



# CITY OF PARK RIDGE

## MINUTES

### FLOOD CONTROL TASK FORCE

Wednesday, September 2, 2009  
6 p.m. Meeting  
Council Chambers  
Park Ridge City Hall

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joe Saccomanno, Lou Arrigoni, Daniel Carroll, Gale Fabisch, John Humm, Kim Jones, Patricia Lofthouse, Bob Mack and Steve Tolan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALDERMEN PRESENT:** Aldermen DiPietro, Wsol

**STAFF PRESENT:** W. Zingsheim, S. Mitchell, B. Wiebe and S. Tedeschi

#### I. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM AUGUST 19, 2009

The minutes of the August 19, 2009 meeting were approved.

#### II. DEVELOPMENT OF GOALS

Mr. Saccomanno reminded the members of the Task Force to document their recommendations for the final report.

**A. Develop a program to educate residents on the city sewer system and how to mitigate private property issues. – Mr. Arrigoni and Mr. Humm**

Mr. Arrigoni stated that they are looking at developing a depository for flooding information similar to Des Plaines and Skokie, setting up an information station at the public library, and having representatives at the Farmer's Market to answer questions informally.

Mr. Humm asked what it would take to get the city's website more interactive. Director Zingsheim replied that he would ask Aggie Stempniak, the city's Information Coordinator, to attend the next meeting to answer these questions. He also suggested that there be more press on what the city is doing.

**B. Review existing sewer system and analyze various types of flooding to better understand the scope of the problem and the various causes for flooding. – Mr. Tolan and Mr. Fabisch**

Mr. Tolan stated that he was currently analyzing the data that has been provided and is looking for trends, and correlating the data by address and sewer size. He noted that residents should be better educated on what they can do, as well as develop ways for the city to mitigate flooding.

It was decided that Goals B and C would share data and be merged together.

Mr. Fabisch noted that sewer size and age were being looked at as well. He explained the effectiveness of rain barrels and gave a website for purchase thru MWRD ([www.mwrdd.org/irj/portal/anonymous/Home](http://www.mwrdd.org/irj/portal/anonymous/Home)).

- C. Develop and expand existing flood database by date, location, type and cause. Document flood damage costs associated with these incidents, both private and public. Formulate short and long-term plans, including various solutions to reduce and eliminate flood damage effectively and efficiently, using all available resources.**  
– Mr. Mack and Mrs. Lofthouse

Mrs. Lofthouse stated that they are looking at short and long term solutions. She noted that the Village of Skokie's plan is a model that we can learn from.

Mr. Saccomanno stated that he would ask someone from Skokie to speak to the group.

Mr. Mack stated that they were developing a list of short-term mitigation solutions. He noted that the city should look at opportunities to partner with developers and other agencies.

- D. Review current City Ordinances, practices and policies and make recommendations for change as needed.** – Mr. Saccomanno and Ms. Jones

Ms. Jones stated that they were reviewing the city's current ordinances and will be looking at ordinances from other municipalities to make recommendations for improvement.

- E. Seek and explore funding opportunities for flood mitigation, both for City and residents.** – Mr. Carroll

Mr. Carroll stated that he has found that other municipalities are self-funding their improvements. He recommended increasing the sewer enterprise fund by setting up a separate fee of \$3/month/household with monies going to long-term solutions. He noted that he has found no grant monies available.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** At the request of the Task Force, Director Zingsheim will schedule a tour for September 12 at 11 a.m.
- B.** Mr. Saccomanno stated that the Task Force would discuss the format of the report at the next meeting and that he would develop an outline. He encouraged them to begin writing down their thoughts, as the report will be written in mid October.

- C. Alderman DiPietro commented that the matter of billboards has been sent to the Planning and Zoning Committee for review with the rebate program being discussed at the Finance and Budget Committee. He noted that both programs are a long way from being adopted.

**IV. RESIDENT INPUT**

A resident spoke on the effectiveness of above and below ground rain barrels.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

**NEXT MEETINGS – Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers**