

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ELMHURST PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 5, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Elmhurst Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, November 5, 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
Cindy Szkolka, Director of Recreation
Ginger Wade, Director of Marketing & Communications
Laura Guttman, Special Projects Coordinator
Julie Bruns, Division Manager – Human Resources & Risk Management
Barbara Stembridge, Division Manager – Finance
Greg Utaski, Division Manager – Facilities and Grounds
Jerry Pask, Landscape Architect
Dan Payne, Division Manager – Parks
Anne Scheppele, Division Manager – Facilities
Joey Cullen, Hospitality & Concessions Supervisor
Andrea Hampton, Financial Operations Supervisor
Stephanie Fester, Program Manager
Suzanne Ringbauer, Program Manager

Visitors:

Mimi Black, 275 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst	Eileen Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
William Chu, 273 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst	Tim Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Erika Ehmann, Elmhurst League of Women Voters	Michael Leuzzi, 161 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst
Kevin Graf, 233 Cayuga, Elmhurst	Phyllis Schmidt
Christi Jawler, 353 E. Third Street, Elmhurst	Chris Zimmerman, 185 E. Cayuga, Elmhurst

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Agenda Item #8a October 22, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes was pulled for staff edits.

REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE FROM VISITORS

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

From: Judy Dabertin
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2014 5:41 p.m. VIA EMAIL
To: Carolyn Ubriaco
Subject: Board of Commissioners Meeting 11/5/14 – Please read

My name is Judy Dabertin and I live at 177 E. Cayuga. As you may assume, I am writing to comment on the stormwater issue. I would have liked to attend the meeting tonight but am unable to do so.

First, I would like to commend you as a Board for your diligence in researching and ultimately acting on the city's request for the use of park land for water detention, along with your transparency throughout the process. Elmhurst clearly has a flooding issue that needs to be resolved as soon as possible, and the offer you made to the city was both reasoned and impactful. However, after viewing the recording of the City Council meeting held on November 3rd, I am dismayed by the reaction of Mayor Morley and most particularly, Alderman Honquest. Instead of embracing your willingness to cooperate and setting plans in motion, they have chosen to react with hostility and threats. How does that further a solution?

Finally, the Alderman asserted that only a small percentage of Cayuga residents are opposed to the utilization of York Commons for stormwater detention and that most are actually in favor of it. This is simply not true and I want to go on record as a resident of Cayuga that I am strongly opposed to the utilization of the east side of York Commons for water detention.

Thank you.

Eileen Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga

Thanked the Board for the decisions they have made. Viewed the November 3, 2014 City Council meeting and felt the remarks made were unfair to the Park Board and the work it has done. Believes the west lobe of York Commons is more than enough to take care of Crescent.

Tim Kennedy, 184 E. Cayuga

Thanked the Board for deciding to use only the west portion of York Commons for stormwater detention as it takes into consideration the need to protect the park, safety concerns, its neighbors, and the ability to mitigate the water issues on Crescent. Expressed his disappointment of the November 3 City Council meeting. Stated that the City's outrage is uncalled for as an 11 acre foot detention basin provides for a 100-year storm. Urged the Park Board to resist the renewed pressure to capitulate to Mayor Morley and the City Council and asked the Park Board not to revisit their decision regarding the east lobe of York Commons.

William Chu, 273 E. Cayuga

The Park Board's decision demonstrates that they are willing to compromise with the City by sacrificing park land. The City should re-engineer their plans with the allotted area given by the Park District. The City has consistently stated that residents do not understand the plans. Mayor Morley and City Council members were vocal enough to go on record to share their personal opinions rather than being impartial by looking at what benefits the residents.

Kevin Graf, 233 Cayuga

Thanked the Park Board for their due diligence, transparency, listening to residents and going above and beyond the Park District's mission by ultimately deciding to assist the City in stormwater mitigation. The City's negative response is not productive in moving the stormwater

solutions forward. The Park Board's matrix clearly stated the Board's criteria. The City must upgrade Elmhurst's infrastructure.

Mimi Black, 275 E. Cayuga

Thanked the Park Board for adhering to their matrix in making their decision regarding the use of York Commons for stormwater detention. At the November 3, 2014 City Council meeting, Alderman Honquist stated that 'a very small percentage' of Cayuga residents are upset with the City's plans. Cayuga residents' petition has been signed by 52 Cayuga residents from 38 separate homes, which is 76% thus more than a "small percentage" as stated by the alderman.

Chris Zimmerman, 185 Cayuga

The City Council's response to the Park Board's decision regarding the use of York Commons for stormwater detention was shocking. Therefore, the Park Board's decision does not put Cayuga homes at risk and provides a solution for Crescent homes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PEP - Wade

- The Wilder Mansion Endowment Fund Committee has approved the release of funds to cover mansion capital projects completed in 2013. There was discussion to potentially cover some 2015 capital plans.
- A treasurer's report was given.

Sugar Creek Golf Course - Rogers

- General Manager Dave Anderson gave a report on last year's reduced playable days illustrating that the strategic diversification of revenue has proven beneficial as the lost days have not significantly affected the golf course.
- Dick's Sporting Goods taped promotional pieces at the course.
- Saturday's Fall Scramble had 88 golfers.
- Superintendent Kevin Goss reported that there has already been seven days of significant frost, which has delayed the start of rounds on some days.
- Efforts are underway to remove Ash trees and aerification.
- A bid for a compact utility tractor was let but will not be purchased until projected year-end financials are complete.

Stormwater Subcommittee - Howard, Spaeth, Rogers

- The subcommittee met on October 31. The City expressed surprise at the Park District's decision on the use of park land. City representatives asked how the Park Board arrived at its decision and for a clarification of the approvals. The subcommittee discussed both sites. The City understands the Park Board's proposal for Golden Meadows and asked what the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) restrictions specify in regards to transferring ownership of the property. Executive Director Rogers explained that deeding over the property would require that the parcel be replaced with property of equal value.
- The City inquired about the Park Board's rationale in its decision to provide only the west lobe of York Commons Park and asked that the Park Board reconsider the east lobe. The Park District's representatives suggested that the City could submit a written request to the Park Board for reconsideration and noted that the request needed to come enough in advance of the Park Board's November 19 meeting to allow time for it to be reviewed by V3, the subcommittee and Park Board prior to the meeting.

- Commissioner Howard stated that he would liked to have seen the Board vet the developed matrix and its considerations further before making a decision. Part of the City's claim is that those not on the subcommittee did not have an opportunity to discuss the options. Commissioner Morissette-Moll stated that she believes the Park Board had sufficiently vetted out the issue and has dedicated a significant amount of time in aiding the City on its stormwater issues.
- Commissioner Spaeth stated that the subcommittee did a phenomenal job in reviewing the matrix. The City needs to improve its infrastructure as part of the solution. Commissioner Kubiesa stated that a year ago the Park Board took a lead in forming the subcommittee, discussions were transparent with awareness of the matrix, and the Park Board delivered satisfactorily.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Lizzadro Museum – November 13, 2014

Sugar Creek Golf Course – November 25, 2014

Gateway – November 13, 2014

Elmhurst Art Museum – December 17, 2014

PEP – November 20, 2014

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Kubiesa made a motion for the Board to approve the Consent Agenda of October 22, 2014. Commissioner Spaeth seconded the motion. The Board was polled: Ayes: Commissioners Pelosi, Spaeth, Howard, Kies, Kubiesa, Morissette-Moll, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

It should be noted that the following items were approved on the Consent Agenda: Closed Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2014, Voucher Lists for: 10/24/14 - \$62,024.39, 10/31/14 - \$146,152.23, and the Salt Creek Greenway Trail Connection Amendment #1 Phase 2 Engineering Agreement authorizing the Board President to execute the Local Agency Amendment #1 for Federal Participation and the Executive Director to execute Phase 2 Engineering Service Agreement with URS Corporation to allow for engineering and design improvements to the Salt Creek Greenway Trail south of Butterfield Road to proceed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (OLD) –

None.

NEW BUSINESS –

FY2015 Proposed Budget Presentation

Executive Director Rogers explained that conducting the budget presentation in advance of the Budget Hearing, scheduled for November 19, 2014, provides an opportunity for the community to review and comment on the budget prior to the budget hearing. The FY15 Proposed Budget was posted on the District's website and made available at the Elmhurst Public Library and the Administrative Office. Park Board Commissioners received a copy of the budget on October 31, 2014. The Board was encouraged to ask questions during staff's budget presentation.

The Park District's proposed FY2015 budget focuses on maintaining and enhancing park services and facilities, strategically addressing financial and operational challenges with the declining Equalized Accessed Value (EAV), and improving organizational efficiencies including the use of

the Staffing Study and Program Analysis results as additional tools. It reflects the Park Board's commitment to sound financial agility and long-term planning.

Total proposed 2015 revenue for all funds is \$20,494,191, an increase of 17.9% compared to the 2014 Budget and a 2.6% decrease over 2013 actual revenue. Revenue increases are due to revenue projections in program participation and sales trends, one-time grant proceeds for the Courts Plus expansion (pending receipt) and an increase in the transfer of cash and investments for capital projects. Total proposed 2015 expenditures for all funds is \$22,319,006, a 25.7% increase over the 2014 budget and a 7.5% increase over 2013 actual expenditures due to higher capital projects and an operating fund transfer planned in 2015.

The District's share of residents' tax bill continues to be approximately 6%. As a comparison, the impact to a homeowner of a home valued at \$350,000 will experience an approximate 1% increase in property taxes for Park District services in 2015.

Commissioners asked questions about employees' health benefits and nature program offerings. The Board took no action during the presentation. An agenda item will be placed on the November 19, 2014 board meeting to further discuss the proposed FY15 budget.

COMMISSIONER INFORMATION ITEMS – None

Future Agenda – None

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Director - Rogers

- The Veterans Day ceremony will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at the Wilder Park Veterans Memorial. In case of rain, the ceremony will be moved to Wilder Mansion.

Director of Parks & Facilities - Ferrentino

- Introduced new employee Suzamne Ringbauer, Program Manager – Aquatics.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Spaeth moved to adjourn at 10:20 p.m. and Commissioner Pelosi seconded the motion. The Board adjourned by voice vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 immediately after the Budget Hearing, which will commence 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 Spaeth at the November 19, 2014 Park Board meeting.

Carolyn Ubriaco, Board President

Nimfa S. Melesio, Recording Secretary