Standing resolutions and records regarding naming of the 63rd St. Bathing Pavilion for president Eric Hatchett (deceased 1999)

(Note that then President Nancy Hays gave the Park District a detailed album of materials, letters and petitions in favor of the naming.) Gary Ossewaarde, Secretary, August, 2012

October 12, 2004 JPAC resolution

Whereas the 63rd Bathing Pavilion is in process for City of Chicago landmark status, and whereas Eric Hatchett, the person most responsible for the Pavilion's restoration as a major Chicago and South Side facility, deserves recognition for his work on behalf of the Pavilion, therefore JPAC asks that the 63rd Street Bathing Pavilion be named for Eric Hatchett.

February 14, 2005 (re: below: CPD officer/official on the matter – Commissioner Robert Pickens and Commissioner Margaret T. Burroughs)

JPAC by consensus agreed to the compromise resolution reached by its officers and park district officials concerning naming the upper balconies of the 63rd Bathing Pavilion for Eric Hatchett.

From the February 2005 minutes (March Newsletter)

Petersen reported on a solution in progress for honoring Eric Hatchett at the recently-landmarked 63rd Street Bathing Pavilion. President Nancy Hays, Vice President Ross Petersen, and Secretary Gary Ossewaarde met with Chicago Park District administrators to pursue resolution, as per standing JPAC resolutions. (Thanks to Tibor Heisler for transport.) The parties agreed the balcony pavilions will be named for Hatchett. This goes to the Board for a 45-day public comment period. Planning staff will seek a historic design for brass signage. Hatchett worked hard to have the structure saved and restored. Commissioner Margaret Burroughs urged recognition for Hatchett after his 1999 death.

Final approval given by Chicago Park District Board

From the April, 2005 JPAC minutes

63rd Bathing Pavilion upper balconies named for Eric Hatchett

At its April meeting, the Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Park District gave final naming after Eric Hatchett to the balcony pavilions of the recently landmarked 63rd Street Bathing Pavilion at the 63rd Street Beach. Jackson Park Advisory Council wishes to thank all those who worked for or granted this naming: the Park District Commissioners, especially Margaret Burroughs and Robert Pickens, General Superintendent Timothy J. Mitchell, Director of Community and Government Affairs Judy Martinez, Director of Planning and Development Arnold Randall, Manager of Community

Outreach Robert Steele, Planning Department planner and Park District historian Julia Bachrach, Lakefront Director Megan McDonald, Alderman Leslie A. Hairston (5th), Friends of the Parks, the Hyde Park Herald, and the many members of the Council starting with President Nancy Hays, who prepared a fine album of materials on Hatchett and the Bathing Pavilion, wrote letters, circulated petitions, and kept all the parties at it until a good solution was achieved.

Hatchett was encouraged well over a decade ago to take on rescue and restoration of the huge 1919 Mediterranean Resort style beach house and subsequently was JPAC president. He died in 1999, a few months before the reopening of the Pavilion with a wonderful interactive play fountain made possible by the Schiff family legacy. JPAC and others subsequently worked to have the facility named for Hatchett.

This year a resolution, originally proposed by Park District Commissioner Pickens, was mutually agreed upon between JPAC officers and Park District planners, was granted 45-day public comment period by the Board of Commissioners, and given final passage April 13. JPAC will next work with the park district to find and pay for a bronze plaque with an attractive design.

63rd Street Bathing Pavilion is a distinctive and pleasurable landmark visible from afar along the lakefront. There is ample parking on both sides of Lake Shore Drive and a new, themed underpass with a reconstructed dune vegetation. North of the facility, the 1880s granite-paver sloped beach is being reconstructed. Facilities include water sports, large cycles, the interactive fountain, and a serenity garden. Let's do our part for reduced pollution and swim bans this year.