

## Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Smokey's BBQ, 5481 N. Northwest Highway

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Attendance:** 41

### **1. Welcome**

Ryan Richter, JPF President, kicked off the meeting and welcomed the group. Notable was the number of new faces; roughly half the crowd attended their first JPF meeting.

### **2. Guest Speaker: Mary Ellen Guest, Executive Director, Historic Chicago Bungalow Association**

Mary Ellen Guest described the work of the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association, focusing on information available at their website, [www.chicagobungalow.org](http://www.chicagobungalow.org) and their Driehaus Award winners.

### **3. Guest Speaker: Barbara Murphy, Friends of Vaughn High School**

Barbara Murphy was unable to attend the meeting. Ryan Richter passed along some information regarding a fundraiser that Friends of Vaughn is organizing along with a March 1 event at Poretta's (15% of all receipts go to Friends of Vaughn).

### **4. Finance & Membership Update**

Robb Van Hook, JPF Treasurer, provided the update. JPF currently has 139 paid members. These include 106 regular members, 15 business members and 18 associate members. Since January 1, our membership has increased 45%. The JPF bank account has \$1,400 and we have no outstanding debts. Payouts over the past month include the Holiday Party held last month and an IRS filing fee.

Robb will reach out to our business members to initiate marketing activities within the month.

### **5. JPF Committee Updates**

#### **a. Community Development**

February 16, 2017

Dennis Davis, JPF Board member and committee member on the Community Development Committee, provided the update. JPF was formally invited to sit on the Steering Committee for the Jefferson Park Master Plan, which will begin sometime this Spring. Susie Ernst, board member and Chair of the Community Development Committee and Ryan Richter, President of JPF, will represent JPF on the steering committee.

The Committee will begin introducing salons, which are discussion forums on urban planning topics. The first forum will be on March 9 at Galvin's, 7pm.

The Committee also is beginning the planning for [National Parking Day](#), an event to be held in September.

**b. Fundraising & Services**

Sam Wertime, Chair of the Fundraising & Services Committee, discussed the partnership JPF will have with Hands to Help. We will be promoting their social and fundraising event and will try to sign up for a table at their next event at Filament Theater in late April.

Olive's Neighborhood Garden will hold a fundraiser on April 1 at Rabbit's. All are welcome to attend.

The Committee will also refocus efforts on internal JPF fundraising opportunities.

**c. Livability & Attractiveness**

Marie MacDonald, JPF Secretary and Chair of the Livability and Attractiveness Committee gave the update.

The Livability Committee is planning for the upcoming Spring Cleanup at the transit center in April. The Committee is also meeting this week to discuss its agenda for 2017.

**d. Social**

The Social Committee organized Neighbors Night Out, which will be held in February 27, 2017 at Galvin's Pub. JPF is hosting this quarterly event for the first time and our guests are members of JPF, Old Irving Park Association (OIPA) and Portage Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA).

The Committee organized the next First Friday Happy Hour. It will be on Friday, March 3, 5:00 – 8:00 PM at Babe's on Milwaukee Avenue.

The Committee is also beginning the planning for a pub crawl, likely in April.

**6. New Business and Announcements**

- a. Restaurant Crawl.** Ryan Richter announced that JPF is organizing a restaurant crawl on Lawrence Avenue from Austin to Central. We're at the beginning stages of planning this, but hoping the event can be a mini-Taste of Chicago where a paid wristband allows a person access to the restaurant, which will provide free samples off of their menu. Event is planned for May/June but dates and restaurant participants have not been confirmed yet.
- b. Jefferson Park Women Forward.** JPF Director Heidi Osterhout is creating a "women of JPF" group for social purposes. A Facebook group page has been created and the idea is for women to gather in small or large groups for a variety of social reasons, whether to see a movie, read a book, drink wine, or gather for dinner.
- c. Facebook.** Given the development at 5150 N. Northwest Hwy., the JPF Facebook group page has become increasingly difficult and time consuming for the Board to monitor. As such, the Board is seeking ideas from the membership about ways to reduce moderation load and make for a more welcome page. Options include leaving the status quo, formalizing rules [NOTE: we posted these rules on Facebook this week], reducing membership in the group page to paid members, eliminating the group page and maintaining just a public page or turning off commenting. The private page has 750+ members and the public page has 150+ followers. Most people liked the open forum and the ability to have conversations though recognized moderation was difficult. Almost all agreed on the need for formal rules. JPF will formally poll its members.
- d. 5150 N. Northwest Hwy.** Ryan Richter gave a brief overview of the project and noted that JPF as an organization does not support or advocate against any development in our boundaries. However, we do have development principles in line with our economic development vision which generally supports increased density and transit-oriented development within our downtown and transit center.

Brian Nadig from Nadig Newspapers provided some more information regarding the lawsuit filed against the City by the developers of the 5150 site. That lawsuit has been settled and at the time of the meeting, details of the settlement were not yet available.

**7. Adjourn**

**8. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 16, 7 pm. Location TBD.**