



JACKSON PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL 33rd YEAR!

J.P.A.C. NEWSLETTER August 2016 Vol. 23 No. 7

JPAC- PROTECTING NATURE, PRESERVING HISTORY, SUPPORTING RECREATION

OFFICERS

Louise McCurry, President
Anne Marie Miles, VP
Gary Ossewaarde, Secretary
and Newsletter editor
Dwight Powell, Treasurer
Jake Young, Cherry Theard-
at-large:membership, web/media

*JPAC meets monthly 2nd
Mondays, 08/08, 9/12, 10/10,
11/14, 12/12, 01/09*

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.**

CONTACTS

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Chicago Park District-
www.chicagoparkdistrict.com
Fieldhouse/Supervisor:
Bobbie Beckam 773 256-0903
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773 324-0540

MONDAY AUGUST 8, 2016 7p.m.

at the fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony Island Ave.

Monday August 8, 2016, 7p.m. AGENDA

(Submit items in advance to president McCurry- see contacts at left)
Guests.

**Minutes/Fin. Reports/updates/actions, Old/new business,
adjourn**

CONTENTS p1 About/ann'ts; p2- Minutes; p3/4 In our park

>>> 2016 MEMBERSHIP/GIFTS - Mail checks made out to JPAC to
JPAC C/O Dwight Powell, 7206 S. Luella 60649. or bring to the meeting. We
hope online giving will be restored soon. Basic level: \$35. (Fiscal agent Chicago
Parks Foundation, a 501c3.) <<<

Bobolink workdays 2ndSats9-12. Aug 13 <http://bluestem.info/bobolink>
Wooded Island workday Aug 13 10-2 check w. Jerry Levy,
sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com to be on listserve for details, access.
LaRabida workday details are on the website.

**World's Fair tours- Sats 9 am: 1st at Music CT, 3rd at Midway skate
rink, 4th La Rabida Hospital main entr.**

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

FACEBOOK (please "like" us). <https://facebook.com/JacksonParkAdvisoryCouncil/>
Newsletter online <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/newsletters/Aug2016nl.htm>.
Alt. home, index & Newsletters: <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac.html> and
Indexes www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac, www.hydeark.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
Obama Library- www.obamapresidentialfoundation.org
JPAC's Obama Library page www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ObamaPLibrary.htm
Project 120: www.Project120Chicago.org, www.gardenofthephoenix.org
BOBOLINK website: <http://bluestem.info/bobolink/>
Friends of the White City: <http://www.friendsofthewhitecity.org>
ELECTRONIC DELIV OF NEWSLETTER-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 JULY 11, 2016 JPAC MEETING

Louise McCurry called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., a quorum present, adult attendance 32. (We were pleased that some brought children and teens.) All who contributed to the fine picnic were thanked, especially Dwight Powell for the home-barbecued chicken. McCurry introduced the videotape tea, for the Jackson Park tour-in-your pocket project, Joshua Jackson and Donnell McCrairie of 720 Films, a South Shore firm.

Dwight Powell asked for a moment of silence in memory of those who died or shot and over the violence of the past week and previously.

Each present described their most exciting positive experience or favorite things in the park this year, then things that should be reported for fixing or could be improved. (The list is attached.)

Dwight Powell noted that patrons of the Golf Driving Range and other members of the public are angered that this South Side facility some days closes as early as 5 p.m. and opens late, apparently due to lack of staffing.

Jake Young and Ray Johnson described progress on the website and Facebook page.

Norm Bell and Gail Parry reported on several Bobolink Meadow workdays in May and June that included groups from Gary Comer Prep (despite snow on the ground one day) and youth from Chinatown. McCurry noted groups are coming for LaRabida cleanup in July and August. The June 18 cleanup and mulching in the Music Court area had about 12 volunteers. A large group mulched the Wooded Island trail June 23 and there will be a workday and tour on the Island July 16 10 am-2 pm from the south bridge.

There is a new head of Park District Lakefront security, Thomas Snooks. (Noted: Park District offers do not have powers of arrest, so call 911 if you encounter a threatening situation.) Members asked for a safety-security section on the website with phone numbers and emails. Roberta Siegel reported safety concerns including with cars and bikes on the Point that Kenneth Newman said were being reported and addressed. Some of our members including Esther Schechter and Zelia Stevens walk parts the park daily as observers, reporters and as people presence. Sylvia Brooks is seeking volunteers to help her in rounds at the south end of the park. Problems with activity continue especially in the south and west edges.

Treasurer's report. Dwight Powell reported a \$4,710.90 bank balance. \$300, as appropriated was spent for summer camp- \$100 for fees for needy families and \$200 for supplies.

Minutes of the May and June meetings were moved by Anne Marie Miles, seconded (Fran Vandervoort/ Dwight Powell and approved.

Playgrounds. Replenishment fibar is needed at some, and volunteers to rake it back under slides and swings from time to time. Need for more amenities such as benches and trees is being assessed for the two playgrounds on 67th street that are getting new play equipment. A ribbon-cutting celebration is anticipated, perhaps in the second week of August. Ms. Brooks is seeking to have the west playground named for T.R. Sims. Naming suggestions are sought for the east playground.

Jane Masterson showed examples of damaged leaves including oak from the park. Diagnosis and solutions are being researched.

1-hour Columbian Exposition tours schedule: Saturdays 9 am.

1st Saturdays (August 6, September 3)- north part of the park, meeting at the Music Court parking.

3rd Saturdays (July 16, August 20)- The Midway, meeting at the skating rink.

4th Saturdays (July 23, August 27)- south and east, meeting in front of LaRabida Hospital main entrance.

Bylaws amendment. Per previous month's discussion and request there for revision, the secretary read and explained new language for Section III, Sections 2 (and 3 for organizations), that "An individual is a voting member if they have attended at least two meetings during the prior twelve months." (Old was "second meeting.") After discussion the question was called and approved 12 for and 4 against.

Moved to adjourn. The next meeting will be on August 11 at the fieldhouse.

Submitted by Gary M. Ossewaarde, Secretary

IN OUR PARK. The following were noted by attendees at the July 11, 2016 JPAC picnic as best or most exciting associations with the park during the past year.

LaRabida shore, especially the carvings in stone blocks from 1892 on.

The loads of garbage removed

Major activities: Migratory Bird Day, Its' Your Park and really good workdays and tours:

New attendees, visitors and allies, new points of view

Jackson Bark and other communities of people

On the Table dinner May 10

Chosen Few picnic

Andy Carter and his telling and singing about George Washington Carver's time in Jackson Park

New playgrounds in and coming

Field Museum involvement monitoring monarchs and milkweed and birds

Discovery and care of oak saplings on the Island, ecological care from micro to GLFER

The 3 yacht clubs and enjoyment of harbors and Lake Michigan

Website, social media development, taping interviews

The following were said to need attention

Golf Driving range closing as early as 5 pm, opening late

Lack of benches / seating (see Dwight, Esther, Sylvia for specifics)

The issues raised by last week's violence and how the park can help or be affected

Darrow Bridge

Marquette underpass

62nd comfort station (may be done?); that by La Rabida

Signage at Jackson Bark

Need for a Safety tab on the website with emergency and fix numbers, possible posting section

More improvements, rethinking at 67th playgrounds under installation

General security and safety, especially south and west edges of the park

Better fibar supply and maintenance, workdays

La Rabida upkeep, beach etc. protection

Trees including oaks under attack by insects and diseases

July 29 the Obama Foundation announced that Jackson Park was selected for the OBAMA PRESIDENTIAL CENTER. Press conference was held August 3. Extensive public process including with a broad advisory council has been promised. Developments and background with links can be followed at <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ObamaPLibrary.htm>.

Our Jackson Park Trail in Your Pocket team has been videotaping park spaces and park users and program providers about their experiences, likes, and needs in the park. We've received much help and support for the costs of this project and give credits as the initial phase is finished. Fran Vandervoort leads.

JPAC had a splendid picnic July 13 in the Iowa building. We shared experiences and problems found and had a splendid feast, including home-grilled chicken provided by Dwight Powell.

Groups have been coming to do cleanup, mulching and other work in Jackson Park—many of them large groups, almost every week, sometimes more than one a week. Much of the work has been done around La Rabida Hospital. If you know a school or organization that would like to have a workday and learn some about history and nature in the park, call Louise at 773 844-2225.

Save the dates for general workdays. Volunteers must sign release forms. Check the contacts re: September.

AUGUST 13- BOBOLINK MEADOW- 9-12details at <http://bluestem.info/obolink> or email parrybell@ameritech.com.

AUGUST 13- WOODED ISLAND WORKDAY (no tour), starting 10 a.m. from the south bridge n. of 63rd east of Cornell. Get on Jerry's notification and update list- sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com.

This will be the only Wooded Island workday in August and will concentrate on the trail mulching.

SEPTEMBER 17, SATURDAY THERE WILL BE TWO BEACH CLEAN ACTIVITIES, under Alliance for the Great Lakes. Please sign up for each at www.greatlakes.org/adoptabeach. While much is supplied, bring your own, dress appropriately, and be expected to sign a release.

9 a.m. to about 11 a.m. a private volunteer group will be cleaning 57th St. Beach.

12-2 p.m. JPAC will lead cleanup at 63rd St. Beach. Pre event JPAC contact is Gary Ossewaarde, garyossewaarde@yahoo.com, 773 947-9541. Lead and day of event cellphone contact is Louise McCurry, 773 844-2225.

Don't forget the Columbian Expo tours- schedule on page 1.

Chicago Parks Foundation has asked us to help spread the word about Camp Northerly, August 5. This is a fundraiser engaging all ages and a real party for adults. Visit www.chicagoparksfoundation.org.