

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Village Hall, New Lenox, Illinois.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

- Call to order** President Schulz called the September 17, 2025, meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance** President Schulz led the Board, Staff, and all others present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call** President Schulz directed the Recording Secretary to take roll call. Upon taking roll call, the following were present, Commissioners: Kraemer, Fischer, Larson, Ott, and President Schulz.
- Also, in Attendance** Executive Director Greg Lewis, Associate Executive Director Lea Pipiras, Director of Recreation Olga Viano, Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Director of Parks-Maintenance Ken Stephens, and Guest Services Supervisor Melissa McGrath.
- Treasurer's Report** Commissioner Kraemer quoted the totals from the Monthly Treasurer's Report as presented for August 31, 2025. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the Monthly Treasurer's Report for August 31, 2025. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for August 31, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Payment of Bills** Commissioner Kraemer quoted totals from the Payment of Bills as presented for August 31, 2025. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for August 31, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Communications** President Schulz noted that a Thank You came in for the Sanctuary Golf Course for their outstanding service.
- Approval of Minutes** *Approval of Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2025*
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2025. Hearing no questions or comments. President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2025, as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Kraemer. Upon a roll call, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2025*
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2025. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2025, as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Kraemer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Committee & Staff Reports**
- Business Services** Commissioner Ott reported Recreation Supervisor/IT Christina Studlow has resigned. He thanked her for all she did for the park district and wished her well in her future endeavors, Commissioner Ott highlighted the annual park report from IPARKS which included some very good information. He reported that we continue to roll over our investments and they are doing a great job.
- Director of Business Services Braglia reported that the Business Services staff attended the IPRF Foundations Course which consists of a deeper look into Loss Control's Best Practices. He noted that he participated in the 2025 Government and Public Sector Virtual Conference that discussed

various hot topics, recent developments and proposed updates tailored to government and public sector.

Facilities / Planning President Schulz reported that a lot of general maintenance has been happening and highlighted that at the Lions Community Center they have completed a few projects and got the building prepped for our Kiddie Kampus school year. President Schulz noted that at the Crossroads Sports Complex the tournaments have slowed down for now but will pick back up in October and we have had an increase in weekday field rentals.

Golf Course Commissioner Kraemer reported that August revenue exceeded last August despite heat, humidity, and a flood that closed the course for three days. He noted that the range is performing well, and the windows were replaced in the golf shop by just replacing the window and using the existing frames. Commissioner Kraemer stated that golf cart paths on holes 16 and 17 have been repaired and improvements are planned for holes 14 and 15. Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Food and Beverage department is short-staffed going into the fall season, but the revenues are above last August. He noted that the grounds department is addressing issues caused by the heat and humidity, and a new tractor will be ordered in November.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the upcoming events for the Golf Course are the Golf and Fish event as well as the Chili Open.

Parks/Development Association Update
Commissioner Larson reported that all associations have started their fall seasons. The NLSL #122 are hosting their regionals the week of September 8th. Director of Parks and Maintenance Stephens reported that the Mustang Football program has changed the field lights to LED.

Contracted Services
Commissioner Larson noted that all contracted services are going well.

Fleet & Equipment
Commissioner Larson noted that the 6-month safety lane checks are continuing.

Out in the Parks
Commissioner Larson reported that playground mulch replenishment has been completed. He noted that Freedom Pond had a new pond aerator installed and the splash pads have been shut down for the season.

New Lenox Crossroads Sports Complex
Commissioner Larson reported that NLYFA and NLSA are renting fields for practice. The village has started planning for the Field House and adding on to the maintenance building with hopes of starting Spring of 2026.

Developments
Sharon's Bay Park – OSLAD Grant Application
Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens reported that curbing for new 5-12 playground and fitness area have been installed. He noted that concrete pads and sidewalks for the Gaga pit and Game Plaza have been completed. He stated that the playground equipment is on site and will start being installed the week of September 15th.

Nelson Prairie and Nelson Ridge Playgrounds
Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens reported that they are working on concept plans with NLSL #122 for replacing both playgrounds. He noted that they will have three concepts, one

being mulch surfacing, one being poured in place rubber and one having ADA accessible components added to them. He stated that these playgrounds have reached their time for replacement, and this is something that we would be using bond money for. This will be a shared project between the park district and the school district.

Bristol Park

Director of Parks and Maintenance Stephens stated that this project is still on hold.

Teerling Lakes Development

Director of Parks and Maintenance Stephens reported that the landscaping work around the detention area is being done. He stated that he had spoken to Greg Sagan and was told that they are trying to get whatever landscaping they can do and sent over a new print showing how they want to get all the playgrounds and equipment in the park.

Recreation

Special Recreation

Executive Director Lewis reported that LWSRA hired two new employees, including a marketing supervisor that came over from Crete Park District and two supervisors that started out as interns. He noted that the Golf Outings were successful and netted \$51, 820. Executive Director Lewis reported that they are moving forward with obtaining accreditation. They have added a second sensory bus and is now being outfitted. These buses are in high demand, which is good to see. He reported that on September 25th the Grand Opening for the Hero's Village Sensory Garden will take place.

Commissioner Fischer congratulated the LWSRA adult wheelchair softball team placed second in the national championship in Minneapolis, Minnesota

Commissioner Fischer reported that our before and after school programs have approximately 450 children registered. He noted that our flag football began on August 16th with 267 children in the program making up 24 teams and 47 volunteer coaches. He reported that the Kick-Start Fall Soccer program began with 110 three- and four-year-olds and 80 five- and six-year-olds. The pickleball league completed their first summer season. Commissioner Fischer stated that we had a couple of special events that took place in August that were very well attended, including the Lilo and Stitch Luau Splash Bash with 25 participants and the Ice Cream Social at Firefighter's Park that served 450 scoops of ice cream to the community. He thanked Raffy's for their generous ice cream donation and CoVantage and TR Miller for sponsoring the event.

Commissioner Fischer reported that we are on track with our accreditation process and will meet with an advisor on September 23rd with the completion being November 2026.

Commissioner Fischer announced that we have a Halloweenie Roast scheduled for Thursday, October 16th from 5:30 to 7pm at Haines Wayside Park. He noted that for more events and details on our programs you can visit our website at www.newlenoxparks.org.

Director of Recreation Viano announced that the Children's Basketball League registration is open.

New Business

Resolution #25-11 – Resolution concerning a hearing required to be held pursuant to the Bond Issue Notification Act of the State of Illinois prior to the sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026 of the New Lenox Community Park District, Will County
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on Resolution #25-11 Resolution concerning a hearing required to be held pursuant to the Bond Issue Notification Act of the State of Illinois prior to the sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series

2026 of the New Lenox Community Park District, Will County. President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #25-11 – Resolution concerning a hearing required to be held pursuant to the Bond Issue Notification Act of the State of Illinois prior to the sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026 of the New Lenox Community Park District, Will County. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Kraemer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Community Events

President Schulz reported that the Last Call Before Fall w/Empty Bowls will take place on Saturday, September 27th from 1 to 5pm in the Village Commons. Celebrate the end of summer with live music, great drinks and even some fun for the little ones. New this year will be the addition of a Fall market to accompany the event. Friends of New Lenox Parks will again be hosting their Empty Bowls fundraiser during this event. Purchase a bowl for \$20 and try unlimited soup samples from local restaurants.

Adjournment

At approximately 6:35p.m., President Schultz requested a motion to adjourn the September 17, 2025, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa McGrath, Recording Secretary