

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

July 9, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Elmhurst Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at the Administrative Office, 375 W. 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 Howard, Kies, Kubiesa, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, and Ubriaco

Absent: None

Staff Present: James W. Rogers, Executive Director
Angela Ferrentino, Director of Parks & Facilities
Dave Kenny, Director of Information Technology
Brian McDermott, Director of Enterprise Services
Cathy A. Medema, Director of Finance & Human Resources
Cindy Szkolka, Director of Recreation
Ginger Wade, Director of Marketing & Communications
Laura Guttman, Special Projects Coordinator

Visitors:

Rose Bajko, 640 W. Armitage, Elmhurst
Michael Baker, 432 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst
Dan Beedon, 907 Parkside, Elmhurst
Michael Bram, 700 Van Auken St., Elmhurst
Kevin Carroll, 630 S. Washington, Elmhurst
Judy Dabertin, 177 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Peter Dabertin, 177 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Ricky Dufort, Elmhurst League of Women

Voters – *The Observer*

Julie Eskenazi, 118 Pine, Elmhurst
Paul Eskenazi, 118 Pine, Elmhurst
Tracy Fleischer, 736 S. Washington, Elmhurst
Dawn Flynn, 195 Cayuga, Elmhurst
Kevin Graf, 233 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Mike Haske, 625 S. Saylor Ave., Elmhurst
Joellyn Haske, 625 S. Saylor Ave., Elmhurst

Cheryl Jasek, 748 S. Washington, Elmhurst
Eileen Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Tim Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Milana Kosanovich, 181 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Michael Machon, 741 S. Washington,
Elmhurst
Maria Pena, 647 W. Fay, Elmhurst
Suzanne Prost, 205 Cayuga, Elmhurst
Jean Sikorski, 166 E. Columbia Ave.,
Elmhurst
Virginia Sikorski, 166 E. Columbia Ave.,
Elmhurst
Brian Wool, 707 S. Washington, Elmhurst
Dan Zacharski, 449 E. Park, Elmhurst
Laura Zacharski, 449 E. Park, Elmhurst
Chris Zimmerman, 185 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Board President Ubriaco moved Agenda item #6a *Stormwater Management Sub Committee Report* to #9a (1) making the item titled *Stormwater Management discussion* #9a (2).

REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE FROM VISITORS

Board President Ubriaco read the following email correspondence addressed to the Park Board.

Rogers, Jim

From: Z [aziola@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 11:08 AM
To: Carolyn Ubriaco; Rogers, Jim; Vince Spaeth
Subject: comments from residents for tonight's meeting

I was notified that you might read comments from residents at tonight's meeting. I have lived in Elmhurst for 4 years. Recent rains that we have had are not the 100 year storms that we had in 2010 and 2013. Small rains like 1 or 2 inches of rain back up the stormwater system on our street and water fills our backyard and street and water creeps up our driveway.

In recent months, 2 families have moved from our block because of this issue and I think more people will be following them and it makes me sad and angry.

Something urgently needs to be done to fix the stormwater removal system or take water away from it. Thanks so much.

Andrew and Angela Ziola
732 S Washington in Elmhurst

Rogers, Jim

From: Kendra Thompson [kscud_2001@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 11:15 AM
To: Carolyn Ubriaco
Cc: Rogers, Jim; Vince Spaeth; Bob Howard
Subject: June 30, 2014 Rainfall
Attachments: June30_yard3.jpg; June30_yard2.jpg; June30_yard1.jpg

Good Morning.

I am writing this email so it can be read during the 7/9 EPD Board Meeting.

Last Monday, 6/30 to Tuesday, 7/1, we had a rain storm where the area received about 2.6 inches of rain (according to the report at O'Hare). Here is the link to that information <http://www.almanac.com/weather/history/IL/Elmhurst/2014-07-01>.

During this time on 6/30, my yard started to collect water as it has done in past heavy rain events. The reason my yard was collecting water was because the drain behind my fence stopped working. The storm water sewers were stopping in the area as they again could not take on more water to drain. When this happens, the drain behind my house stops as well and causes us to flood in our yard and potentially our home.

At approximately 1030 PM, we had about a foot of standing water in 1/4 of the yard. My husband went back to the drain to make sure no debris was blocking the the grates. However, the drain was free of debris and simply stopped and water was not flowing. As it continued to rain and a flood warning was dispatched for DuPage, we decided to sandbag the back of the house, as we have seen this before in 2010 and 2013, which both turned into disasters for us with water rising in the yard and entering our house.

At approximately 11 PM, the drain started to flow and the water disappeared from our yard and surrounding areas. We were very relieved but still shaken by the all too familiar experience of devastation we saw starting to happen with the drain stopped, heavy rainfall and the yard collecting water.

My point is that this WAS NOT a 100 year storm....bad, yes, but these type of storms have almost become the norm with this area. I think we all can agree we are seeing these type storms in more frequency than in the past. We need to work together as a town to help residents not see this type of flooding devastation again, as it is not a matter of IF anymore....it is WHEN we will flood again.

I am hoping your conversations with the City, V3 Engineering and Burke are getting closer to a workable resolution as it pertains to the York Commons detention proposal. This York Commons proposal would greatly help the residents on Crescent Ave.

Thanks your time.

Kendra M. Thompson
204 E. Crescent Ave.
630-618-7540

Rogers, Jim

From: Bridget Butterly [bridgetbutterly@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 2:17 PM
To: Rogers, Jim; Carolyn Ubriaco; Vince Spaeth
Subject: July 9 Park District Meeting

I am unable to attend the Park District Meeting tonight, but respectfully request the following be read and recorded into the record.

Thank you.

My name is Bridget Butterly and my family lives at 279 W Jackson, (the Northwest corner of Jackson/Saylor). I appreciate that the flooding issues--particularly related to stormwater--are complex issues and all parties need to perform due diligence before arriving at a final solution. That said, it is my hope the board moves as quickly as possible so the city can move forward with some tangible solutions. I also encourage all parties to continue to work together because flooding is truly a city-wide problem, regardless of whether your home is affected directly. I worry recent comments from the different city entities seem to point the finger at each other for driving the pace of this process, seemingly indicating these groups aren't communicating, which is a problem. Finally, I am troubled by comments from the board that appear to use the fact that the possible solution before the board won't completely alleviate the problem as a potential justification for dismissing the solution. While there are many pros and cons to consider, the fact that one solution isn't a magic bullet should not be one of them. A problem as complex as ours won't be solved by one solution, but that certainly doesn't mean we should do nothing. It makes me very sad to see friends move, or contemplate moving, away from our awesome neighborhood in this wonderful town I grew up in—all because of flooding. I am encouraged by the work done so far and am optimistic about the city improving the situation. Thank you for all your hard work and your continued service to Elmhurst.

Sent from my iPhone

Rogers, Jim

From: jekenny7@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 4:23 PM
To: Carolyn Ubriaco; Rogers, Jim; Vince Spaeth
Subject: Please Read - Elmhurst Flooding Problem

Unfortunately I am unable to attend tonight's meeting.

I am a Spring Road resident with flooding problems, our problem stems from the fact that after the 1987 flood, Eldridge park was elevated. Not sure why the park was elevated after the 87 flood because the creek overflowed onto Butterfield Road and down Spring Road that year, it did not come thru the park. Now every time we have a heavy rain, the water flows down the park hills and stairs like waterfalls into Spring Road and onto residential property, flooding our yards and homes. When we have had to leave by boat (more than once), we have crossed over Spring Road and into the park... where we were able to disembark and walk thru the wet but not flooded park. We have even had to move our cars to the park to save them. Eldridge Park has inadequate draining and should be one of the places the city looks at for water mitigation. The sewers on Spring Road can not handle the tons of water flowing from the park. Before the park elevation, we never had flooding (except for 1987 when everyone was flooded), now we flood every time an inch or more of rain falls.

Please, please look into this problem

Thank You
Jo Ellen Kenny
1033 Spring Road
Elmhurst Ill

Rogers, Jim

From: reneedizillo1@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 4:34 PM
To: Carolyn Ubriaco; Rogers, Jim; Vince Spaeth
Subject: Flooding issues

>
> I am in michigan on vacation right now so I cannot attend tonight's meeting. Please read my comments at the meeting. Thank you.
>
> I grew up here in elmhurst and have always loved it here. I came back to elmhurst to raise my family, but I am greatly concerned about all the flooding issues. People on many streets here in elmhurst live in fear every time it rains. If you drive down any of the flooding streets during a rainstorm in the middle of the night, you will see lights on, residents outside manning sewers and drains, and people that cannot sleep because they need to wait the rain out to protect their homes. People joke about midnight "block parties" when it rains. It's not really funny though. Just as it isn't funny that many of us felt we had to buy generators in order to not live on fear of storms. What now ? I keep seeing updates on stormwater plans, progress or whatever. It's not enough. Whatever you are doing is not enough. We are tired of hearing that the city and park district are working on plans, but nothing actually happens. In fact, things seem to be worse. Streets and backyards are flooding often, and these are not 100 year rains. I think that really can't be used as an excuse anymore. I see new houses going up all over the place and taking up more and more green space. I can't believe builders are allowed to even build on streets that have recurring flooding problems. That is just irresponsible.
> When will something substantial happen? Something that actually makes a difference? Property values will go down as people learn about these problems. No one wants to move to a city with flooding problems. People will also move out.... I know many thinking of this now.
> Please do something now.
> Renee dizillo
> 634 saylor
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Rogers, Jim

From: Carolyn Ubriaco
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 4:38 PM
To: Rogers, Jim
Subject: FW: Flooding photos 2010 and 2013

From: Carolyn Ubriaco
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 11:16 AM
To: Laurel Holze
Subject: RE: Flooding photos 2010 and 2013

Hi Laurel,
Thank you for contacting me. I will read your letter tonight at the Elmhurst Park Board meeting. Please feel free to contact me at any time.
Carolyn
630.492.0525 rings all phones

From: Laurel Holze [lbwestman@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 10:55 AM
To: jrogers@eps.org; vspaeth@eps.org; Carolyn Ubriaco
Subject: Fwd: Flooding photos 2010 and 2013

>>> Hello. I very much appreciate all that you are doing to help with storm water flooding issues in Elmhurst. I will not be able to attend the meeting but wanted someone to read my letter and to show attached pictures of the Saylor Jackson intersection from storms in 6/10, 7/10, and 4/13. Before moving here in 2007 we knew this area had once been considered a flood zone because of salt creek flooding in 1987. However once the levees along the creek were built FEMA took this area off the map. However storm water has now put us back on. The storm water gushes out of the storm sewer and floods our street frequently. Not just in the 100 year storms but with most heavy rains to some degree. As seen in pictures cars frequently get swept in the intersection. I hope the board can take into consideration that this intersection is surrounded by many families with kids who attend Our schools and use our park district. We are hopeful that some type of storm water retention is an option to help the families who use our resources and pay taxes while maintaining the land use. Most families in this area (and Spring street which connects to "our river") are tired, devastated at losses, and cannot restfully go to sleep when it's raining or go out of town when a storm is predicted. We appreciate all that you can do to keep Elmhurst a desirable place to live. Thank you for your time, efforts, and service.

Laurel Holze
886 Saylor ave
630 815-9715

Rogers, Jim

From: Jackie DeGaetano [jmdegaetano@icloud.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 4:56 PM
To: Carolyn Ubriaco; Rogers, Jim; Vince Spaeth
Subject: flooding issues at tonights meeting

I am writing to voice my concern with the slow process of resolving the ongoing flooding problems with in Elmhurst. I take special issue with the increase in building and development with in Elmhurst with no ongoing plan being implemented to deal with the increase of run off from these larger structures, especially now that heavy rains are more of norm than once every 50 years. The pictures in my mind of the water rushing from the Prairie Path like a small white water river into my neighbors yards and homes or trying to reach my business on Spring Road but can't because the water is half way up to my car door become new worries every time we have a storm forecasted. Our choices as homeowners are to spend thousands of dollars on additional sump pumps, generators and overhead sewer systems and even then we are flooded.

Please work together with all the governing bodies (budgets and boards) in Elmhurst to quickly implement sound, cost effective practices that will prevent the costly flooding problem we have in Elmhurst.

Jackie DeGaetano

Sent from my iPad

Joellyn Haske, 625 S. Saylor Avenue

Stated she appreciates the value the Park District has to offer the community but believes flooding of homes has a significant negative impact on the community as a whole in the devaluation of property and risk for insurance coverage. She strongly supports the implementation of stormwater reservoir in the parks and feels all should share in the burden.

Kevin Graf, 233 E. Cayuga

Stated that the community as a whole should be responsible for solving the stormwater issue not just the parks. Stated that placing a detention pond in the parks is not going to solve the stormwater flooding issue. He stated he was concerned for the effects of the detention basin in York Commons as to the gathering of mosquitoes due to standing water, the number of trees that must be torn down to build the detention, the dangers the detention poses to children, and the overflow to Cayuga Street. He questioned why should a solution for one group of residents hurt other residents. Stressed that the detention is a temporary solution and that a permanent solution must be sought to benefit all.

Virginia Sikorski, 166 E. Columbia

Stated that she has spent thousands of dollars in preventing flooding in her home and has incurred several losses from previous floods. At this point, she is open to any ideas to prevent the flooding of her home.

Milana Kosanovich, 181 E. Cayuga

Stated she was opposed to a detention in York Commons due to the threat of overflowing to Cayuga Street. Requested the Board consider the number of sewer maintenance issues related to a detention basin. She said her street flooded every time there was a big storm causing several residents on her block to move away. Stressed that the detention basin would overflow making the parks unusable.

Chris Zimmerman, 185 E. Cayuga

Sympathized with residents on Crescent Street but does not think a detention basin in the parks would solve the problem of flooding. Asked the Board several questions to consider such as: what about other areas such as Washington Park, if they could guarantee that the detention basin will not overflow to Cayuga, and if a shutoff valve will be installed to stop pumping to the basin. He stated that he did not believe that the fields would stay dry.

Tracy Fleischer, 736 S. Washington

Stated that she would hope other residents would be more concerned about other residents as opposed to other parks or trees in the parks. Said her entire first floor has flooded three times and her fear of her children being electrocuted while playing video games is her main concern.

Cheryl Jasek, 748 S. Washington

Thanked the Board for its efforts but stated there appears to be slow progress. Encouraged the Board to move forward quicker and asked for some indication of approval or commitment to voting on the issue. Added that every time it rains, she and her neighbors are up protecting their property.

Eileen Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga

Attended the August 2013 board meeting. She and neighbors are very concerned about the additional stormwater the York Commons detention pond may incur causing overflow to be deterred to Cayuga streets. She asked whether the detention would prevent plans to expand Smalley pool. Asked the Board to consider the safety of children near detention ponds. Would like the drawings to be revised showing that Cayuga will not flood from the detention's overflow. Would like research on Van Voorst Park and the Prairie Path as water comes from both those areas. Sympathized with Crescent Street residents but does not want overflow in Cayuga. Questioned who would be responsible for turning off the Crescent Street valve to the detention pond to prevent flooding. Cayuga Street residents would like their questions responded to.

Peter Dabertin, 177 E. Cayuga

Asked the Board to study the plans further. Cayuga residents are opposed to the detention pond for fear that their street would get the overflow from the pond. Appreciates the Board taking its time as the parks are an asset to the community. Asked about other alternatives, how frequently the pond would be used. Commended the Park District for moving slowly as this is not the answer and could have serious effects on the parks.

Laura Zacharski, 449 E. Park

Has been a victim of flooding, but her home is not part of any plan. Hopes the Board will begin to take some action that may help her home from flooding. Stated something needs to start moving forward. Witnessed children playing soccer in Washington Park in Downers Grove in April 2013 on the day that she was ordering a dumpster after an Elmhurst flooding event, thus proving that the parks are quickly playable after a storm.

Dawn Flynn, 195 Cayuga

Asked if detention ponds are such a great idea, why more detention ponds are not being done all over the City to prevent a diversion of water to other areas.

Michael Machon, 741 S. Washington

His home does not flood. Stated the Board has the opportunity to make a difference in people's lives. Requested the Board move quickly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stormwater Management Sub Committee item moved to Agenda item #9a (1)

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Gateway – July 10, 2014

Elmhurst Art Museum – August 20, 2014

Sugar Creek Golf Course – July 22, 2014

PEP – August 8, 2014

Stormwater Sub Committee – July 27, 2014

Lizzadro Museum – November 2014

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Spaeth made a motion for the Board to approve the Consent Agenda of July 9, 2014. Commissioner Morissette-Moll seconded the motion. The Board was polled: Ayes: Commissioners Spaeth, Howard, Kies, Kubiesa, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

It should be noted that the following items were approved on the Consent Agenda: Regular Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2014, and Voucher List dated: June 27, 2014 for \$243,946.90.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (OLD) –

Stormwater Management Sub Committee and Stormwater Management Discussion

Executive Director Rogers reported that the Sub Committee met on July 8, 2014 to review Burke Engineering's response to V3 Engineering's initial inquiries regarding drawings for stormwater detention in District parks. A copy of the responses was provided to each Park Commissioner as well as the public. The responses were in keeping with what had been previously discussed stating that the drawings are preliminary with only 5% completed. V3 suggested Burke Engineering continue to detail the drawings up to 15% to 20% of completion in order for V3 to provide an accurate peer review of detention plans in the parks in regards to the fields' playability, maintenance and other associated concerns. Burke Engineering has agreed to incorporate specific details in the second phase of drawings as requested by V3 including invert elevations, inflow and outflow, pipe sizes throughout the site, peak elevations and further specifications. Burke Engineering's response addressed Cayuga Avenue residents' concerns of the York Commons detention basin overflowing to Cayuga Avenue by recommending a "berm be constructed along the south side of the park to protect those homes." Park District representatives on the Sub Committee did not agree the berm would be the best fit but asked if the back of Cayuga Avenue would feed into the basin as well.

In its attempt to further the stormwater management process, the Sub Committee agreed to have the City draft an intergovernmental agreement (IGA). The IGA would be simplistic with exhibits for each unique park site. To date, York Commons Park continues to be the first park site for review because of the potential number of homes benefitting from the detention.

Commissioners recommended V3 attend future Park board meetings to address Commissioner and potentially public questions regarding stormwater plans. The Board discussed inviting representatives from the City and Burke Engineering to Board meetings also. Commissioner Spaeth stated that the Sub Committee is making progress and V3 is helping the Park District by asking the right questions before making a decision in choosing the most sustainable option to benefit the most number of homes. Commissioner Morissette-Moll asked about safety issues in regards to basin depth and drain time. The Sub Committee also discussed the option of the City purchasing flooding lots in natural swales in the Geneva Street area near East End Park. Board President Ubriaco posed the question whether the Board was ready to vote on Wild Meadows Trace. Executive Director

Rogers suggested the Board allow for V3 to review more detailed plans for that site prior to proceeding.

Executive Director Rogers stated that although most of the questions asked tonight have been made readily available to the public, the Park District plans to develop a broader approach to enhance dissemination of information to the community and improve knowledge of the Park Board's efforts thus far. Commissioners thanked the Sub Committee members for their time and efforts in serving on the committee.

NEW BUSINESS –

Board Policy Committee Recommendation

Commissioner Kies reviewed the proposed updates to the Board Policy to reflect recommended changes in the board's meeting schedule, the delivery of board packet materials, rescheduling the annual meeting to be held consistently on the first meeting in May after the Election canvass, guidelines for allowing Commissioner attendance via electronic means, the process for additions/deletions and changes to the board agenda, guidelines for the use of electronic devices during board meetings. The Board discussed those items as well as restrictions to the use of electronic devices during the Board meetings by weighing self policing as opposed to specific policy. Executive Director Rogers clarified the Board's question whether the Freedom of Information Act is applicable to personal cell phones. Commissioner Howard then made a motion that the Board of Park Commissioners review and approve the new policy 5.22 – Use of Electronic Devices during Board Meetings along with the revisions outlined in the memorandum to the Board for the following Board policies: 4.11 – Annual Meeting, 5.01 – Regular Meetings, 5.09 – Order of Business, 5.16 – Board Meeting Attendance via Electronic Means, and 5.18 – Distribution of Board Packet Materials. Commissioner Kies seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioner Howard, Kies, Kubiesa, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER INFORMATION ITEMS –

Announcements

Commissioner Kies -

- Patrons have approached the Commissioner with accolades for Sugar Creek Golf Course changes on holes 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Future Agenda

The Board discussed whether to add *Stormwater Management Discussion* on each Board agenda. Cons were to only list when there is news and not as a just-in-case. Pros were to allow for continued and last minute updates to keep the Board posted at each meeting. Executive Director Rogers explained that *Future Agenda* lists an item to discuss V3 Engineering's final report but *Stormwater Management Discussion* can be listed on the Board's meeting Agenda as frequently as needed for both Sub Committee updates and Board discussion.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Director Rogers -

- Updated the Board on the Governor's announcement of three PARC grants totaling \$7 million. The total amount to be granted is \$25 million with approvals announced in intervals. Courts Plus has yet to receive news.
- The Salt Creek Greenway Trail project is now officially completed. The Park District anticipated a final reimbursement of just over \$52,000 this week, but received \$76,000 due to bids for the project coming in less than expected. Those funds will be utilized in ways that reflect the District's fiscal agility.

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 9:32 p.m. Commissioner Kies seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Kies, Kubiesa, Morissette-Moll, Pelosi, Spaeth, Howard, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously. Any action on matters discussed in Closed Session will be taken in Open Session.

OPEN SESSION

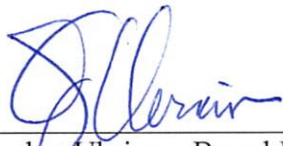
The Board returned to open session at 10:15 p.m. Board President Ubriaco stated that the Board met in Closed Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5) for the discussion of "the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District." No action will be taken in this meeting on matters discussed in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Kies moved to adjourn at 10:16 p.m. and Commissioner Spaeth seconded the motion. The Board adjourned by voice vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2014 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 Howard at the July 23, 2014 Park Board meeting.



Carolyn Ubriaco, Board President



Nimfa Melesio, Recording Secretary

Reviewed and Approved
8-13-14