

HPWNA Board Meeting -- July 9, 2014
Minutes

1. Call to Order -- 7:37 p.m.

In attendance: Jonathan Sweeney; John Friedmann; Gretchen Helmreich; Mark Jones; Libby Karier; Yolanda Olvera Thompson & Michael Thompson

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from June 11 meeting approved with amendments.

3. Treasurer's Report

Balance as of June 30: \$1,568.09

Outstanding deposits: \$20

Outstanding payments: \$250 (estimated; receipts not yet received) for summer kick-off party

4. Meetings Attended

a. CAPS – Beat 1724

No meeting this month. Next meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 12

b. 33rd Ward TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee)

There will be a religious procession this Saturday. It usually goes down Cullom; this year it will be on Montrose, with one lane closed to traffic. Not sure of the starting time, the end will be at 1:15 at Montrose & California. There appears to be some progress on the efforts for better traffic planning with all the parades in our neighborhood in August and September. No details, but more information should be available in early August.

c. HPAC (Horner Park Advisory Council)

i. The farmers' market launches this weekend. It is a sell-out on vendors.

ii. HPAC is partnering with Welles Park to host the Circus in the Parks program; volunteers will be needed for the shows, Oct. 17-18-19. There will be 5 shows total. HPWNA has been asked to help sell ads for the program that will be distributed at all Circus in the Parks events (not just the one at Welles Park). While only a portion of the money from staffing the event will go to HPAC, 100% of the money from the ads sold on behalf of HPAC will go to HPAC.

iii. The Dog Friendly Area committee had a meeting with the Parks people downtown. The park district is not interested in a park the size originally proposed. The district proposed a space of only 12,000 square feet (about 1/3 of an acre) and with pea gravel as the base.

iv. The riverfront work is continuing, but there are several areas of concern. First, there has been some fear about the steps to the river being too steep. Also, there is a construction delay because a source of water was hit during

construction and there needed to be tests to figure out where it is coming from – there are at least eight places where the water (it is storm water, not sewage) is flowing into the river. And finally, the walkways are believed to be too narrow, and not the width originally proposed. The lower walkway is 2' wide and the upper walkway is 4' wide.

d. Bateman LSC

The meeting was July 2. It was purely organizational, electing officers for the next 2-year term.

e. NRC (North River Commission)

i. The executive director stepped down; John Friedmann is the interim director.

ii. There are a lot of fun things coming up through the NRC: a concert, the Red Moon Theater event; Albany Park Worldfest.

iii. There will be a lunch with Toni Preckwinkle on Weds., July 16, at 3224 W. Lawrence. The lunch starts at 11:30; the presentation begins at noon. Cost is \$25

5. Committees

a. Social

i. Summer kick-off party post-mortem. The turnout was not as high as hoped, but the weather was iffy and we did get several new people to show up. It was a good turnout. We need to do better planning on the raffle prizes for next year. Libby will write the thank-yous (and also will send out the thank-you letters from the June kick-off party). It was felt that we should shift it to another location next year. Suggestions were the Montrose Saloon or Breakroom (if it has outside space).

ii. TGIF will be July 11 at Jonathan and Susan's. Mara has said she can host in August and Libby has volunteered for September.

iii. Block party. Saturday Aug. 16. All the paperwork is filed. To avoid neighbor confusion, Jonathan will flyer people on his block to let them know the neighborhood party is on the same block. The planning committee will meet next week to start getting into the details. Jonathan asked out getting 'no parking' signs to put up a few days before the party.

b. Beautification

Cleanup is this Saturday. It will be Mozart. Mark M. will take on leading this group. We need to talk it up at the TGIF. The Aug. 9 cleanup will be Richmond & California; September we might do Sacramento again.

c. Economic Development/Forward Progress

i. Mark J. and Gretchen got together to talk about the vision boards. No update.

- ii. Windy City Playhouse is moving into a building at 3014 W. Irving Park (the north side of Montrose, a few doors west of Leader Bar).
- iii. Burgers & Barley Pop, a sports bar, is opening in the old Theater Café/DeVine/Café Pasadita spot.
- iv. High Five Resale reopened after recovering from the fire damage.
- v. New strip mall at Sacramento/Montrose. Construction is still stopped while awaiting ComEd to move the poles and wires. The graffiti is getting very bad; Gretchen said she will e-mail the alderman about it.

d. Communication

- i. activity is picking up on Wiggio and FB.
- ii. Website. There are some things that still need to be tweaked, so no launch yet. It won't be up before Aug. 19. But the new site should be easier to maintain.
- iii. Yolanda asked about Spanish language outreach. While we tried it in the past, a decision was made to try it again – for the party flyers and the annual meeting. Also to try to put something in Spanish on the website.
- iv. It was decided we should get a table at the Farmers Market – either just HPWNA or a shared community groups table. Perhaps all the local civics share one table and each group rotates providing the staffing of it? Or we just rotate when each group has a table.

6. Old Business

none

7. New Business

Michael raised the issue of people going to the bathroom in the park, particularly near the small garden area known as Wendell's Garden (near Belle Plaine and California) on weekends. John said he would talk to Tom about the issue.

8. Adjourn -- 9:02

Next meeting: Aug. 13; tentatively scheduled to be held at Montrose Saloon