

Elmhurst Park District Meeting
July 9th, 2014
7:00-9:32

Observer: Ricky Dufort

Present: President Carolyn Ubriaco, Vice President Vince Spaeth, Commissioner Anthony Pelosi, Commissioner Mary Kies, Commissioner Colette Kubiesa, Commissioner Patricia Morissette-Moll, and Commissioner Bob Howard. The Executive Director of the Park District Jim Rogers along with 7 Staff members. There were 25 residents that attended the meeting.

1) President Ubriaco called the meeting to order at 7:00

2) Additions/Deletions/Changes to Agenda

- a) Move stormwater sub committee down to old business.

3) Remarks/Correspondents from Visitors

- a) The first of seven emails began with Andrew and Angela of 732 S. Washington saying that even small rains back up sewers, neighbors down the street are moving, and that something needs to be done before another big rain occurs.
- b) The second email was from Kendra of 204 Crescent street saying that the drain in their yard backed up and basically stopped working. The drain malfunction yielded a foot of water in their front yard. Eventually the house needed to be sandbagged to stop water from coming in.
- c) Bridget Butterly of 279 Jackson stated in her email that she hopes the board can move forward to resolve the issue.
- d) Joe Kenney emailed the board saying that Spring road floods constantly due to the Eldridge Park being elevated and Salt Creek flooding.
- e) Renee of 634 Saylor stated in another email that residents are living in fear.
- f) Laurel of 886 Saylor emailed the board saying that storm water floods Spring road and Salt Creek makes everything even worse.
- g) Jackie Degaetano also emailed the board and said that she is unable to get to work when Spring road floods and she is concerned that residents have to spend thousands to prevent flooding in homes.
- h) To start the in house speakers, Joeline Hasky of 625 Saylor said that she is a mother of three and a victim of flooding. She said that Elmhurst residents deserve a better public works system.
- i) Kevin Graff of 233 Cayuga said that retention ponds in parks are not the solution. Kevin said that his sump pump is running constantly and that a permanent solution is needed instead of little fixes to move water.
- j) Virginia Sakorski of 166 Columbia said that the sanitary sewer in her driveway stops working causing her basement to flood.
- k) Melana Kasonavich of 181 Cayuga said that the retention area is shifting to Cayuga from nearby areas.
- l) Chris Zimmerman of 185 Cayuga said the park district needs a plan for everyone. Current plans only cover some areas, not the entire city.

- m) Tracey Fleisher of 736 Washington said that flooding is still a large issue and that residents need to be taken care of first instead of trees and other landmarks.
- n) Cheryl Jasek said that she is up all night waiting for storms to pass. She said the plan needs to be pushed forward and dates need to be committed to vote on a plan.
- o) Eileen Kennedy of Cayuga said that water came in through her window well and that Cayuga is at capacity for water. She also stated that retention ponds are not safe for kids.
- p) Peter Diberton of 177 Cayuga said that the board should study further and that they should take time to get the right report.
- q) Laura Zakerski said that she lives in fear of flooding and she lives in an area that is not in the current plan for the flood retention issue.

4) Upcoming Committee Meetings

- a) Gateway – July 10, 2014
- b) Elmhurst Art Museum – August 20, 2014
- c) PEP – August 21, 2014
- d) Sugar Creek Golf Course – July 22, 2014
- e) Stormwater Sub Committee – July 8, 2014
- f) Lizzardo Museum – November 2014

5) Consent Agenda (The vote to approve was unanimous)

- a) Approval of June 25, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b) Voucher Lists

6) Board Business

a) Unfinished Business (Old)

i) Stormwater Sub Committee

- (1) Jim Rogers reported that the committee met yesterday morning to review the Burke and V3 findings. Responses from Burke findings are consistent with the V3 findings. Jim said that only 5% of the plan is completed with very preliminary findings. Burke would need to look at every site to have a more thorough plan to present to the board. V3 requested that Burke advanced the plan to 15% or 20% so that V3 will have enough information to make decisions and present to the board. The committee also talked to the city representative and the city provided an IGA (inner governmental agreement). Jim said the park board is not ready to say yes or no to the sites. Plans for York Commons do in fact address Crescent and Cayuga.
- (2) Commissioner Howard then stated that Cayuga has been considered so that water flows from Cayuga instead of into Cayuga.
- (3) Commissioner Spaeth said that the committee is making progress and that the city has needs along with the school and park board. V3 is helping greatly to not pull too much water from parks.
- (4) Commissioner Morissette-Moll then asked how deep the retention ponds would be in areas surrounding parks.
- (5) Jim then said that the depths and drain down times would be in a further report.

- (6) Commissioner Howard said that the new fields should drain quicker with improvements.
- (7) Jim then pointed out that Commissioner Howard suggested that the park district would buy properties to use as retention areas for places that may be more prone to flooding issues.
- (8) Commissioner Kubiesa then asked if the railroad would be an issue when dealing with York Commons.
- (9) Jim answered by saying that York Commons already has drainage. One thing to look into is communication with residents. The railroad would have to be discussed with the city. He then pointed out that the city is close to approving an ordinance that new additions to houses must have to their own storm water retention. Jim said that the city has passed an ordinance that says that down spouts can no longer be connected to storm systems
- (10) Commissioner Kubiesa said that anything residents can do to their homes would help the issue. She then suggested that the V3 engineer come to future meetings.
- (11) Commissioner Morissette-Moll then suggested a joint meeting with city representatives and Greg (V3 engineer) to help move the plan forward.
- (12) President Ubriaco stated that The Elmhurst Park District should step up to communicate the details of the plan to residents.
- (13) Commissioner Pelosi said that the board should focus on what they can do.

ii) New Business

(1) Board Policy Committee Recommendation

(a) Commissioner Kies explained that regular meetings would change from Monday to Wednesday. Also that the distribution of board packets will go out on Friday instead of Wednesday. Commissioner Kies also reported that meetings involving electronic means now include closed sessions. Commissioner Kies said that the board must vote to allow a commissioner to attend via electronic means. Board members via electronic means must be able to hear all motions, visitors, and members to attend electronically. If the commissioner is unable to be heard or hear the contents of the meeting, they will be considered absent. Commissioner Kies stated that the executive director and the president are in charge of the agenda and that discussion topics can be added at any time, but action topics must be discussed 7 days in advance. The board can take action on emergencies that are not on the agenda. Commissioner Kies stated that emergencies were not precisely defined. Staff contacted other districts to see policies on use of electronic devices during board meetings to see if others have any policy, most do not. The new proposed policy was that members have to leave the boardroom to receive calls or texts. Added to the new policy was the acceptance of personal electronic devices to

show maps or calendars in the boardroom although it must be documented.

(b) Commissioner Howard then motioned to accept the board policy recommendation leading to Commissioner Kies seconding the motion. The vote to accept the recommendations was unanimous.

7) Announcements

- a) Commissioner Kies reported that golf leagues complimented Sugar Creek conditions.
- b) Future Agenda
 - i) Courts Plus renovation, Sugar Creek debt, and stormwater after discussion with V3.

8) Staff Announcements

- a) Financials of Salt Creek Green Project was projected to receive a \$52,000 dollar reimbursement, and actually received \$76,000, \$24,000 over the expected reimbursement amount.

9) Closed Session began at 9:32 P.M.