

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
ELMHURST PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**June 24, 2015**

**7:00 p.m.**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Elmhurst Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at the Administrative Office, 375 West First Street, Elmhurst, IL. Prior notice of the meeting was posted. The meeting was called to order by Board President Ubriaco at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Commissioners Ennis, Kies, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, and Ubriaco

**Absent:** Commissioner Graf

**Staff Present:** James W. Rogers, Executive Director  
Angela Ferrentino, Director of Parks & Facilities  
Christi Jacobson, Director of Finance & Human Resources  
David Kenny, Director of Information Technology  
Cindy Szkolka, Director of Recreation  
Ginger Wade, Director of Marketing & Communications  
Pat O'Neill, Community Events and Development Manager

**Visitors:** John Chisholm, 555 S. Mitchell, Elmhurst  
Jim Olsen, 551 Mitchell, Elmhurst  
James Sadowski, 547 Mitchell, Elmhurst  
Kathleen Sullivan, 133 Pine Street, Elmhurst  
Paula Wolf, 444 N. Larch, Elmhurst

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA – None**

**REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE FROM VISITORS –**

James Sadowski, 547 Mitchell

Stated his home is near Pioneer Park, which was constructed with a berm running behind the homes parallel to the west and south side. Over the years, the number of heavy trucks entering and exiting the park to remove trees has caused the berm to diminish resulting in the streets taking in more rainwater from the park, and eventually causing the rainwater to travel to neighbors' yards and basements. Requested the Park Board rebuild the berm.

Paula Wolf, 444 N. Larch

Hoped the Park District and City could work together to find a solution to flooding. Stated that Tot Lot Park's flood water travels from the park to her yard and eventually to her basement. Fears for older children, who gravitate to the park when it is flooded to play in the unsafe stormwater which is likely mixed with sewer water. Since the park is underused, requested the Park Board allow the park to be utilized for stormwater detention.

Kathleen Sullivan, 133 Pine Street

Hoped that the IGA between the City and Park District was completed in order to help the City get the flooding problem resolved. The recent flooding has caused stress for her and her neighbors.

John Crisholm, 555 S. Mitchell

Provided the Park Board with photographs of flooding on his property near Pioneer Park. Agreed that the compressed berm has allowed water to travel from Pioneer Park to neighboring homes. He has made changes to his property to prevent flooding including adding a swale between his and his neighbor's property to help direct the park's stormwater to the street, which worked well until the recent storm on June 15, 2015. The volume of rainfall was too much to contain even with the swale and eight pumps pumping water to the streets. Requested the Park Board rebuild or add on to the berm to help residents keep the park's stormwater from traveling to neighboring homes.

The following correspondence was received via email to the Park Board.

**From:** Chris Farrell  
**Date:** June 24, 2015 at 3:16:48 PM CDT  
**To:** Carolyn Ubriaco <[cubriaco@epd.org](mailto:cubriaco@epd.org)>  
**Cc:** "Rogers, Jim" <[JROGERS@epd.org](mailto:JROGERS@epd.org)>, Spaeth <[vspaeth@epd.org](mailto:vspaeth@epd.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Park District Board Meeting Tomorrow and Storm Water Mitigation –  
AVON - FLOODS AGAIN, JUNE 15th, 2015  
Carolyn, Vince and Jim,

Please read this email tonight at the meeting if time permits.

We will not be at the Park District Board Meeting tonight as we are going to be spending the night at my parents house in another suburb.

Given the fact that our house on Avon experiences significant overland flooding that eventually floods the basement with multiple feet of water, we do not feel comfortable staying in our home when heavy rain is predicted along with other severe weather. We have an 11 month old and do not want to be stranded without the use of our HVAC system and / or electricity. We also are not safe in the house if we cannot use the flooded basement for shelter given a tornado or high winds etc. We evacuated the house, Monday the 15th, when we started taking on too much water and preemptively left Monday the 22nd and will do so again tonight. This is a very sad and frustrating way to live.

We plead with the Park District Board Members and City Officials to do all they can to move forward with the Golden Meadows project and other storm water mitigation projects in a timely manner.

Thank you,  
Chris and Tracy Farrell

**From:** Andrew Burkston < >  
**Date:** June 24, 2015 at 4:48:56 PM CDT  
**To:** "[cubriaco@epd.org](mailto:cubriaco@epd.org)" <[cubriaco@epd.org](mailto:cubriaco@epd.org)>  
**Subject:** stormwater  
**Reply-To:** Andrew Burkston <

Dear commissioners, I am unable to attend the park board meeting June 23. Please read

As the storms continue to consume us, please continue to be a good neighbor. However, it would be nice to not have to read one commissioners opinions representing the park board on social media. I feel that we are suffering enough, and to hear about water in his remodeled coach house, sure stings. Please be mindful of all the rest of us who have water in our actual living space.

Lastly, please please encourage the city to work on the total problem. This storm showed that it is a city wide problem.

Andrew Burkston  
585 Indiana

Commissioner Morissette-Moll asked if the correspondence received via email will be read aloud. Board President Ubriaco stated that she will not read the emails as copies of the emails have been disseminated to the Park Board and will be part of the public record. Eliminating the need to read correspondence at the board meeting allows the board to make better use of their time. Board President Ubriaco stated that public comments made in a meeting are summarized in the minutes and a full copy of written correspondence is placed in the minutes. Commissioner Morissette-Moll asked when the protocol was changed and why the rest of the board was not notified in advance of the change.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Gateway – Szkolka

- Westchester's new Gateway representative is Jim Kravinoff.
- I informed the board that the Elmhurst Park District will be conducting a participant satisfaction survey.
- The 2015-16 budget was approved with a 2% increase over last year resulting in an increase of \$3,700 from the Elmhurst Park District. The budgeted revenues are expected to be \$506,629 with expenses of \$387,790, which includes the transportation fund increase of \$10,000 amongst the agencies. At the end of this fiscal year ending June 30, cash-on hand is projected to be \$96,000. According to the bylaws, \$30,000 is required in the fund balance. The surplus positions Gateway to consider expanding the transportation program or leasing/purchasing a(n) additional/replacement vehicle. Szkolka stated that the Elmhurst Park District budgeted \$192,054, but the actual contribution to Gateway for FY15 was \$190,189.

People for Elmhurst Parks (PEP) – Ennis

- This year's golf outing was determined a success with increased golfers due to the better weather compared to last year's rainy conditions.
- Discussed fundraising ideas for the Playground for Everyone.

Sugar Creek Golf Course – Pelosi

- The committee was provided a historical overview of the construction of the golf course. It was interesting to learn that the pond is actually a pond and a river. The informative presentation will be shared with the Park Board.
- Despite the challenging weather, there was only one less playable day compared to the same period last year.
- All revenues are up - green fees (\$8,800), driving range (\$3,200), instructional programs (\$23,000), and rental fees (\$5,500).
- Two irrigation control boxes were damaged from the storm. PDRMA will cover those replacements.
- Executive Director Rogers added that for the first time a billboard will be used to promote Sugar Creek Golf Course. The billboard's location is north of North Avenue and west of Route 83 and will be moved to three alternate locations for the next three months.
- In response to Commissioner Morissette-Moll's inquiry regarding plans for the golf course's 40th anniversary, Rogers stated plans are underway for conducting a series of events instead of one big event.

Stormwater Subcommittee - Spaeth, Rogers

- The Park District approached the City to hold a subcommittee meeting on Monday, June 22 in attempts to progress further with stormwater management plans.
- At the meeting, the subcommittee discussed the lack of property options to replace Golden Meadows Park and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) restrictions in allowing the conversion of the land to stormwater detention. The Park District is waiting for the City to provide required information to pass on to IDNR. The subcommittee provided a historical background on how the City's maintenance garage is part of the original agreement for the City's fire station lease extension of York Commons Park. The Park District's lease to the garage was not extended for the same period. The meeting clarified the reasoning behind the Park District's interest to extend the lease to the maintenance garage to City staff.
- Executive Director Rogers stated that the City is preparing a revised consideration as it relates to the garage. A meeting was scheduled tentatively for July 9. Mayor Morley requested the subcommittee meet every two weeks, meetings be made open to the public, and moved to the City's council chambers.
- Board President Ubriaco stated that the City originally asked for overhead flooding relief for 50 to 100-year rain events, but when the Park Board learned that the City's stormwater sewers could only accommodate a 5-year event, it offered the City York Commons Park space to build a detention basin for everyday water. To date, the park district has done all it can in aiding to improve stormwater management.

**UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Gateway – July 9, 2015

Stormwater – July 9, 2015

Sugar Creek Golf Course – July 28, 2015

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Spaeth made a motion for the Board to approve the Consent Agenda of June 24, 2015. Commissioner Ennis seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Spaeth, Ennis, Kies, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

It should be noted that the following items were approved on the Consent Agenda: June 10, 2015 regular meeting minutes, June 10, 2015 closed meeting minutes, voucher lists: 06/10/15 - \$27,177.82, 06/19/15 - \$204,480.49, and Disposal Ordinance O-09-15.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS (OLD) – None**

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**Credit Card Processing Merchant Agreement**

Commissioner Ennis made a motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approves the selection of Global Payments through the Illinois E-Pay program as the credit card processor and Plug'nPlay as the gateway provider for the Elmhurst Park District and authorizes the Executive Director to execute said contracts to that effect. Commissioner Pelosi seconded the motion. Director of Finance and Human Resources Jacobson explained that with the migration to a new registration software, a new credit card processor is necessary. A listing of available options were compared. As Global and Illinois E-Pay provide a government discount, a savings of \$78,000 is expected. As there was no further discussion, the Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Ennis, Kies, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution R-03-15 Lease of Property with Union Pacific Railroad**

Commissioner Pelosi made a motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approves Resolution R-03-15 for the Lease of Property with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), specifically a parking lot on First Street across from the Park District's Administrative Office (375 W. First Street), and authorizes the Park Board President to execute said agreement. Commissioner Morissette-Moll seconded the motion. Executive Director Rogers stated that after two years of negotiations, the lease of the parking area will be realized. The delay was primarily due to the Park District's, as a local government, membership with the self-insured intergovernmental risk management pool PDRMA, thus, not insuring its risk through a commercial carrier as customary to UPRR lease agreements. Lease highlights include an annual rental payment of \$3,250 with a 3% annual increase, and automatic annual renewals. As there was no further discussion, the Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Kies, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, Ennis, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

## **COMMISSIONER INFORMATION ITEMS –**

### Commissioner Kies

- The Pick Subdivision picnic was a success as several attendees mentioned how happy they were to be part of the Elmhurst Park District.
- The Herb Garden has been planted with plants to attract the Monarch Butterflies during their migration this fall.

### Commissioner Ubriaco

- On June 13, the District hosted the Elmhurst Garden Club's Blue Star Memorial dedication in the Herb Garden recognizing those serving or served in the armed forces. Thanked staff for their hard work in helping make the event possible.

### **Future Agenda –**

Commissioner Morissette-Moll requested the discussion of how the board handles written communication from the community during board meetings be placed on Future Agenda as to whether it should be read aloud with a three-minute time limit. Board President Ubriaco stated that she began reading correspondence as a new president because it was important for attendees to hear what was written, but the objective of correspondence is for communication to the board.

In regards to the Future Agenda item *Review of special recreation association alternatives*, Executive Director Rogers noted that the District's first step will be to conduct a customer satisfaction survey of Gateway participants and families and then discuss alternatives should the Board determine it necessary.

## **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Director of Parks & Facilities – Ferrentino

- Today was Wacky Wednesday at the pool, one of the staff members running the program is a second grade teacher and decided to incorporate math tasks as part of the fun and games. Participants had a fun time.

### Director of Information Technology – Kenny

- The front end of the web server is being configured for the migration to RecTrac.

### Director of Enterprise Services – McDermott

- Courts Plus Stars & Stripes workout party and BBQ will be held this Friday, June 26 at 6 p.m.

### Director of Finance and Human Resources

- Continuing to move forward to the new registration software.
- Beginning to prepare for the 2016 budget.

Director of Recreation - Szkolka

- In regards to Commissioner Kies' previous inquiry on the special recreation golfing Sunshine Series' relationship with the United States Golf Association, the Gator golf program held at Flagg Creek is part of the Sunshine Series; the golf professionals instruct the program at no additional charge to the agency or participant, as it is funded through the United States Golf Association.
- To celebrate League Appreciation Week this week, several giveaways and incentives were distributed to league participants, who were delightfully surprised. Unfortunately, there were behavioral suspensions in some adult leagues which has resulted in them not being able to participate in the giveaways.

Director of Marketing & Communications – Wade

- An application to participate in NRPA's crowdfunding platform has been completed. The intent of the platform is to solicit small amounts of money from a large number of people usually through the internet. The link can be placed on the District's website and social media sites. NRPA will keep track of the donations. We will be notified on August 15 if the District has been selected to participate.
- Introduced new employee Pat O'Neill as the newly created position of Community Events and Development Manager. She will be handling the volunteer program, Adopt-A-Park program, managing community events, facilitating partner events, and serve on the PEP Board helping with their events.

Executive Director - Rogers

- On June 22, we presented the Playground for Everyone to the Elmhurst Children Assistance Foundation (ECAAF). They announced that they would like to be founding members of the Playground with a donation of \$20,000. They were excited to be partners with the Park District. We appreciated hearing that they value our contribution to the community. We will make a presentation to the Elmhurst Rotary Club on July 9 and have scheduled a few more presentations to groups. Our hope is that attendees at the presentation will pass on the information to their workplace or colleagues. One individual said he told his employer about it and they are interested in helping.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A motion to adjourn to Closed Session was made by Commissioner Spaeth pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5) for the discussion of "the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District" at 8:11 p.m. Commissioner Kies seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Ennis, Kies, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to open session at 8:27 p.m. Board President Ubriaco stated that the Board met in Closed Session pursuant to 120/2(c)(5) for the discussion of “the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District.” No final action was taken at the meeting on matters that were discussed in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Spaeth moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. and Commissioner Ennis seconded the motion. The Board adjourned by voice vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative Office Boardroom, 375 West First Street, Elmhurst, IL. Prior notice will be posted.

Note: Roll call voting will start with Commissioner Ennis at the July 8, 2015 Park Board meeting.

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Carolyn Ubriaco, Board President

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Nimfa S. Melesio, Recording Secretary

Date Reviewed	
Date Approved	