PTA representatives from the schools will have a chance to make presentations on what is occurring at their schools. The forum will primarily be informational. Our hope is that the community will be better informed about what is happening at the various schools and what impact Renaissance 2010 or No Child Left Behind is having on our schools. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers as well as a chance to discuss follow-up plans for the future.

From the President's Desk...

Oops! I suppose that after the start of a New Year is the appropriate time for apologies and *mea culpas*. Let's see, where shall I start?

First, for you members who recently got a letter asking you to renew your membership—but with no membership renewal form—that was my fault! In our autumn round of membership renewals, one member made a very good suggestion: We should enclose return envelopes. I thought that was a terrific idea. Since the Conference has been deeply involved for months in switching its antiquated membership database to a new system, this seemed like a good time to try to improve the process. Let the computer generate the renewal letters and envelopes, so all we have to do is stuff! OK, I stuffed, but I didn't stuff enough. So, you folks who haven't renewed yet will find another note *and* a membership form included with this newsletter.

Second, you would think I could spell our aldermen's names correctly. I really do know how to spell them. So, to *Lesley* Hairston and *Toni Preckinkle*, I'm sorry that my spell-checker does not catch your names; the computer can't do everything (at least yet). And I'm a lousy proofreader of my own material. I wanted to note that I don't do it on purpose just to irritate you!

There. Confessions are good for the soul, so they say. And if you would like to help save me from myself, you could always get involved. Remember that all of us who put out this newsletter, send out your membership renewals, hold the transit and school and condo forums, put on the Garden Fair, protect the parks, etc.—we're all volunteers, and we could use some help! Er, help!

George W. Rumsey
February 20, 2005

Don't Curse the Darkness, Call 311!

By Trish Morse

Be the eyes and ears for the city services and the aldermanic offices for your neighborhood. They aren't always in a position to know when things aren't working—but you are. People may not know why they feel better in a neighborhood with enough trash cans, fixed sidewalks, and lit streets. Things are transparently right. But it's obvious what's wrong when a street is covered in trash over broken pavement that trips you up in the dark. Neglect feeds on itself. For a safer, healthier neighborhood, when you see something that needs fixing, call 311.

This was my discovery one night as I was walking home from work. The streetlights were out on 56th Street. Ordinarily, I'd have just walked through the darkness, muttering to myself that someone ought to fix it. But for once, I had another idea and I called someone in the Fifth Ward alderman's office. Sure enough, the lights got fixed. What a sense of accomplishment the next night to see my way home!

I often would mutter about a pothole or a piece of badly broken sidewalk, but I had been daunted before because I didn't know who to call when I saw something wrong. I had been reluctant to call 311 because I thought it was mostly for non-emergency police reports. I also assumed that a call there would get lost in the shuffle. As it turns out, 311 is there to get your call about city business to the right place—whatever place that is. It can even answer question about city and Park District events and festivals. Better yet, your call for a city service becomes part of a tracking system that the aldermen use as well as the city to follow through on the problem.

So, I called for a garbage can for the bus stop on my block for all the trash that gets strewn about. I called about an abandoned car that was slowly settling into last autumn's

leaves as the air left its tires. As a result I have a neater street with more parking. If your request isn't one of the routine ones, 311 will tell you who to call. For instance, if the lights are out in the park across the street, that's a Park District responsibility, but 311 can get you to the right place.

If you don't want to call, you can enter things into the 311 database directly by going online to <http://egov.cityofchicago.org/>. Click on "Request a City Service" in the left-hand list. On the page that opens, the link to the full list of forms will give you the full range of possibilities—from building code problems to potholes, abandoned animals and animal cruelty to street signs, from graffiti to trees on the public way. But remember, the city doesn't shovel sidewalks or fire hydrants.

There is of course a hitch. The city doesn't have the money to fix everything. As a result, the city provides each alderman with a menu of services and a limited amount of money. As the budget crunch worsens, more and more gets put on the same menu with no increase in the amount of money the alderman has to work with. But the city can't fix and aldermen can't put on their menus what they don't know about. It's still worth a call!

You can also call the aldermanic offices to report problems during office hours:

Fourth Ward, Toni Preckwinkle
4646 S. Drexel
Chicago, IL 60653
tpreckwinkle@cityofchicago.org
Ward Phone: 773-536-8103

Fifth Ward, Leslie Hairston
1900 E. 71st Street
Chicago, IL 60649
lhairston@cityofchicago.org
Ward Phone: 773-324-5555

Remember:

www.hydepark.org

for the latest news and information about what's going on in the
Hyde Park-Kenwood neighborhood



Condos/Coops Plans Additional Forum

As the *Reporter* was going to press, the HPKCC Condos/Coops Committee was finalizing plans for an April, 2005, forum. Alderman Leslie Hairston will co-sponsor the forum on condominium and cooperative issues at the South Shore Cultural Center; HPKCC anticipates the details will be finalized shortly.

Once again, Attorney John H. Bickley III, of the Kovitz Shifrin Nesbit law firm, will cover some of the most important legal and governance issues faced by condos and coops. Don't miss the opportunity to attend this forum if you have questions about your legal rights and responsibilities as an owner of a condo or coop. It is also important to know what is supposed to happen when you communicate with or interact with your association board or management. Bickley will distribute copies of publications that he has prepared related to the Illinois Condominium Property Act, assessments, insurance, and litigation and contracts.

To be included on the upcoming announcement mailing, call HPKCC at (773) 288-8343, send an e-mail to hpkcc@aol.com, or watch for details at www.hydepark.org.

*Condos/Coops Committee Co-Chairs,
Jay Ammerman and Dot Baker*

Garden Fair Mourns Loss of Three Members

by Bam Postell

In 2004 the Garden Fair Committee lost three outstanding members, each of whom will be missed for many reasons.

Catherine "Kit" Klinger, one of our longest serving members (since 1970 at least), died last April. Kit had been a stalwart on countless buying trips, particularly for the Annuals Department. In recent years, though she pared back her activity a bit, she always worked the whole day of setting up (the hardest day) regardless of the weather, because she wanted to see things done right. She was always in good cheer, and at parties she was a mean shot with a water pistol. What a combination!

Just before Christmas we lost Mary Milner, who was head of the Vegetables Department and fall mums and chair of special projects, plus a number of other special tasks in running the Committee. Mary's loyalty to the event and to the people involved was enormous. We will all remember how she swung in to help any part of the Fair—she was always thinking of the event as a whole, and as a shopkeeper herself she wanted the customers to see the beauty of it and to get what they wanted. Shoppers will remember her in the colorful flannel shirt printed all over with vegetables that she wore to every Fair.

The day after Christmas, the tsunami in Sri Lanka cruelly took away one of our newer, but beloved, members, Tamara Mendis. Tall, graceful Tamara worked in House Plants, particularly orchids and tropicals, but she was always ready to help any other part of the Fair that needed it. Tamara was always cheerful, funny and busy, and at the same time serenely self-contained. She was a blessing to be around.

We are an aging group, and while we nurse our hurt over these human losses, we have to enfold more volunteers who love the event as we do, and find ways to continue producing the best event in Hyde Park.

Garden Fair Announces Dates for Spring

by Carol Schneider

Since its beginning 46 years ago, the Hyde Park Garden Fair Committee has been dedicated to beautifying the streets and gardens of our community, while helping support HPKCC. This year the Fair will be on Friday, May 13, 9-6, and Saturday, May 14, 9-4, at the Hyde Park Co-Op Shopping Center. The fair continues its tradition of offering the newest, best, and most suitable plants for our area.

For example, the Perennials Department will have the new fragrant coneflowers, echinacea 'sunrise' (yellow) and 'sunset' (orange), along with new selections for shade gardens. Among the Vegetable winners is the miniature eggplant 'Fairy Tale,' perfect for the container garden. Ground Covers will offer a top-ranked cultivar of dead nettle, *Lamium maculatum* 'Album', which has white-striped green foliage and white flowers. Among the ferns in the Wildflower section will be *Athyrium* X Ghost, a Lady Fern with dark stems and silvery fronds, and the new Japanese painted fern "Bradford Beauty" (new leaves are burgundy with silver veins and tips, which mature to silvery-green with purple mid-ribs).

The Garden Fair Committee also provides grants to support beautification projects, and will even donate plants for parkways and street corners for residents who live from 47th Street to 59th Street, Cottage Grove to the lake. Please call (773) 947-8383 after March 1 for details. As always, our Help Desk at the Fair will be available to help you plan your gardens.

We are also seeking volunteers to help with the Fair from May 12 to 14. If you would like to get involved in this fun gardening event, please call Sue at 363-4368 or visit us online at www.hydeparkgardenfair.org.

At left, 2002 Garden Fair Committee



“Creating a Hyde Park landmark district has been talked about for almost three decades to no avail . . . Nearly 220 survey-rated buildings sit in a proposed Hyde Park landmark district outlined for the Chicago Landmarks Commission in 1986.” Hyde Park Herald, 10/27/04

The following guidelines were used by the board of the Narragansett in seeking landmark status.

David Guyer, Narragansett Board President

Historic places are nominated to the National Register by the State Historic Preservation officer (SHPO) of the state in which the property is located. Any individual can prepare a nomination to the National Register. Nomination forms are documented by property owners, local governments, cit-

izens, or the SHPO staff. Nominations by states are submitted to a state review board, composed of professionals in American history, architectural history, architecture, prehistoric and historic archeology, and related disciplines. The review board recommends to the SHPO either to approve the nomination if, in the board's opinion, it meets the National Register criteria, or to disapprove the nomination if it does not.

The Historic Preservation Process ~

is provided by the publication of pending nominations in the Federal Register.

Note: The National Register of Historic Places is a federal program, and all applicants go through similar procedures. Except on federal or tribal lands, applications are initiated in the state in which the property is located.

Steps in the application process:

Step 1: The applicant reviews information about the National Register from materials received from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA), Preservation Services Division.

Step 2: The applicant sends information to the staff for advice about the suitability of

applicant should be aware of an additional 60-day review period for properties within Certified Local Government communities. Applicants with properties within a CLG are encouraged to contact the local historic preservation commission at an early stage in the nomination process. Applicants with properties NOT in a CLG may skip this step.

Step 3: The applicant receives an advisory staff opinion and full application materials if the staff believes the place to be a likely candidate for the National Register. If the applicant receives a negative staff opinion, but wishes to prepare a nomination form, they can request the full application materials. The points in the staff's advisory letter will deserve special attention in the nomination form. The points raised by the staff anticipate difficult questions that will likely be raised by subsequent reviewers. Applicants with properties within a Certified Local Government (CLG) community may be required to provide additional documentation.

The Historic Preservation Process ~

are given at least 30 days before the Council's meeting to comment on the proposed designation. In cases where there are more than 50 owners within a proposed historic district, owners will be given general notice by newspaper legal notice. At the Council meeting, the applicant and other interested parties can address the Council relative to the proposed designation, according to the Council By-Laws.

Step 4: The applicant must return a complete nomination form (required information including maps, photographs and slides). If the information is incomplete or incorrect, the applicant will receive an explanation of the additional required material.

Step 5: If the property is within a CLG community, (Chicago is a CLG) the community has the authority to comment on the eligibility of the property for listing on the National Register. The form will be forwarded to the local government to review and submit its opinion to this office. The

Step 6: The complete and correct nomination form will be scheduled for the next meeting of the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council. There are deadlines throughout the year for the Council meetings. The owner of the property and the relevant local government are notified of the Council's pending consideration and

Step 7: If the Council advises for designation of the property, the nomination will be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, who evaluates the place and can nominate it to the National Register.

Step 8: The Keeper of the National Register, Washington, D.C., who has the final authority to designate a place, will review the nominated place. All interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed designation. If the nomination is approved, the place is designated in the National Register of Historic Places.



Components of the Application

- Statement of Integrity
- Statement of Significance
- Photographs
- Floor Plans (individual properties only)
- Site Plans (districts and sites only)
- Location Map

Statement of Integrity

Submitted on a separate piece of paper.

Address

Provide the street address or legal location of the property. For districts or sites, provide the boundaries of the area.

Classification

Indicate the type of property—is it a resi-

its construction. For districts, indicate how many properties have significantly altered their original appearance.

Statement of Significance

Association with events, activities, or patterns

Did a historic event occur there? Was the building used by the community for education, government, social, or business?

Association with important persons

Is the site important because historical figures lived or worked there?

Distinctive physical characteristics of design, construction, or form

Does the property or site represent certain

of Rehabilitation is in effect. Individuals participating in the program will remain eligible for both the homeowner's exemption and the senior citizen exemption offered by the Cook County Assessor's Office. This can result in substantial tax savings over a period of several years.

The Required Procedure and Result to obtain the Certificate of Rehabilitation and tax benefits:

- Designation on the National Register of Historic Places
- Obtain Certificate of Rehabilitation from Illinois Historic Preservation Agency upon completion of rehabilitation work. Individual owners must spend at least 25% of the Property Assessment Value

Including Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places

dence? Commercial building? Barn? Include other structures on the property that may also be significant (a garage that was constructed at the same time as the house, or a silo that was built during the farm's period of significance). If describing a district or site, include what type (residential district, park, farmstead, etc.). Give an estimated number of properties within a district.

Date Built

Indicate the date built. If unknown, give an approximate date. For districts, give a range of dates, beginning with the earliest known date of construction (i.e.: 1925-1998).

Original Use

Indicate the historic use(s) of the property.

Original Description

Describe the property as originally constructed. For districts, give an indication of how many properties have basically maintained their original appearance.

Siding

Indicate whether new materials, such as vinyl or aluminum siding, have been installed. For districts, give an estimate on the number of properties that have new materials.

Alterations/New Additions

Indicate whether interior or exterior alterations (new windows, porches, remodeling) or additions have been made to the property. Include dates. Also indicate if any materials, features, etc. have been removed since

architectural styles or building types? Is it the work of one or more important architects? Builders? Artists? Planners?

Potential to yield important information

Does the property or site have any archaeological significance?

Additional Supporting Documentation

Photographs

For individual properties, include photographs of all exterior sides and all rooms on all floors. For larger structures (hotels, apartments, etc.), submit representative photographs of similar rooms (offices, hotel rooms, etc.) but include interior photographs of the rooms on the main level. For historic districts, include photographs of representative views, streetscapes, and vistas. Photographs should be no smaller than 3"x5" and can be color, black and white, or digital. Be sure to label all photographs.

Floor Plan/Site Plan

Include floor plans of individual properties and key photographs to the floor plans. For districts and sites, include site plans.

Location Map

Include a map showing the location of the property or site.

Financial Benefits of Listing on the National Register

Individuals who participate in this program will accrue significant property tax savings during the period for which the Certificate

(as determined by the Cook County Assessor) on the rehabilitation.

- Individual owners have the Certificate attached to their Property Tax Record by the Cook County Assessor.
- The tax freeze rolls back the Property Assessment Value to the level when rehabilitation work began. It is in effect in full for 8 years; over another 4 years the Property Assessment Value is gradually raised to the "current" level.
- The tax freeze is valid for the owner who first obtained the Certificate of Rehabilitation. When a unit is sold, the seller's tax freeze is not transferable. However, the new owner may "renew" the previous owner's tax freeze by performing further rehabilitation amounting to at least 25% of the Property Assessment Value.
- An owner may only benefit once from the tax freeze program. However, future owners may apply individually for the Certificate of Rehabilitation based on their own rehabilitation project.

Contact Information

Further information on the National Register process may be obtained from Amy Easton at (217) 785-0315 (or email at amy_easton@ihpa.state.il.us). The mailing address is:

Amy Easton, Assistant Survey and National Register Coordinator
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

Someone You Should Know:

Ron Grzywinski

by Nancy Baum

Ron Grzywinski, the chairman of ShoreBank Corporation, was born in Hyde Park, but grew up on the far southeast side of the city. He and his wife Audrey live in Hyde Park and raised their three children here. Ron recalls working while in college in a Kroger grocery store located on the site of Kenwood Academy. Ron got his start in banking at the First National Bank of Lockport, then co-organized a group of investors that purchased the Hyde Park Bank in 1967. Subsequently, he became one of four co-founders of ShoreBank Corporation and purchased the South Shore Bank in 1973 for the specific purpose of investing in the then rapidly deteriorating and disinvested South Shore neighborhood. Since its inception, ShoreBank has literally changed the face of the community. By developing a community oriented model it has become world renowned for its attention to developing communities, improving the environment, yet all the while keeping the bank profitable. The first ten years' history of ShoreBank is chronicled in University of Chicago professor Richard Taub's book, *Community Capitalism* (Harvard Business School Press).

South Shore Bank's initiative was a catalyst for legislation bearing on lending in low

income areas. In 1977, Senator William Proxmire introduced and Congress passed a piece of legislation called the Community Reinvestment Act. Ron was the only banker to testify in Congress in support of this law that requires banks to make a certain amount of loans available in low- and moderate-income urban neighborhoods in order to help rehabilitate and stabilize these communities.

When former President Bill Clinton was governor of Arkansas he saw the potential for his state and invited ShoreBank Corporation to create a rural development bank based on the Chicago model. Later, as president, Clinton introduced the Community Development Financial Institutions legislation that allows banks to compete for a small number of federal awards for investments in inner city neighborhoods and provides investment capital to banks, credit unions and nonprofits that specialize in community development.

In the area of housing alone, ShoreBank has already financed the rehabilitation of 30 percent of the community's housing units, providing access to the resources that have purchased or renovated more than 42,000 affordable residences within the city's South Shore communities. Today, ShoreBank helps encourage its customers to choose environmentally friendly building products and energy efficient appliances to reduce energy costs, preserve natural resources and make the home more comfortable. Local rehabbers are fast becoming part of the green building and design industry that is giving them a competitive edge in the home improvement market. Loans to local small and mid-size businesses as well as employee training and development programs by the bank's nonprofit affiliates have helped create and retain more than 10,000 local jobs. The bank has financed several businesses, residential developments and nonprofit organizations, including Lots in Common, The Little Black Pearl Workshop, and Pizza Capri.

ShoreBank is America's first and leading community development and environmen-

tal banking corporation. Headquartered in Chicago, Shorebank has banks and affiliated nonprofits in Chicago; Cleveland; Detroit; Ilwaco, Washington; and Portland. Oregon; business development services in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and consulting services around the world.

In Oregon, ways are being sought to sustain the west coast's seafood industries. By working with local fisherman to certify the crab and oyster fishing industries, ShoreBank is ensuring these seafoods are being processed and marketed in a manner that protects the ecosystem while helping to stimulate economic development in the region. Consumers are acquiring the knowledge and information they need to know to select the products that have been properly processed while being assured that they are not endangering the species. ShoreBank also seeks ways to encourage local organic dairy farming and raising of Heritage turkeys.

Internationally, starting in 1983 ShoreBank went to Bangladesh and Pakistan to help local institutions establish banks that focus on loans to self employed people... Later it trained bankers in Poland, Russian, Bulgaria, Romania, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Ron has recently been to Kabul, Afghanistan where he felt a lot of entrepreneurial energy: ShoreBank is seeking ways to help farmers channel their resources from raising poppies to other legitimate crops.

The ShoreBank's website www.shorebank-corp.com has more information on the nation's first and leading community development and environmental banking corporation.

In the 1960's, Ron was a member of the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference, working with Al Raby and others doing what Ron calls: "Trying to save the world." Whistlestop was one of the outcomes of that period. Since then he has lost touch with the Conference and has not been aware of what the organization has been doing. Since Ron is an avid vegetable gardener (right here in Hyde Park), he was interested in learning that the Hyde Park Garden Fair is part of the HPKCC and is subsumed under its nonprofit status. As a matter of fact Ron is going to be featured in the March/April edition of *Chicagoland Gardening*. You can be sure that his garden is "organically correct."



HPKCC Represented at “The Civic Knowledge Project”

by Clairan Ferrono

On Saturday, January 29, 2005, The Civic Knowledge Project of the University of Chicago, run by the Dean of the Humanities, Danielle Allen, hosted a seminar entitled “Enhancing Assets: A Resource Network for the Arts, Cultural and Humanities Organizations.” Invitations were extended to a large circle of arts organizations in Hyde Park, Kenwood, Bronzeville, and Woodlawn. It was very well attended.

Danielle Allen opened the meeting by introducing the Civic Knowledge Project, which hopes to increase communication and understanding, “a mutual exchange of knowledge and pooling of resources,” in the larger university community—the mid-Southside. The seminar consisted of three sessions of workshops and a keynote address.

Workshop A, “What Is Humanities Content?”, was a lively, highly academic, and intellectual discussion led by James Chandler, professor at the University of Chicago, and Angel Ysaguirre, a director at the Illinois Humanities Council. Of potential interest to HPKCC was a remark by Ysaguirre that the Humanities Council has never received a grant proposal for anything related to a discussion of public policy. He indicated that they would favor such a proposal.

The second workshop was “ABC’s of Fundraising” run by three fundraisers at the University: Brenda Nelms, Sarah Tuohey, and Shaleane Gee. It covered the basics of finding potential donors, researching, de-

signing proposals, developing relationships, and stewarding grants.

The third workshop was “Building a Public Relations Campaign,” led by Jenny Lawton, a producer at Chicago Public Radio, and Leslie Bardo, Director of Communications at the University. Again, this workshop covered the basics of communications strategies to draw media attention to events.

Of greatest interest was the keynote address by Diane Grams, Associate Director of the Cultural Policy Center at the University of Chicago, and professor in the Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies. Her talk addressed the issue of “understanding the socio-economic context of arts and humanities organizations.” She and Michael Warr (who attended the seminar) are the authors of “Leveraging Assets: How Small Budget Arts Activities Benefit Neighborhoods,” a project funded by the Driehaus Foundation and the MacArthur Foundation. Very briefly, their investigation discovered that small arts and humanities organizations (with budgets under \$100,000) and tiny “networks” (smaller and less hierarchical than organizations) improve community life by providing access to resources (people, money, facilities, space, and technology), building social relationships, and enabling community problem-solving by bridging different sectors of the community.

The University hopes that more events will grow out of this one.



Winter on the Midway

Why Not Join or Renew Your Membership TODAY?

Membership Form

Level:

- Family \$25
- Individual \$15
- Senior..... \$10
- Friend \$100
- Supporter \$200
- Sponsor \$500
- Other _____

I am interested in the following programs:

- CAGL (Academic Games)
- Condos/Coops Governance
- Development/Preservation
- Hyde Park Garden Fair
- Membership/Fundraising
- Nichols Park Advisory Council
- Parks Committee
- Schools Committee
- Transit Task Force
- Website and Reporter
- WhistleStop/Safety

A community issue that concerns me is:

Member Information:

Your Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

HPKCC is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Please send this form along with your check, made out to Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference to:

Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference
1513 E. 53rd Street
Chicago, IL 60615
Telephone: (773) 288-8343
E-mail: hpkcc@aol.com
<http://www.hydepark.org>

Actions of the HPKCC Board

December. Pursuant to Ammerman's move to establish a Community Safety Committee, the Executive Committee proposed a meeting with Bob Mason, South East Chicago Commission. Rumsey also announced that the *Reporter* and membership databases are in the new system.

Ossewaarde reported that park advisory councils are bracing for cutbacks in the 2005 Park District budget as well as reorganizations. Withrow reported that the next transit forum will focus on Metra improvement. Withrow and Morse attended a meeting on University of Chicago long-term expansion plans and parking and transit improvements. They noted that a committee has been formed by the University to explore more public transit options, including to downtown.

Ashby reported that the Schools committee met and planned a forum on a community agenda for schools that the committee can work for. Ashby also reported for Friends of Blackstone. He encouraged all to attend a lecture January 27 at Blackstone Library by Danielle Allen on "Talking to Strangers: Since Brown versus Board of Education." Ashby also read a draft letter to Co-op Markets on closure of the 47th Street store.

The Nominating Committee proposed M. L. Rantala for vice-president. There being no nominations from the floor, Ashby moved the nominations be closed. Rantala was declared elected.

Davis moved that we form a committee to act on issues of governmental and institutional process. The Board so approved. Serving on the committee are Davis, Ossewaarde, Rantala, and Withrow.

Morse discussed a Town Meeting held by U of C Provost Richard Sallers to unveil University long-range expansion plans and planning objectives.

Withrow led a discussion of the Conference's role and identity. Davis noted our ideal role is clear and known; precisely what we should do will become more clear as we continue to expand our programs. This conversation will be continued at future meetings.

January. Ossewaarde (Parks) reported on budget squeezes and partial restoration, changes to regional boundaries, progress on Jackson Park issues, and a hopeful statement from Ald. Hairston on Promontory Point. Withrow (Transit) stated the next open meeting is expected to be on Metra and Gray Line issues. Howard (WhistleStop) reported a meeting with a large neighborhood condo to buy whistles; more visible promotion at the 55th St. Co-op was suggested.

Members who attended the special meeting with Bob Mason of SECC on public safety reported their impressions that the meeting promised little forward motion. Key committee chairs were encouraged to meet to continue the conversation.

Dina Weinstein reported on gains (more books) and wishes for Blackstone Library (more friendly staff, more teen programs).

February. The Finance Committee (Pugh, Ammerman, Freelain, Rumsey) met twice in January to prepare taxes for the conference. Taxes were submitted to both the IRS and to the Illinois Office of the Attorney General.

The Board convened in Executive Session to discuss the Conference's identity, role, and goals, at the request of Withrow and approved in January. Various opinions were expressed on how to identify the Conference, with many supporting the idea of "community improvement."

Rumsey announced that Hank Weber would attend the March meeting.



HPKCC

Officers

President: George W. Rumsey
First Vice President: Jay Ammerman
Vice President: James Withrow
Vice President: M.L. Rantala
Secretary: Gary Ossewaarde
Treasurer: Jane Pugh

Directors

Homer Ashby, Nancy Baum, Jane Comiskey, George Davis, Judy Dupont, Clairan Ferronno, Irene Freelain, Lynne Heckman, Joanne Howard, Trish Morse, Joy Nieda, Benjamin Smith, George Cooley (emeritus)

PROGRAMS

Chicago Academic Games League
Community Forums
Condos/Co-ops
Hyde Park Garden Fair
L.I.L..A.C.
Nichols Park Advisory Council
Parks Committee
Preservation Committee
Schools Committee
Transit Task Force
WhistleStop/Safety
Zoning and Development

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