

Elmhurst Park District Meeting
February 26, 2014
7:00pm-9:28pm

7 Present; 1 Absent (Spaeth)
Public: 1; Staff: 8
Elmhurst College Student Observer: E. Ehmann

- I. Colette Kubiesa called the meeting to order.
- II. Approval of minutes from February 12, 2014 Board Meeting. Recommendation that 9A1 storm water discussion be added to discussion. Minutes were second, and approved.
- III. Committee Reports
 - a. *Elmhurst Art Museum*
 - i. Soiree which is the annual gala is scheduled for May 10th. They are seeking table sponsors and auction donations, and have already received funds by Merrill Lynch. The cost per ticket is \$220.
 - ii. Heather Bistore sent in her resignation, and the committee is seeking additional board members.
 - b. *Gateway*
 - i. Superintendent Alexander will draft a policy incorporating language from the legal opinions received on the medicine dispensing policy.
 - ii. Will present fund balance and budget in March.
 - c. *PEP*
 - i. The 2014 Sugar Creek Golf Outing is on Friday, May 16, 2014.
 - ii. Currently, there is \$82,860.11 in the Wilder Mansion Endowment Fund, and \$14,675.65 in the Joanne B. Wagner Scholarship Fund. The available balance in the general fund is \$21,956.22.
 - d. *Sugar Creek*
 - i. The restoration of the club house is complete, and the check reimbursement has been received.
 - ii. Conducted June registration online and added a new feature—comment box, where customers can suggest who they would like to play during the game, and ultimately satisfy customer satisfaction.
 - iii. Reviewed financial report for FY13 and came out positive. The revenues were about \$914,000 overall, which makes up for 90% of the budget, and is doing well considering the extreme weather conditions. They have made about 70% of the debt payments that they currently owe.
- IV. New business
 - a. *Old Elmhurst Hospital Property / Storm Water Mitigation Project*
 - i. Kubiesa sat with mayor and school board president and had a leadership meeting and discussed various things. There was a brief note about the covenant for the small piece of property on the west side of the site. The city stated in a letter that it was their legal counsel's view that it was too expensive to pursue legal changes to the covenant with little chance of success.
 - ii. Wants to reach out to the city attorney to see the legal perspective and possibly raise the issue again.

- iii. B. Howard presents the perspective that the city isn't willing to help out with the issue at hand and never wanted to. In addition, commissioner brings up the fact that the lot is odd shaped, looking like a flag.
 - iv. J. Rogers states there is 9 more years left to deal with the situation. Commissioner believes there is a possibility to work it out, but they are not reciprocating. There will be more information at the next meeting.
 - v. C. Ubriaco expresses that the decision will impact the community and that it is worth looking into it more. Commissioner is concerned that at the end of 9 years, then the city will be left with odd lots of property.
 - vi. C. Kubiesa, on a final note wants to look at all the options, and this type of problem requires looking outside the box, because ultimately they need an answer for the constituents. Funds, cash donations, and developer plans need to be reviewed and looked at more carefully, according to commissioner Kubiesa.
 - b. *Berens Park Tennis Court Project Bid*
 - i. The Board of Park Commissioners (1) rejects alternates 1,2,3 and 4; (2) awards the Berens Park Tennis Court project to Evans and Son Black, Inc., West Chicago IL, in the amount of \$142,789; (3) Approve the use of \$17,789 from the District's Capital Fund Contingency line item for the project.
 - ii. Recommendations were approved unanimously.
 - iii. 6 out of the 12 courts will be re-surfaced utilizing the slip stone method, where 3 inches of asphalt lay upon 4 inches of gravel in hope to avoid potholes. Ultimately, this will help with the drainage system and provide an area for summer programs, tennis teams, etc.
 - iv. There were 41 bids and 4 bids came in higher than what they asked for.
 - 1. The north wings will remain open during reconstruction and resurfacing could take 6 to 8 weeks.
 - 2. York Dukes will be able to use the tennis court when season starts back up in the fall.
 - c. *Wilder Park Conservatory Landscape Restoration Bid*
 - i. Base bid amount should not exceed the amount of \$53,987 and staff will inform the Board of the final contract amount.
 - ii. In the restoration of the park, the focal point is intended to be the conservatory.
 - iii. The money will be used to invest in plant materials that complement the building and enhance the wedding bowl area.
 - iv. Recommendations were approved unanimously.
 - d. *Resolution of Authorization for Courts Plus Grant Bid*
 - i. Courts Plus wants to expand the track, which will free up space on the floor for free weights, equipment, and reduce overcrowding on the floor.
 - ii. The application deadline for grant funding is March 10th. Board approval of the resolution provides authorization to apply for the grant and puts the board's support behind the financial funding of the project if the grant is awarded.

- iii. Conceptual plans were brought to the board back in 2012 and were approved.
- iv. The cost of the expansion should cost under \$3 million and the Park district would invest 25 cents to the dollar with the grant supplying 75 cents of the dollar for the project if accepted.
- v. B. Howard brings up the fact that the board hasn't agreed on the specifics of the plans and there are new facts to consider, such as the café, which is losing money before final plans should be approved.
- vi. Voting went as following: 5 ayes and 1 nays
- e. *(Please note B. Howard left at 9:15pm)*
- f. *Ordinance O-04-14 – Refinance bonds if interest rates are favorable*
 - i. Recommendation directs staff to work with Mesirow Financial and attorneys from Chapman and Cutler to refund the 2006 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds using State of Illinois GO Taxable Bonds for escrow.
 - ii. The ordinance is extended until July 31, 2014 and the meeting court takes place within the next month.
 - iii. Voting was unanimous for the recommendation and the bond refinance cannot exceed \$5 million and must save at least \$200,000 in interest.

V. Commissioner Information Items

- a. *Announcements*
 - i. M.Kies announces the Garden Club is encouraging residents to buy native plants and will provide more information at a later date where to buy them.
 - ii. A.Pelosi reminds the board about the golf outing and asks to spread the word.
 - iii. P. Morissette-Moll says thank you to commissioner C.Kubiesa for her hard work.
- b. *Future agenda*
 - i. Expansion of Courts Plus and discuss specifics, such as a marketing plan.

VI. Staff Announcements

- a. There have been analog and digital circuit upgrades.
- b. Park Palooza planning has begun. The music and food choices are still being planned.
- c. IMRF audit will take place in the office this coming week. It is a random audit.
- d. The park district took high school students snowboarding and skiing to Cascade Mountain. The event was successful.
- e. College president breakfast is coming soon, Elmhurst College is having a Governmental Forum at Dury Lane on Friday, March 7th, and St.Patrick's day parade is coming up soon.

VII. Closed Session

- a. Pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) for the “appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.”

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm.