

Elmhurst Park Dist. Bd.
January 23, 2006
7:00pm to 9:30pm

All Commissioners Present
Staff: 9 Press: 2 Visitors: 10
Observer: R. Fox

Prior to the Regular Board Meeting, a public hearing was held for comments on the Board of Park Commissioners' intent to sell General Obligation Bonds. There were no remarks from the visitors.

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order. One visitor requested to speak after the Meeting of the Whole. The **Consent Agenda** was approved and there was no New Business.

Old Business included an update on the Comprehensive Plan from Edward and Kelcey staff member R. Twitchell. The process is on schedule with focus group meetings planned for early February. A promotional plan for public meeting and surveys had been prepared. Also under Old Business, the Board reviewed plans for the East End Pool Bathhouse. After reviewing two plans, the Board asked for a third plan that would incorporate parts of the two plans presented. The third plan will be presented at the February 13 meeting.

Following Announcements and Committee Reports the Board moved to **Committee of the Whole** for continued discussion of Wilder Mansion. The question up for discussion was whether to partner or not? Partnering would be defined as the Park Board retaining ownership, while parts would be leased, as is now the case with Courts Plus and Elmhurst Hospital. The advantages of partnering would be mainly financial. The Board would be able to choose the partner that would have the common goal of public use. Partnership would not be limited to The Historical Museum. Elmhurst College has approached the Board on this issue. Some of the disadvantages of partnering would be lose of space for programs, which would potentially be income generating. In addition, the Board would lack true ownership and there would be parking considerations. After some rather heated discussion, there was a 5-2 consensus to ask the Historical Museum to give a presentation on what they would want in a partnership. This in no way should be misinterpreted as a "done deal".

One visitor spoke asking the Board to bring the Mansion up to code and move in. It was also suggested that the final decision should be put on the ballot. The meeting was adjourned to close session.