

**Minutes**  
**Special Village Board & Park District Workshop**  
**May 28, 2013**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**Park District Lake Ellyn Park District**

Village President Demos called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**Roll Call Village Board**

Upon roll call by Village Clerk Galvin, Village President Demos and Trustees Clark, Elliott, Ladesic and O'Shea answered, "Present." Trustee Freidberg and Trustee McGinley were excused.

Also present: Village Manager Franz, Village Clerk Galvin, Deputy Clerk Solomon, Village Attorney Mathews, Director of Public Works Hansen, Police Chief Norton, Assistant Village Manager Stonitsch and Professional Engineer Minix.

**Roll Call Park District**

Upon roll call by Park Board Secretary Wendland, Commissioners Dunn, Cornell, Mayo, and Nephew answered "Present". Commissioner Pierce arrived at 6:06 p.m. and Commissioner Creech arrived at 6:29 p.m. Park Board President Kinzler was excused.

Also present: Executive Director Harris, Park Board Secretary Wendland, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Hopkins and Parks Foreman Cannaday.

President Demos asked Park Board Commissioner Dunn to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Village Professional Engineer Bob Minix presented an overview of current major flood events and their history with the Village and the Park District with regards to Lake Ellyn. The major flood events are those in: October 2001, September 2008, July 2010 and April 2013.

Engineer Minix introduced Bill Rickert, President of Rezek, Henry, Meisenheimer and Gende, Inc., (RHMG) 975 Campus Drive • Mundelein, Il 60060 and Ben Metzger, Project Engineer, RHMG. RHMG is the consultant engineer that has been commissioned by the Village and the Park District to perform a drainage study including Lake Ellyn (Lake Ellyn Hydrologic and Hydraulic Study). The findings of this study were reported to the Village Board on April 23, 2012 (original report) and January 21, 2013, (supplemental studies). The following is a brief summary of the actions recommended based on the report as presented by Mr. Rezek and Mr. Metzger:

Lake Ellyn is a manmade lake constructed in 1889. It is a multiuse resource, used for recreational purposes and as a Stormwater management system detention basin. The surface area of Lake Ellyn is 10 acres. The goal is to have a maximum discharge of Stormwater as quickly as possible. The weir is a limiting factor in the lake's ability to discharge Stormwater.

**Measures Taken to Date:**

These measures have been completed to reduce the frequency of Lake Ellyn from overflowing but are only a partial list of action that can be taken.

A). Decreasing the normal level of the lake by 6 inches on a permanent basis and proactively lowering the lake level even further in advance of a major storm event. Twice in 2013 the proactive step has been taken by the Park District. This action takes place 24 hours or more prior to the onset of heavy rain based on available forecasts.

B). Removal of the restrictor plate that was in place to control the release rate out of Lake Ellyn. Based on the system operating parameters agreed to in the late 1980's, the plate reduced the flow out of the lake by decreasing the diameter of the outflow opening and limited the outflow rate to about 25 cubic feet per second. (1cfs + 450 gallons per minute). This was removed to allow water to drain from the lake at a faster, but allowable rate by using the full diameter of the outlet opening and increasing the rate of discharge to about 37 cfs.

C). Channel improvements were recently completed in 2012. The project involved removing trees and the installation of heavy duty block walls on both sides of the channel. The entire area was restored with native plantings and looked very attractive upon completion. The main purpose for the channel is to convey water from the Lake to Perry's Pond to the pond between two homes (729 and 735 Riford) without causing erosion during high flows.

### **Proposed Projects:**

Additional recommendations to the Lake Ellyn H & H study and other actions include:

A). An additional restriction in the outflow pipe can be removed once it is determined that this is within the limits of the DuPage County Countywide Stormwater and Floodplain Ordinance and all Ordinance requirements are satisfied. This restriction into the Lake Ellyn outlet structure caused by a difference between the outlet opening (24 inch diameter) and the outlet (33 inch diameter) can be readily accomplished once the change is approved. This is the next step to be completed. The maximum allowable release rate is 61.4 cfs.

B). The outflow structure should be expanded to increase the ability of the lake water to enter into the outlet structure during the earlier portions of the storm. An additional 8ft. weir length is recommended. By expanding the control structure the drainage of the lake is accelerated.

C). The outlet channel east of Riford Road was damaged during the April 2013 event. The repairs will be taking place as quickly as possible. Additional measures will be installed during these repairs to the channel that will prevent collateral damage from overland flows during a heavy event or the overtopping of the lake. The damage that overland flows outside the channel had on the channel itself were underestimated during the 2012 construction.

D). Construction of an inlet structure in Perry's Preserve to capture water and convey it to the channel in a controlled manner during heavy rain events and overtopping of the lake. Building a structure in Perry's Preserve would require permission from the Park District. This structure would be a 13 foot square box that would be connected to a 42 inch diameter pipe that would tie into the existing headwall at the channel.

D). Re-grading side yards between 729 and 735 Riford Rd., requires a swale to be cut to drain water in a controlled manner from Riford Rd. to Perry's Pond. This location is an advantageous drainage point that would facilitate improved drainage of the area during heavy rain events and overtopping of the lake. Overland flow would follow the swale directly to the pond rather than going to the channel. The estimated cost is \$21,000.

E). In the side yards on Riford, installation of a 42-inch storm sewer under the street, adjacent to an existing 33-inch storm sewer. Although this new sewer won't contain the entire overflow from Lake Ellyn, it could reduce the amount of water that flows through yards at 729 and 735 Riford Rd., according to the report.

### **Future Options:**

Buy outs of the homes most affected are always an option. Mr. Metzger does not know of any grants available at the Federal, State, County or local level to assist with this endeavor.

### **Questions and Comments from Village Board, Park District Commissioners and Residents:**

Trustee Elliott requested clarification on the water levels at Lake Ellyn on the status of the restrictor plate. Mr. Rickert, RHMG responded that Lake Ellyn was lowered 6". In advance of upcoming weather events such as the April 2013 event, the lake was lowered an additional 6". The restrictor plate was removed one year ago.

Mr. Rickert further added that the possibility of raising the dam has been investigated and that option is not considered feasible since it would lead to flooding in the park and affect mature trees and park land. It would also impact Duchon Field at Glenbard West High School, and Lake Rd. Changing the footprint of the lake was also investigated but that is an earth work project that could have a negative impact on the rest of the lake.

Trustee O'Shea inquired about the weir length and what the proper length should be. Mr. Rickert replied that the optimum weir length should be 8' in order to get from orifice control to weir control sooner.

Park Board Commissioner Pierce asked if the DuPage River can handle the additional capacity if the outflow is increased. Mr. Rickert responded that they have had a dialog with DuPage County, and that the County may be able to handle an increase to 61.4 cfs.

Mr. Rickert further commented that the April 2013 storm event, with the ground already saturated provided an excellent opportunity to calibrate their model and add data to the Lake Ellyn Hydrologic and Hydraulic Study.

Trustee Elliott inquired about the safety of the dam. Mr. Rickert responded that the dam is inspected periodically (not by RHMG) and that the dam is in good condition. Park District Executive Director Harris stated that the dam at Lake Ellyn is inspected every 3 years, as required by State law.

Mr. Joe Sinopoli, 725 Riford Rd., Glen Ellyn expressed his concerns regarding the proposal to install a 42-inch storm sewer under the street, adjacent an existing 33-inch storm sewer. Although this new sewer won't contain the entire overflow from Lake Ellyn, it could reduce the amount of water that flows through yards at 729 and 735 Riford Rd., according to the report. Mr. Sinopoli and Mrs. PJ Sinopoli were concerned about another pipe on their property. Mrs. Sinopoli further added that in the 6-7 years, they have wanted nothing more than to work with the Village with regards to the flooding they have experienced during the flood events. Mr. Rickert responded that this is a suggestion; this is not an option that has even been designed yet.

Mr. Kurt Kabat, 735 Riford Rd., Glen Ellyn stated that his home was built in 1965. There is nothing to indicate that his home was built in a flow path. Mr. Kabat wanted to know where it is documented that his home is in the flow path.

Mr. Rickert responded that in 1965 when Mr. Kabat's home was built they were not as stringent as they are today.

Mr. Jerry Dentinger, 729 Riford Rd., also expressed concern over a lack of disclosure of the affected homes being in the flow path. He further expressed concerns over the effectiveness of an 8' weir. He further believes that the dam should be raised, despite the negative effect on matures trees and park land.

Mr. Gary Fasules, 755 Chidester, Glen Ellyn, commented with regard to the April 2013 event that the flooding in front yards prior to the dam overflowing makes him believe that the Stormwater sewers were not working.

Park Board Commissioner Creech asked RHMG with regard to their modeling for the Study when an 8' weir length would not work. Mr. Metzger replied that in modeling, the 8' weir would have contained the overflow in the July 2010 event, but during the April 2013 event, in part due to the existing ground saturation, it would not.

Village President Demos stated that both Boards, staff and RHMG are available to hear the residents concerns & that they are committed to working on a solution.

Park Board Commissioner Pierce asked for clarification that the lake overflowed at approximately 3:00-4:00 a.m. during the April 2013 event and Mr. Rickert replied that the pipes were originally designed for a 5 year event. Director of Public Works Hansen added then pipes were surcharged between 3:00-4:00 a.m.

Park Board Commissioner Nephew added that long term efforts should be considered by property owners such as rain gardens to hold water and permeable pavers.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. Village Manager Franz invited everyone to go on a walking tour of the areas in question at Lake Ellyn, including the control structure, the dam, Perry's Preserve and the channel located between 729 and 735 Riford Road. Mr. Rezek and Mr. Metzger from RHMG will conduct the tour with the assistance of Public Works Director Hansen and Village Engineer Minix. The tour will conclude in time for the Glen Ellyn Village Board of Trustees to attend their Special Village Board Meeting at the Civic Center at 8:00 p.m. Board President Kinzler arrived at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Galvin,  
Village Clerk