

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

August 26, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Elmhurst Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, August 26, 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, Graf, Kies, Morissette-Moll, Spaeth, and Ubriaco

Absent: Commissioner Pelosi

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
Brian McDermott, Director of Enterprise Services
Cindy Szkolka, Director of Recreation
Ginger Wade, Director of Marketing & Communications

Visitors: Seine Dochoff, 436 Schiller, Elmhurst
Chris Farrell, 138 N. Avon Road, Elmhurst
Hilary Reiff, 132 N. Pine Street, Elmhurst
Kathleen Sullivan, 133 Pine Street, Elmhurst
Paula Wolf, 444 N. Larch, Elmhurst

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA –

The stormwater subcommittee report was moved to 9a(1).

REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE FROM VISITORS –

Paula Wolf

Requested the sewer by Tot Lot Park be inspected because she has witnessed the manhole cover pop up when the park takes in a high volume of rainwater. She asked that a safety mechanism be added to the sewer cover to prevent it from popping up in order to avert the threat of a child falling into the sewer. Stated she appreciated the Park District and City working together to solve the flooding problem, but asked the Park Board to re-examine building an athletic building as she does not know how it would be funded nor where it could be built.

Seine Dochoff

Understands that the Park District would like to help the flooding issue, but stated it is important to maintain green space. Asked the Park Board to review a flood alleviating method featured in an article in *Landscape Architect* (he provided a copy of the article for the Board).

Kathleen Sullivan, 133 Pine Street

Thanked the Board for considering the use of Golden Meadows Park for stormwater detention. Asked for an update on discussions with IDNR for conversion of the park to stormwater detention. Requested construction of the detention basins be expedited.

Hillary Reiff

Would like to hear an update on IDNR discussions as to the use of Golden Meadows Park for dual use purposes (recreation and detention) or as a land swap. Asked when the construction of the basin will move forward. The new homes in the Nitti Development will require more flood mitigation. Stated concern for decreased home values because of flooding vulnerability.

Chris Farrell

Thanked the Board for meeting with IDNR regarding the use of Golden Meadows Park. Asked when and which agency, City or Park District will be making the formal request for use of the property for stormwater detention. Would like an update on those discussions and on the meeting set for Thursday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gateway – Szkolka

- Informed Gateway that the Elmhurst Park District will launch a Special Olympics gymnastics program. Resident requirement rates will be waived for all Gateway participants in the program. Will work with the Marketing Dept. to promote the program to the other communities.
- Provided results of the satisfaction survey. The board decided to conduct a Gateway-wide survey among the participating communities.
- In response to Commissioner Kies' question regarding participants' travel time of 1.25 hours to Gateway programs, Szkolka stated that this year's summer camp was held on the north side of town making the travel time longer for those coming from other communities especially for those utilizing the door-to-door transportation service.

People for Elmhurst Parks (PEP) – Wade

- Colette Kubiesa was voted in as a new member.
- Final figures show that this year's golf outing raised \$1,000 for Kiwanis and the remaining \$4,100 will be donated to the recreation assistance fund.
- Brainstormed on fund raising ideas for the Playground for Everyone.
- Finalized tasks and volunteer assignments for the Park Palooza special event. Park Palooza figures remain to be tabulated, but beverage tent tips raised \$500.

The Stormwater Subcommittee Report was moved to agenda item #9a(1).

Sugar Creek Golf Course – Rogers

- Although summer had a slow start, it has been a good year at the golf course. Marketing efforts have proven beneficial in increasing business. Year-to-date rounds of golf are up approximately 1,800 through August 24. Compared to last year's figures, revenues were up \$22,000 in July and \$20,000 through August 24.
- Dick's Sporting Goods filmed its second commercial at the golf course. The revenue collected from the three-hour shoot equates to a full weekend of banquet rentals.
- The 40th Anniversary celebration is ongoing until September 9. In recognition of the milestone, the golf course will be featured in a newspaper article. As part of the celebration, every golf round purchased is entitled to a chance to win several prizes. Based on current rounds being sold, preliminary calculations show the total number of chances may be as many as 6,000. The raffle drawing will be held during the open house on September 12 from 10 a.m. to noon.
- In response to Commissioner Spaeth's asking if, in comparison to 2014, the increase of \$101,000 in revenues received thus far was a good target for the golf course, Rogers stated that if revenues remain constant, it will make a positive effect to the bottom line. The increase in revenue is a combination of two additional playable days and the number of rounds played overall.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Stormwater Subcommittee – August 27, 2015 PEP – September 17, 2015
Elmhurst Art Museum – September 9, 2015 Sugar Creek Golf Course – September 22, 2015
Gateway – September 10, 2015

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Kies made a motion for the Board to approve the Consent Agenda of August 26, 2015. Commissioner Graf seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Kies, Morissette-Moll, Spaeth, Graf, Ennis, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

It should be noted that the following items were approved on the Consent Agenda: August 12, 2015 regular meeting minutes, August 12, 2015 closed meeting minutes, voucher lists: 08/21/15 - \$99,588.19, 08/14/15 - \$131,141.51, and Disposal Ordinance O-10-15.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (OLD) – None

Stormwater Subcommittee Report and Discussion

Executive Director Rogers summarized the August 13 meeting held in City chambers. The meeting had approximately 36 residents in attendance with 5 providing public comment. The legal and business terms of the proposed intergovernmental agreement (IGA) was reviewed with the City. Rogers and City Manager Grabowski continue to work on developing language in the IGA regarding the consideration of other park sites. Commissioner Spaeth stated that he would want the IGA to include the requirement of a shutoff valve in the proposed York Commons Park detention. A meeting date with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) was

confirmed and held on August 21. The subcommittee discussed the other three proposed park sites (East End, Crestview, and Wild Meadows Trace parks). The subcommittee suggested the City's engineer review the placement of the detention in the far western portion of East End Park, the area between Interstate 290 and Lake Street at Crestview Park, and utilizing Wild Meadows Trace in lieu of Pioneer Park. The City has yet to send the new conceptual plans for those park sites with the suggested detention placements. Reiterated to the City to keep in mind that the other three park sites were also purchased with IDNR grant funds.

Commissioner Spaeth stated IDNR appeared receptive in considering a land swap, but each property will be considered independently. As an example to IDNR making such considerations, Rogers added that Golden Meadows Park was not originally purchased with IDNR funds, but a conversion property for land that was swapped for the building of the Courts Plus Fitness Center. Rogers and the City Manager are working to create a formal request to IDNR. The request will be to allow the Park District to deal with the City for Golden Meadows Park, placing the funds from the deal in an escrow, in order to allow the City to begin construction while the Park District seeks a replacement property. As part of the process, IDNR would also need to seek approval from the National Parks Service as it provided the original funding.

Rogers summarized the City's first draft of a master IGA with a listing of conditions, including easements during and after construction, maintenance for using the parks, and the inclusion of addendums for each individual park site. Commissioner Graf stated that the development of a master IGA also allows for construction to begin while the Park District considers the other sites. Primary changes and inclusions in the IGA were displayed in a slide show. Rogers read the termination clause in regards to the Park District's lease extension of the maintenance garage should the City decide not to use the parks.

Board President Ubriaco stated that it might be best if funds for the City's offer to propose dual use in the detention basin be utilized to fund stormwater mitigation. Commissioner Spaeth added that dual use in the basins is dependent on what will be played on the site as well as the type of stormwater event for which the basin will be utilized i.e. 5-year, 10-year, etc.

2015 Second Quarter Financial Report

Director of Finance and Human Resources Jacobson provided an overview of the Park District's financial trends through June 30, 2015 including the financial status compared to the 2014 budget, a capital project expenditure status update, and a summary of investments. The net budgeted figures show negative amounts due to spend downs for the General, Recreation, and Enterprise Services funds for capital reserves. Commissioners asked questions regarding the revenue decrease in Martial Arts and the over-budget expenditure for grounds replacement equipment. In response to Board President Ubriaco's inquiry of capital project's budgeted amounts compared to actual in forecasting the ending balance, Director of Parks and Facilities Ferrentino stated that the District anticipates being under budget by the end of the year due to project delays and bids submitted under budget. Rogers added that laws restrict the percentage of funds in reserve compared to expenditures.

New Indoor Sports and Aquatics Facilities Update

The objective of the discussion was to glean Board consensus on whether the District should share in the cost of a feasibility study/market analysis with the City of Elmhurst for a new indoor sports and aquatics facility. A listing of potential firms for conducting the study was provided as well as samples of their work. Rogers stated that it is advisable to conduct the study before surveying the community in order to determine if an indoor facility is viable and the market can support it. The City is interested in an indoor facility to improve economic development. Board President Ubriaco first proposed the idea of an indoor facility in March 2014 based upon the District's 2009 comprehensive study and 2011 community-wide interest survey.

The Board discussed challenges in partnering with the City and proposed District staff take the lead on the study. Rogers recommended the Board move forward in the partnership due to the potential for real estate property accumulation by the City. The steps in engaging a firm for the study are to first solicit requests for proposals (RFP) for professional services, staff will review the submitted proposals and then bring a recommendation to the Board for approval.

Commissioner Morissette-Moll stated that building a large complex will be challenging to maintain and may not increase the District's net income. Rogers did not foresee the facility as an enterprise fund but tax supported. As the indoor facility has been on the District's wish list for some time, partnering with the City on the feasibility study is an opportunity to take the first step and falls within the timing of the District's plans to conduct a community interest survey next year followed by a comprehensive plan. Board consensus was to move forward on the feasibility study for an indoor facility with the Park District taking the lead on the study.

NEW BUSINESS – None

COMMISSIONER INFORMATION ITEMS –

Commissioner Morissette-Moll

- Recommended Park Commissioners review Gateway's fall brochure noting the short program time, which may not be worth the travel time for participants.

Commissioner Kies

- Park Palooza was wonderful event with a large group of people.

Commissioner Ubriaco

- Thanked staff, volunteers, and PEP who worked at the Park Palooza event.

Future Agenda –

Commissioner Kies requested the policy committee consider a policy regarding nominations for awards.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director of Technology - Kenny

- I.T. has been working on security patches for the online store and the website.

Director of Recreation - Szkolka

- Hosted two days of staff workshops related to creative curriculum. The workshops were attended by staff from all program areas in the Recreation Department.

Director of Marketing - Wade

- Please consider attending Sugar Creek's 40th Anniversary celebration on September 12 from 10 a.m. to noon.
- The Crowdfunding webpage for the Playground for Everyone campaign went live on Tuesday. As of 6:30 p.m. tonight, \$10,200 has been raised. Please review the website and pass it on to everyone you know.

Director of Parks and Facilities - Ferrentino

- Smalley Pool is closed for the season. East End Pool is open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through Labor Day.

Director of Finance and Human Resources - Jacobson

- RecTrac will be here next week to conduct the fourth week of training.

Director of Enterprise Services - McDermott

- The paving of Courts Plus' parking lot is complete.
- Fall activities are back to normal.

Executive Director - Rogers

- Recalled the passing of Gene Pomerance, who served three terms on the Park Board from 1959 to 1965, 1967 to 1973, and 1989 to 1995. Mr. Pomerance willed a generous donation of \$15,000 to the PEP Foundation, which he helped to found during his tenure, and an unrestricted donation of \$110,000 to the Park District. Pomerance's activism included the founding of the People for Elmhurst Parks Foundation (PEP), The Conservation Foundation, and serving on the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD). He also received the IAPD Commissioner of the Year Award. Commissioners fondly reminisced about Mr. Pomerance as they expressed their appreciation and provided consensus to accept his generous donation.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion to adjourn to Closed Session was made by Commissioner Graf 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 9:00 p.m. Commissioner Kies seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Morissette-Moll, Spaeth, Ennis, Graf, Kies, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:10 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 9:10 p.m. and Commissioner Ennis seconded the motion. The Board adjourned by voice vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 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 Morissette-Moll at the September 9, 2015 Park Board meeting.

Carolyn Ubriaco, Board President

Nimfa S. Melesio, Recording Secretary

Date Reviewed	
Date Approved	