Hermann Park Conservancy is a citizens’ organization dedicated to the stewardship and improvement of Hermann Park — today and for generations to come.

The past year at Hermann Park has been a roller coaster. Where we started the fiscal year in July 2020 could not have been more different than where we ended in June 2021. Though we did begin to feel a small sense of normalcy toward the close of the fiscal year, the effects of Covid-19 were still felt throughout the Conservancy and Hermann Park at large.

In the first half of our fiscal year, the 17th annual Run in the Park was unable to be held in person and was instead held virtually. The Park to Port bike ride was cancelled, along with membership events and the Urban Green fall fundraiser. Our membership numbers were on a decline, and many private events opted to reschedule or cancel their bookings, leading to lost revenue.

However, despite how the year started, the Conservancy managed to end it on a high note. We generated record revenue for the train, pedal boats, new eatery Ginger Kale, and membership. We were able to host our much anticipated and highly overdue Evening in the Park gala in the spring, which defied all weather forecasts as guests celebrated under a most glorious, clear sky. And finally, the restoration project to the long-awaited Lott Hall was completed and opened as a private event venue.

This doesn’t even begin to touch on the progress we have made on our Play Your Park capital campaign, including securing additional funding and solidifying plans for the upcoming Commons at Hermann Park and McWilliams Dog Park! The Commons will truly change the landscape of the Park and benefit not only current Park users, but also the generations to come.

This annual report is a showcase of everything that happened in Hermann Park this past fiscal year. These milestones and successes also demonstrate how important Hermann Park has been and will continue to be as we invest in our beloved Park. Even with all of the restorations, events, plantings, and more, the most important thing is still the people. We are grateful that on any given day, you can see the extraordinary medley of visitors enjoying our trails, greenspace, gardens, pedal boats, and train.

This 445-acre Park is truly a green oasis in the heart of the city, providing a space for all Houstonians to enjoy. With so many memories having been made in the Park recently, and with so many new and exciting projects on the horizon, we can’t wait for Hermann Park visitors—new or seasoned—to see what’s in store.

Our mission has always been to be great stewards of Hermann Park, both in how we maintain and improve it for our users. We hope that after going through this annual report, you will see how we are achieving that goal, and how important your support of Hermann Park Conservancy is to the City of Houston. Thank you for being our partners and supporting our beloved Park. Now let’s get started on building its future.

See you in the Park!

Kristy Bradshaw, 2020/2021 Board Chair
Park Projects

The Commons
The cornerstone of the ongoing Play Your Park campaign, the Commons includes immersive and accessible play spaces, revitalized natural habitats, unique public art installations, and community features for all Park visitors.

Six acres around McGovern Lake will be restored to bird-friendly natural habitats.

The Commons will be 26 acres of revitalized parkland at the corner of Cambridge and Fannin Streets.

Construction of the Commons will begin in 2022 as fundraising continues.

Playscapes by Danish architect MONSTRUM will provide opportunities for children of all abilities.

The Commons

PNC ImagiNature Playground
The PNC ImagiNature Playground gives the youngest Park visitors a new place of their own. Taking inspiration from nature and elements such as boulders, wildlife and forests, the space includes seven interactive and educational play areas between McGovern Lake and Miller Outdoor Theatre.

The PNC ImagiNature Playground opened to the public on June 10, 2021.

The play space was made possible by a $100,000 grant from PNC Grow Up Great.

3,581 PNC employees voted to decide on the final name.

Six acres around McGovern Lake will be restored to bird-friendly natural habitats.

McWilliams Dog Park
As the community’s most requested Park feature, the McWilliams Dog Park will provide a space for Park visitors and their furry friends. Look for the dog park to open in 2022.

Lend us a paw at hermannpark.org/dogpark

$437,410 raised this year, and $1,552,023.31 total by June 30, 2021.

Don’t forget to follow our newest, totally paw-some Instagram: @HermannBark

PNC Photos by CKP
Park Projects continued

Facility Rentals

With Lott Hall now available for rentals, Hermann Park has two elegant venue spaces. These memorable events also provide funds to maintain the McGovern Centennial Gardens and other stewardship initiatives.

Lott Hall

A major project focus this year was the restoration of the historic clubhouse, now named Lott Hall. Plans were formed in 2014 as part of the Conservancy’s Centennial Campaign to renovate the building as a rental venue for celebrations of all kinds.

The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The former golf course clubhouse was originally built in 1933.

Lott Hall is named after leading donors Sherry and Tommy Lott.

After beginning in February 2020, the restoration of the historic clubhouse finished in December 2020.

69 trees, 380 shrubs, and nearly 9,000 ground cover, agave, and perennials were planted.

27 weddings and nine corporate events were postponed due to Covid-19 and Winter Storm Uri.

139 knots tied, bouquets tossed, and vows exchanged.

13,864 event guests laughed, cried, celebrated, and enjoyed the beauty of Hermann Park.

Visit hermannpark.org/privateevents to book your next special occasion.

Mayor Sylvester Turner, and Tommy and Sherry Lott, celebrate the official opening of Lott Hall in December 2020.

Longtime Conservancy champions Cece Fowler and Susie Criner enjoy a gathering organized by Susie, decked out by local vendors to showcase Lott Hall to event planners.
In addition to facility rental events, the Conservancy also held a few of its own. Despite Covid-19 leading to the cancellation of community staples Park to Port and the Kite Festival, runners still supported Hermann Park through a virtual edition Run in the Park. Springtime led to the return of the Conservancy’s annual gala, Evening in the Park.

The virtual run for Hermann Park took place from September 26 to October 3, 2020. 256 people participated, including nine out-of-state runners. $10,245 was raised for the care of Hermann Park.

Evening in the Park took place on April 30, 2020. Guests were seated at socially distant, tented pods along the Jones Reflection Pool. Over $600,000 was raised for the Conservancy’s operating funds.

Evening in the Park was chaired by Roslyn Bazzelle Mitchel and Derrick Mitchell, and Jo and Jim Furr. The evening’s honorees were Laura and Brad McWilliams, celebrating their leading gift to the McWilliams Dog Park.
McGovern Centennial Gardens

Funds raised from facility rentals and Conservancy events go towards maintenance of the McGovern Centennial Gardens and help pay staff salaries. Thanks to the dedication and ingenuity of the landscaping team, the Gardens looked spectacular in its 7th year of existence, though the year was not without its hardships.

- 200 cubic yards of green waste recycled (the equivalent of 8 dump truck loads).
- 2,524 bags of mulch spread in garden beds.
- 900 pounds of fruit and vegetables harvest and donated from the Family Garden.
- 65 pounds of daikon radishes were planted to penetrate and breakdown tough soil as part of the first phase of the Commons soil restoration.
- The reforestation team, partnered with Trees for Houston and Bartlett Tree Experts, to maintain 300 trees in the Heritage Live Oak canopy.
- Winter Storm Uri caused 13 burst pipes but relatively few lost plants in February 2021.
- Cereal rye grass was planted in the second phase, intended to grow and compost in place.
- Thanks to our dedicated team, thousands of plants recovered or were re-planted in the months after the freeze.
- 6,000 flowers planted in the ground and 2,100 flowers planted in the urns this past year.

Urban Land Management

The care of Hermann Park extends beyond the borders of the McGovern Centennial Gardens however, with hundreds of acres of greenspace to care for. Luckily, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Conservancy’s Urban Land Management team were up to the task and focused not only on maintenance, but also on preparing areas of the Park for the future.

- 2,524 bags of mulch spread in garden beds.
- 6,000 flowers planted in the ground and 2,100 flowers planted in the urns this past year.
- Hermann Park is one of the first major parks in Houston to use regenerative agriculture to help restore seven acres of soil at the future site of the Commons.
With so many maintenance and improvement projects underway throughout Hermann Park, volunteers play a vital role in the Conservancy’s work. Volunteers take on tasks such as planting, weeding, raking, and more to beautify the Park and help the Conservancy achieve its mission.

Volunteers include individuals, corporate groups, Conservancy members, and more!

Volunteers

Around 2,150 total volunteers helped with projects around Hermann Park this year despite Covid-19.

Volunteer work this year was valued at $269,472.

$203,226.18 generated in membership revenue, beating the goal by 25% (a Conservancy record)!

1,328 total Conservancy members, with over 400 new members since the end of FY2020.

Another crucial aspect of achieving the Conservancy’s mission is utilizing the funds raised from memberships. Memberships provide vital support for engaging programs, beautiful landscaping, and essential maintenance in the Park. Conservancy members also get benefits like train and pedal boat tickets, discounts to the gift shop and Ginger Kale, exclusive event invitations, and more.

Want to learn what Conservancy membership has to offer? Visit hermannpark.org/membership.

To get involved, visit hermannpark.org/volunteer.

The Conservancy’s young professionals group, Urban Green, hosted their first event in a year-and-a-half in June 2021: Ticket to Ride.
Visitor Services

With over six million visitors to the Park every year, there is a reason why people keep coming back. It is not just for the nature and the scenery, but also for the fun, family-friendly amenities offered by the Conservancy. Memories are made every day at the Hermann Park Railroad and pedal boats, thanks to the tireless efforts of the Visitor Services team.

27,854 pedal boat tickets sold, totaling over $334,000 in sales (a Conservancy record!) and over 69,000 people who pedaled around McGovern Lake.

Ginger Kale opened in October 2020 at Lake Plaza and sold $551,000 worth of sandwiches, salads, coffee, juice, and sweet treats.

282,000 train tickets sold, totaling over $1,000,000 in sales (a Conservancy record!) and over 5 million minutes spent traveling around the track.

46 families and over 900 partygoers enjoyed birthday celebrations at the Brown Volunteer Center.
Hermann Park Conservancy is grateful to all who generously contributed to the beautification, restoration, and improvement of Hermann Park during fiscal year 2021.

Play Your Park Campaign

$2,000,000+
Sherry and Tommy Lott

$1,000,000–$1,999,999
The Fondren Foundation
The Powell Foundation
$500,000–$999,999
The Clay Family
The Elkins Foundation
Bobbie Nau
The Samuel Foundation

$250,000–$499,999
Ting Tsung and Wei Fong Chao Foundation

William Lee Bonham Foundation
$100,000–$249,999
Benton Family Foundation
Janet F. Clark
Cockrell Family Fund
Clare A. Glassell
Marley Lott
M.D. Anderson Foundation
Rebecca Mark-Jubasback and Michael Jubasback
Melina McCarty and John Bishop
John P. McGovern Foundation
The Kim and Chris Reichert Family
$50,000–$99,999
Bank of America
Albert & Ehel Herzstein Charitable Foundation
Mark McMasters and Richard Holt – In honor of our children – Lucy, Geneva, and Ford Holt
Phillips 66
Anne Scholmberger
Cathryn and Douglas Selman
Whalley Foundation
$25,000–$49,999
Susie and Sanford Criner
Linda and Barry Hunsaker
Terylin G. Neale
H. Joe Nelson III
Kailyn and Michael Scheurich
Susan Vaughan Foundation

$10,000–$24,999
Jan Buchholtz and Jim Davis – In honor of Kathleen Boyd
Cassie B. Stinson
Historic Clubhouse – Lott Hall
$1,000–$4,999
Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette – In memory of Erin Gregory Neale and Lamar Gregory Neale

$100–$499
Janice Ten Eyck
 Donation

McWilliams Dog Park

$250,000–$499,999
Annie and Bob Graham

$100,000–$249,999
Melbern G. and Susanne M. Glasscock Foundation
The Hamill Foundation

$50,000–$99,999
Fan and Peter Morris – In honor of Max and Scout
$25,000–$49,999
Ann Kennedy and Geoffrey Walker

$10,000–$24,999
Elizabeth Stephens Gregory

$5,000–$9,999
Anne and John Clutterbuck

$1,000–$4,999
Kathryn Crowder and Susan Zerate – In honor of Laura and Brad McWilliams

$1,000–$2,999
Catherine and Al Brohi

$1,000–$999
Marcie and Mark Archibald
Julie Cohn and John A. Connor
Christy and Tom Compson
Alex and Duncan Dickerson
Cece and Mack Fowler

$500–$999
Cecily Horton – In memory of Patsy Downey

$500–$299
Jan Buchholtz and Jim Davis – In honor of Kathleen Boyd
Cassie B. Stinson

Historic Clubhouse – Lott Hall
$1,000–$4,999
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Alex and Duncan Dickerson
Cece and Mack Fowler

$500–$999
Cecily Horton – In memory of Patsy Downey

$500–$299
Jan Buchholtz and Jim Davis – In honor of Kathleen Boyd
Cassie B. Stinson

Fund for Public Art
$100–$499
Jan Buchholtz and Jim Davis – In honor of Kathleen Boyd
Cassie B. Stinson

Centennial Gardens
$10,000–$24,999
Carol Toups – In honor of Joe Toups
$1,000–$4,999
Elizabeth and Albert Kidd – In memory of Vic Samuels

$500–$999
Joanne Cruil

$100–$499
Katherine de Perio – In memory of Idal de Bittencourt

McWilliams Dog Park

$250,000–$499,999
Annie and Bob Graham

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Elizabeth and Albert Kidd – In memory of Vic Samuels

$500–$999
Joanne Cruil

$100–$499
Katherine de Perio – In memory of Idal de Bittencourt

Gary Jerauld
Membership, continued
Centennial ($100–$249)
Michael Scheivey
Marc B. Schindler Family
Jimmy Schmidt
Sally Anne Schmidt and
Marc Tabolsky
Emily Schreiber
Susan Schwartzberg and
Ron Misrack
Allison Scott and Michael Stein
Leanne and Sam Scott
M. Sandra Scuria
Susan and Ed Septimus
Ruth C. and Steven D. Sherman
Susa Shinn and Tim Mock
Amanda and Shawn Shirley
The Shotwell
William Sikma
Aaryn and Gene Silva
Judy and Chris Simon
Mary Simonou
Herbert D. Simons
Jennifer Singh
Kimberly Singh
Alan Sloan
Len D. Slusser
Karen and Ken Smiley
Tessa E. Smith
Robert Snellgrove and
Anthony Waguespack
Springer Family
Carolyn and Bob Staley
Arlene and Joe Staller
Robert E. Stark
Anna and David Stock
Donna and Robert Stokes
William P. Streng
Carla and David Stuts
Daniel Sullivan
Barbara and John Suppe
David R. Swenson
Linda and Richard Sylvan
Gail Taber
Mariusse and George Talchett
Manik Talwani
The Tapick Family
Marilyn and Ronald Taylor

Susan and Len Teich
Kathy and Tom Tellepsen II
Emily Temple
Robert and Bredow Thompson
The Thorleifson Family
Debra Tice
Audra Timmins
Kris and Jeff Tinkham
Lynn Trelles-Gaines
Erin Tsai and Daniel Allison
Christine and David M. Underwood, Jr.
Anne Van Horn
Katharine and William Van Wie
Marcia Varanka
Connie and Tom Vargo
Eric Vaughan
Dayenee and Jody Vykoukal
Julie and Michael Wagner
Lindsay Walsh
Julie Watkins and Paul Heim
Ann Watson and James Allison – In memory of Bill Coats
Nancy and David Webb
Jackie Wedelich
Misty and Tyson Wohs
Jane and Stuart Wei
Gail and Roy Weinstein
Charlotte and Larry Whaley
Bonnie J. White and Douglas Little
Carolyne and Douglas White
Monica White
Susan White and Scott B. Swan
Amanda and Scott Wiesziorn
Danyale and Leeyah Williams
Kathrin and Darrell Williams
Anna Wingfield
Meesa Grace Winton
Susan Gail Wood
Madeline Woods
Sallie and Bob Wright
Jan and Mike Yauch
Gay Yellen and Donald Reiser
Nancy and John Youens
Tom Young and Steve Nall
Nancy Zeno and D. Keith Fernandez
Linda and Richard Zoll
Alejandra Zometa

George Hermann Society
Robin and Richard Brooks
Genevieve Lykes Duncan
May Shelmire Duncan†
Cece and Mack Fowler
Stephanie and Robert Holoslaw
Demans D. and CM Hudspeth†
Ann Kennedy and Geoffrey Walker
David W. Langworthy
Sherry and Tommy Lotto
Jackie and Malcolm Mazow
Laura and Brad McWilliams
Terry Murphy†
Terrylin G. Neale
Mary Anne H. Phillips†
Mark B. Ryan
Megan and Jason Ryan
Susan Schwartzberg and
Ron Smirk
Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette
Grace Taylor
John E. Walsh, Jr.
Pippa Wiley
Shari and Gary Winston

The George Hermann Society recognizes donors who have provided for the future of Hermann Park through bequests or life income gifts to Hermann Park Conservancy.

The names listed above and on the preceding pages include donors who made gifts or pledges of $100 or more during the fiscal year from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, as well as all George Hermann Society members. In compliance with IRS standards, commitments paid over time in installments are recognized once in full at the time of the pledge. Please contact the Conservancy if we inadvertently have not included your name or if you would like to be listed differently in future publications.

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2021

ASSETS
Cash ........................................... $ 596,199
Prepaid expenses and other receivables .................. $ 91,786
Contributions receivable .................................. 11,743,565
Investment ....................................... 39,374,368
Use of office facilities .................................. 627,924
Property, net ..................................... 5,188,576
TOTAL ASSETS .................................... $ 57,622,418

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Liabilities:
Accounts payable and accrued expenses ................ $ 383,394
Construction payable .................................. 110,260
Deferred revenue ..................................... 479,701
Refundable advances – Paycheck Protection Program .... $ 777,214
Total liabilities ....................................... 1,750,569
Net assets:
Without donor restrictions ................................ 26,338,246
With donor restrictions .................................... 29,533,603
Total net assets ....................................... 55,871,849
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS .................. $ 57,622,418

Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2021

REVENUE
WITH OUT DONOR
RESTRIC TIONS WITH DONOR
RESTRIC TIONS TOTAL
Contributions  $ 2,857,118  $ 6,755,861  $ 9,612,979
Special events  1,375,630  1,375,630
Donor benefit cost – special events (143,893) (143,893)
Park concessions  1,313,410  1,313,410
Facility rentals  449,618  449,618
Café sales  27,788  27,788
Cost of café sales (7,202) (7,202)
Other income  81,099  81,099
Maintenance contract – City of Houston  527,860  527,860
Net investment return  4,146,835  1,326,699  5,473,534
Total revenue  10,628,263  8,082,560  18,710,823
Net assets released from restrictions:
Park projects and programs  4,781,611  4,781,611
Total  15,409,874  3,300,949  18,710,823

EXPENSES
Program services:
Planning, design, and construction  1,694,010  1,694,010
Visitor services  1,097,011  1,097,011
Maintenance  1,078,877  1,078,877
Park programs  224,668  224,668
Total program services  4,094,566  4,094,566
Management and general  230,313  230,313
Fundraising  572,769  572,769
Total expenses  4,897,648  4,897,648

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
10,512,226  3,300,949  13,813,175
Net assets, beginning of year  15,826,020  26,232,654  42,058,674
Net assets, end of year  $ 26,338,246  $ 29,533,603  $ 55,871,849

Visit us at: hermannpark.org
facebook.com/HermannPark
instagram.com/HermannPark
The Conservancy Team
Doreen Stoller
President
Meghan Miller
Director of Development
Becky Porteous
Accounting Manager
Fani Qano
Project Manager
Kevin Velasquez
Membership and Marketing Manager

McGovern Centennial Gardens
David Renninger
Director of Operations
Gretchen Bock
Venue Manager
John Hightower
Maintenance Site Manager
Oseye Asiedu-Mndebele
Joshua Bokemeyer
Josue Castillo
Jessica Collette
Roman Cordova
Carol Cox
Elizabeth Gomez
Don Hall
John Houston
Emilio Levario
Jennifer Marino
William Menjivar
Summer Nijer
Elizabeth Salas
Ann Sandberg
Jonathan Spieth
Jose Ventura

Urban Land Management
Diane Kerr
Director of Volunteer Programs
Kyle Wolfe
Volunteer Coordinator
Abigail Gonzalez
Barbara Shishkoff

Visitor Services
Ron Misrack
Director of Visitor Services
LaTonya Scott
Visitor Services Manager
Christopher Boothe
Kathryn Crowder
Ronald Essignmann
Francisco Garcia
Alex Garcia
Keyri Hernandez
William Hopkins
John Houston
David Leventon
Sean Lewis
John Marshall
Alaina Martin
Stephen McDonough
Gabriel Perez
Jonathan Redding
Marc Schaub
Michael Selby
Nohemy Soto
Caleb Stovall

Hermann Park Conservancy team on June 30, 2021.
This event room in the newly restored Lott Hall once served as the men’s locker room for the golf course clubhouse, and subsequently as Conservancy office space.