

Elmhurst Park Board
December 8, 2008

All Commissioners Present
Staff: 9 Public: 0
Observer: D. Polomsky

President Kubiesa called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment: None

The **consent agenda** was approved.

Board Business

Email Communication

It was brought to Commissioner Kubiesa's attention that not all commissioners received notification about Wilder Mansion ribbon cutting on Sunday and not all were present at the ceremony. She brought copies of email and invited discussion. After discussion, Kubiesa asked the executive director to call each commissioner at least 48 hours in advance of an event, after sending written notification. Grodsky agreed.

Marjorie Davis Park Plan

Jerry Pask and Colleen Toomey presented plans and background on this project. \$300,000 is allotted for this project. EPD looked at entire park site, not just playground, in the development of this plan. In the site analysis, it was noted that the amenities were not up to ADA standards, the bike racks were not over pavement and therefore muddy, and there was no separation between toddler structures and those for older children. Two public meetings were held and residents offered suggestions for the park.

2 concepts were proposed. The third concept, which is now the master plan, was developed based on feedback on the first 2 concepts.

The master playground plan has 2 main play structures, one for older children and one for toddlers. Included is a roller slide, side-by-slides, a summit climber, an open crawl tunnel climber, half a spiral slide and educational panels. There are also swings for older and younger children, a starburst climbing device, riding toys on springs and a stand-up spinner, among other play features.

Plans also include a new park sign, which will be surrounded by flowers and decorative boulders, a jogging path with benches, a drinking fountain with a pet bowl, a butterfly garden with prairie plants and flowers, a porta-potty with shelter, a path to the porta-potty that does not interfere with basketball courts. A new loop bike rack and circular bench will also be installed as suggested by residents. Neutral tones will be used throughout the park.

Environmentally-friendly design is evident in the following measures: plans to use recycled timbers in bocce court; use of recycled plastic for benches and trash cans; use of

recycled rubber tires for poured in place surfacing, which is porous and will not significantly change the existing water runoff patterns; the light color of structures and surfacing will not create heat as dark colors would; butterfly gardens will attract wildlife and decrease need for maintenance; IDOT CA 6 (recycled crushed concrete) will be used for sub-base of playground; existing mulch will be re-used in vegetation beds.

More information and a virtual tour is expected to be available online at epd.org.

EPD sought approval so the projected September 1 completion date could be met.

A motion to approve concept 3 was carried unanimously.

Elmhurst Memorial HealthCare Lease at Courts Plus

Both entities are interested in focusing on sports-medicine component. Either EPD or EMH can end the lease. Talk suggests that the hospital would like to stay at Courts Plus because of the location, exercise equipment—which will allow for sports medicine and rehab so the hospital can focus more on acute care, even after the new medical facility opens. \$123,000 revenue per year is brought in by the Hospital. If the hospital left, it would be difficult for EPD to implement programs capable of generating that revenue. All in agreement to approve lease agreement

Old Business

- FY 2009 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 0-13-08 approved.
- 2008 Tax Levy Ordinance 0-14-08 approved.
- 2008 Tax Levy Reduction Ordinance 0-15-08 approved.

Commissioners thanked staff for Saturday night reopening of Wilder Mansion. There has been positive feedback about event.

Committee Reports:

Spaeth, from Park/City Committee. This committee is in the process of development. It is expected to serve as a vehicle to facilitate communication between the two agencies, identify areas of common interests as well as facilitate financial efficiencies between 2 agencies. Still defining purpose.

Staff info item - After January 12, the Park Board will start posting information provided to board members during meetings in an effort to be more transparent.

Mesirow financial will present information relevant to financial state. There will be an analysis of two largest financial notes to see if it is possible to refinance. EPD is asking if Moody's Investor Services, or "Moody's," an attester for investors, can change EPD's rating from double A2 to triple A2, as the park district can generate revenue even in difficult financial times. Existing audit structures are similar to corporate structures more than municipalities. They rely on fund balances to determine status.

The Park Board entered closed session.