



JACKSON PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL 32nd YEAR!

J.P.A.C. NEWSLETTER

June 2015 Vol. 22 No. 6

JPAC- PROTECTING NATURE, PRESERVING HISTORY, SUPPORTING RECREATION

JPAC WAS NAMED 1 OF 10 "GOLD PAC'S" AT THE MARCH 29 2015 PAC CONFERENCE!

OFFICERS

Louise McCurry, President
Frances S. Vandervoort, VP
Gary Ossewaarde, Secretary
Dwight Powell, Treasurer
Jake Young, Cherry Theard-
at-large:membership, web/media

*JPAC meets monthly 2nd
Mondays. 2015 6/8, 7/13,
8/10, 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14*

DUES/ VOLUNTARY CONTR.
\$35 per person. Opp levels
\$100, \$250, \$500...

TO JPAC c/o Dwight Powell,
7206 S. Luella, Chicago, IL
60649. Or in the website.

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Jerry Levy (Wooded I steward)
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Norm Bell/Gail Parry (Bobolink
stewards)
parrybell@ameritech.net

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www.chicagoparkdistrict.com
Fieldhouse/Supervisor:
Bobbie Beckam 773 256-0903
Region mgr Daphne Johnson
& Area mgr Cordell Hopkins
312 747-7661*

Monday June 8, 2015 7 p.m. (2nd Mondays)
Fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony Island Avenue

MONDAY June 8, 2015 7 p.m. AGENDA
10,000 RIPPLES public art prop'l PRES. (see 2nd page)
Minutes, financial, Gala wrap-up
Reports, including Army Corps project and Library updates,
summer. new/ old business. Adjourn

2015 MEMBERSHIP/GIFTS NEEDED- Mail checks made out to JPAC to JPAC
C/O Dwight Powell, 7206 S. Luella 60649. Or bring to a meeting or email Gary
for form. Basic level: \$35. (Fiscal agent Chicago Parks Foundation, a 501c3.)

***WORKDAYS.** Bobolink—2nd Sat 9-12 parrybell@ameritech.net. 6/13
La Rabida—June 20, Sat., 9 a.m. (a CPKD "IT'S YOUR PARK" event)
Wooded I 4th Sat 10-1 10 am—check with sjlevy@jeromelevylaw.com.
6/27 WI community planting day - meet at south bridge to Island.

***WHITE CITY TOURS** Sats 11 am- May-Oct friendsofthewhitecity.org
Meet east of Darrow Bridge. Parking lot accessed off the Drive at 5800.
WEEKEND IN JP- pickleball Suns 4 59th tennis ct; Ln Bowl, Croquet

***MAY 30 10 am WOODED I WALK** w project mgr. South br to Island.
***MAY 30- "BIG IDEAS FOR SMALL PARKS"** all city workshop at Elm
Park, 5215 S. Woodlawn 9:30-11:30. If rain- Nichols fieldhouse

SEND E-MAIL addresses to garyossewaarde@yahoo.com for timely e-Newsletters.

Official website <http://www.jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org>

Alt. Home, index & Newsletters: <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac.html>

Keep current + news details: <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/jpac/jipnewsbul.htm>

ACE Wooded I- 1.usa.gov/ICLOcCj. JPAC's: hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ace2014.htm

JPAC's O Library Ctr." hydepark.org/parks/jpac/ObamaPLibrary.htm

Bobolink website: <http://bluestem.info/bobolink/>

Friends of the White City: <http://www.friendsofthewhitecity.org>

*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.*

PUBLIC NOTICE: DARROW BRIDGE IS CLOSED. WOODED ISLAND IS CLOSED INTO/THRU SUMMER

JPAC AND THE GALA COMMITTEE THANK OUR SPONSORS, ALL WHO ATTENDED, DONATED TO OR AT, OR PRESENTED / PERFORMED AT OR HELPED OUR MAY 17 "Sundae in the Park" fundraiser at South Shore Cultural Center. Special thanks to the Gala Committee: Frances Vandervoort, Dwight Powell, Cherry Theard, Donna Hughes, Ruby Haughton-Pitts, Louise McCurry, Anne Marie Miles, Brenda Nelms, Gary Ossewaarde, and Jake Young. Also to Chicago Park District, Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce, & George Rumsey. Highlights: Curtis Black jazz trio, South Shore Opera Company singers, Eva Lewis on saving/repurposing the South Shore Cultural Center, JPAC Photo Contest winner Melodie Jovarka, Andy Howard of Chicago Wilderness, our MC's, raffle and silent auction—what great bargains!, kid's resource/activity tables, decorations, and the sundaes from the Parrot Cage Restaurant at South Shore Cultural Center.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION COMING AT JUNE 8 JPAC MEETING! At its June 8, 7 p.m. meeting, Jackson Park Advisory Council will host "**10,000 Ripples**," creators of art projects conceived by artist Indira Johnson called "peace parks" in various cities. They will present their concept for white Buddha-head sculptures emerging from earth, near the Drive and 56th St. at the "Iowa building." Similar installations are in other parks in America and Chicago. The heads reflect tranquility, spiritual and community growth and maturity and could inspire programming encouraging peace and an end to violence in our communities. Presenters are Mark Rodriguez, Executive Director of Changing Worlds, the lead organization of 10,000 Ripples, and artist Indira Johnson. Discussion and actionable will follow.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 11 2015 JPAC MEETING. President Louise McCurry opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with a quorum present. April minutes were moved by Fran Vandervoort, 2nd and approved. Treasurer Dwight Powell reported a balance of \$4,035. Gala costs and investments are underway.

CPD Area Manager Cordell Hopkins announced a great summer of programs in Chicago parks, Night Out in the Park, and camps (find them all online from chicagoparkdistrict.com) and announced donation of a summer camp scholarship for raffle at the JPAC Gala.

Sports/Kids. Instructor Pierre Nealon detailed the sports teams (doing very well!) and programs and camps for year-round experience. New is basketball for 13-15 year-olds and an earlier start for football practice.

Wooded Island update. Lauren Umek, CPD project manager reported an excellent annual Bird Count with Department of Natural Resources and Audubon. This was able to proceed despite Island closure and work. The numbers and species of birds and turtles is large. Members asked that the bird count be available online. The deteriorated road was demolished and will soon be replaced. Finishing structural work on Wooded Island and the lagoons- including turtle and fish habitat- is top priority, to be completed if possible by the end of summer. Re-opening date depends on completion of shore work and the road, and weather. Planting starts in the next few weeks-- Nurseries in Wisconsin and Kansas are growing many thousands of plants. A major **community planting day will occur June 27** including trees and shrubs. Fences and signage are meant to be taken seriously--all are asked to stay out of the lagoons, which have dangerous drop-offs, uneven bottoms, and unstable sand. Grading is essentially done and the water is being allowed to rise naturally to its level. Bobolink shore work was still in progress. Norm Bell discussed possible shore plant relocations and new plantings. Umek has met with local groups including the U of C Service League and has led informational walk throughs, including a "Jane's Walk" (co-host CPD parks historian Julia Bachrach) that drew over 50 participants. The next Island walk through will be on May 30 10 am from the south bridge. Umek gave JPAC detailed drawings and samples of the fence signs.

Army Corps site for the project: <http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorksProjects/JacksonPark.aspx>. In other nature news, beavers are back; the situation will be monitored to see if any action should be taken.

Guest presentation- The Iowa building re-imagined. An art and architecture class this spring at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago conducted design experiments (5 collaborations) re-imagining the Iowa building and programming there, including drama, themed around "memory." JPAC sponsored a presentation at Montgomery Place and a shorter one tonight by Odile Compagnon and students. Both were well received. **2**

President's report, news. JPAC members have been active establishing new PACs in the area including fdoor Midway Plaisance, and cleaning up or getting action in parts of the Midway, especially at Canadian National tracks, visible from Jackson Park. The next **Midway workday will be June 20, 12:30 p.m.**—this will be one of many city wide **“It's Your Park”** activities organized by the Park District (queries: Maria Stone, maria.stone@chicagoparkdistrict.com.) **The work activity for Jackson will be at LaRabida 9 a.m.**

Watch this summer for Midway Plaisance to be added to Ray Johnson's suite of White City Columbian Exposition tours, already underway Sats 11 am from the east (parking lot) side of Darrow Bridge.

The winning bid for the **Obama Presidential Center** was scheduled to be announced the following day via video and press conference at the Gary Comer Youth Center. Hint: UC South Side. Site selection- later.

Our website, jacksonparkadvisorycouncil.org, has been upgraded. More will be done. Jerald Miller developed and continues to maintain the website, with Jake Young assuming duties. People can now make **donations and pay dues** via PayPal through the website. There is also an email, JPACChicago@gmail.com, and a phone number, 773 357-7617 that go to a JPAC responder. Also find on the website our Facebook and Twitter links.

Nomination and election of two non-officer advisory at-large board members. Jake Young and Cherry Theard volunteered to assume the positions, discussed and sanctioned at previous meetings. The positions are charged especially with membership, database, and web/media development. Ascent by acclamation.

Following some financial and other directives related to the Gala, Dwight Powell moved adjournment. Next meeting Monday, June 8, 7 p.m. at the fieldhouse.

Respectfully submitted, Gary Ossewaarde, Secretary

Scenes from the May 17 gala to raise funds for kid's programs and help keep kids off the streets.

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Pictured here: Set up; Eva Lewis, High school student and Metro History Fair finalist. Next page: JPAC board and leaders Louise McCurry, Ray Johnson, Cherry Theard, Jake Young and Gary Ossewaarde; South Shore Opera Company soprano Kimberly Jones and tenor Cornelius Johnson; Payton Sawyer has face painted by Laura Shaeffer; U.S. Rep. Robin Kelly with prev. unmentioned JPAC board and members Anne Marie Miles, Dwight Powell, Donna Hodge, Fran Vandervoort, and Jerry Levy; Barry Rapoport selecting ice cream toppings.

We expect to be able to post the pictures later online, or contact garyossewaarde@yahoo.com with address to be sent a print version of the Newsletter, which has the pictures.

