

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

**May 28, 2014**

**7:00 p.m.**

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Elmhurst Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, May 28, 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, Spaeth, and Ubriaco

**Absent:** Commissioner Pelosi (excused)  
Commissioner Morissette-Moll left the meeting at 7:55 p.m. (excused)

**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

**Visitors:** Ricky Dufort, Elmhurst League of Women Voters - *The Observer*  
Cheryl Jasek, 748 S. Washington, Elmhurst  
Mike Jasek, 748 S. Washington, Elmhurst  
Rich Pesek, 691 S. Bryan, Elmhurst

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Executive Director Rogers requested item #9b (1) *PC Replacements Purchased* be pulled from the meeting agenda due to lending restrictions identified by District attorneys. Staff will revisit the issue.

**REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE FROM VISITORS**

Cheryl Jasek, 748 South Washington –  
Spoke in support of plans proposed by the City of Elmhurst and Burke Engineering to build storm water retention basins in Elmhurst parks. Ms. Jasek conducted research, took photographs (shared with the Board), and spoke with residents of the Downers Grove Park District's Washington Park, where a similar basin has been built. In her conversations with residents of Downers Grove's Washington Park, residents stated that the storm water detention basins did help reduce flooding of homes, improved park features, provided spectator accommodations/seating, made parks usable quicker after a rainfall, and increased revenue by bringing in more teams to play on the fields. Ms. Jasek stated that she believes the proposed plans for Elmhurst are good, will help the community, improve the parks, and help flooding retention issues.

Mike Jasek, 748 South Washington –

Stated that he is a civil engineer who is currently working on a storm water detention basin project in the Village of Wheeling parks similar to the one proposed for Elmhurst. In the two years working on the project, the basin has flooded three times and has worked perfectly as planned; he described that as the water recedes, the water leaves the basin, and the grass grows for kids to play soccer. He added that although there is some tweaking to be done to the proposed City plans, as a concept, the plan will work, is a viable option for Elmhurst parks, and will improve flood retention for residents.

Ricky Rufort, Elmhurst League of Women Voters - *The Observer*

Mr. Rufort introduced himself to the Park Board as a student of Elmhurst College who will report on Park Board activities for the Elmhurst League of Women Voters' *Observer*.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lizzadro – Kies

- The Museum continues to apply for grants and has received grant funds from the City (\$15,000) and the Diana Nicholas Foundation (\$12,650).
- School field trip visits have increased.
- Excess art pieces have been sold. Gift shop sales are up.
- A Smithsonian exhibit titled “Faces of Humanity” featuring varying sizes of skulls sculpted from stones and gems will be on display.
- The Museum will lend pieces to neighboring libraries requesting displays.

Sugar Creek Golf Course – Morissette-Moll

- The start of turf maintenance in May was difficult due to the cool wet weather, but grass is now growing quickly.
- The 2014 year-to-date revenue as of May 26, 2014 is up \$7,800.
- Online registration was a success. Junior league golf programs sold out despite the 10% price increase.
- Noted that 95% of junior league golf participants are boys; would like to consider fostering a girls' golf camp.  
Executive Director Rogers added–
- All clubhouse personnel completed required training.
- Memorial Day weekend revenue proved to be the best since 2004.

## UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Gateway – June 12, 2014

Elmhurst Art Museum – June 18, 2014

PEP – June 19, 2014

Sugar Creek Golf Course – June 24, 2014

Lizzadro Museum – November 2014

Storm Water Sub Committee – TBD

## CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Morissette-Moll made a motion for the Board to approve the Consent Agenda of May 28, 2014. Commissioner Kies seconded the motion. The Board was polled: Ayes: Commissioners Kubiesa, Morissette-Moll, Spaeth, Howard, Kies, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

It should be noted that the following items were approved on the Consent Agenda: Annual Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2014, Regular Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2014, Check Registers – 05/19/14 - \$64,243.62, 05/09/14 - \$85,168.87, 05/23/14 \$92,133.24, and 2014-15 Committee Appointment – Elmhurst Art Museum.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS (OLD) –**  
None

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**413 S. York Road**

At the May 14, 2014 Board meeting, Commissioner Spaeth requested the Board discuss the property at 413 S. York Road currently on the market. The property's structure is a residential house built in 1843 on two residential lots. As the oldest home in Elmhurst, Commissioner Spaeth stated the home's historical value merits the Park Board's attention to review options for preserving it either by partnering with another entity for its use and/or advocating for its preservation by the City. Discussion amongst the Board generated the following concerns in opposition to the idea of the District either taking a lead role in launching a campaign to save the house or considering a purchase: advocating for historical preservation of structures not on District property does not meet the District's mission, moving the house to park property could threaten the preservation of open space which does fall under the District's mission, and the long-term cost to operate and maintain the structure is not an appropriate use of the District's resources. Board President Ubriaco stated that although the home is an Elmhurst jewel worth preserving and the District has preserved structures such as the Wilder Mansion and the Conservatory, the District, as a whole, should not take a lead in advocating for the preservation of 413 S. York Road, but that each Commissioner may as a private citizen if desired.

**COMMISSIONER INFORMATION ITEMS –**

**Announcements**

Commissioner Kies

- The Memorial Day Parade was held on a great day and crowds had a lot of fun.
- The Formal Gardens Herb Garden was planted by the Elmhurst Garden Club.

Commissioner Ubriaco

- On Tuesday morning, ABC 7 News broadcasted the morning weather news from the Wilder Mansion, Diana Nicholas Garden, and the Conservatory. Staff members Meagan Dovidio and Dan Payne did a great job as spokesmen for the Mansion and Conservatory.
- Thanked staff for participating in the Memorial Day Parade and preparing Wilder Park for the event. The Veterans Memorial ceremony was beautiful. The volunteers who put it together did a wonderful job again.

**Future Agenda**

Apart from the item to discuss 413 S. York Road, the three other items requested by the Board at the May 14 meeting have been added to Future Agenda – Board Policy, Gateway update, and Storm Water discussion following V3's review.

## **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Director of Information Technology – Kenny

- I.T. has been busy this past week updating backend storage devices.

Director of Enterprise Services – McDermott

- Courts Plus Annual Stars and Stripes Party will be held on May 30 from 6 to 9 p.m. Over 270 people have signed up so far. It will be a fun BBQ fair with special fitness classes and kids activities. Consider stopping by.

Director of Recreation – Szkolka

- Two dance recitals will be held at York High School this weekend to a sold out crowd.

Director of Finance & Human Resources – Medema

- The Capital Project kick off meeting will be held next week to schedule capital projects for 2015 and the next ten years.

Director of Marketing & Communications – Wade

- On May 31, the first annual bridal décor swap will be held at Wilder Mansion. The event is a venue for former wedding parties to sell their wedding décor.
- Relay for Life will be held at Berens Park on June 6.

Director of Facilities – Ferrentino

- The weekend was great for opening the spray ground at The Hub.
- Good sized crowds visited East End Pool on its opening weekend.

Executive Director Rogers

- V3 Engineering has begun its peer review of the proposed City storm water management plans. An initial observation made was the basin's lack of elevation, which means the retention basin will not only immediately receive water from the actual rainfall but also take in water at inception from the drain piped area causing the fields to be saturated every time it rains. Should the elevation be raised and water contained in storm sewers then flow to the basin, fewer homes could be affected by the conceptual plans. This is an example of V3's overview; they will continue to point out macro findings for the subcommittee to discuss and I will later bring back to the Board.
- Attended the Elmhurst Planning & Zoning Committee meeting, which was considering the developers proposal for the L.A. Fitness in the North TIF area. I spoke on behalf of the District as to the proposed type of business not being the highest and best use of crucial TIF property. The request for parking variances has been granted by the Committee and will now go to the City Council for final approval.
- While at the Zoning Committee meeting, I learned that the Finance Committee was meeting at the same time to consider the developer's request for TIF fund incentives. It was revealed that L.A. Fitness is no longer interested in the property but XSport Fitness is with the building remaining the same. The developer will complete its application and make a formal presentation at the Finance Committee's June 9 meeting. The request for TIF funds will be much different from past requests in Elmhurst. The proposal is for a \$500,000 incentive capped over 15 years with a pay-as-you-go platform of a 50/50 split of

tax increments. The EAV for that property has been frozen at a rate higher than the current EAV. Looking ahead, it may be difficult for future EAVs to go higher than the frozen EAV from two years ago. The question remains as to how this scenario will help develop that area.

- The Board has been provided with PDRMA's 2013 Annual Report.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion to adjourn to Closed Session was made by Commissioner Kubiesa 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 8:18 p.m. Commissioner Kies seconded the motion. The Board was polled. Ayes: Commissioners Howard, Kies, Spaeth, Kubiesa, and Ubriaco. Nays: None. Motion passed unanimously.

### **OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to open session at 8:44 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 final action will be taken at this meeting on matters that have been discussed in closed session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Spaeth moved to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. and Commissioner Howard seconded the motion. The Board adjourned by voice vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 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 Morissette-Moll at the June 11, 2014 Park Board meeting.

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Carolyn Ubriaco, Board President

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Nimfa Melesio, Recording Secretary