

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, October 15, 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 October 15, 2025, meeting to order at approximately 6:01 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, Ott, Larson and President Schulz.
- Also, in Attendance** Executive Director Greg Lewis, Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Director of Recreation Olga Viano, Director of Parks-Maintenance Ken Stephens, and Director of Golf Bob Schulz, Attorney Angelo Vitiritti and Guest Services Supervisor Melissa McGrath.
- Treasurer's Report** Commissioner Kraemer quoted the totals from the Monthly Treasurer's Report as presented for September 30, 2025. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the Monthly Treasurer's Report for September 30, 2025. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for September 30, 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 September 30, 2025. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for September 30, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes** *Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2025*  
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2025, Hearing none questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2025, as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Kraemer seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Committee & Staff Reports**
- Business Services** Commissioner Ott reported that we have welcomed a new full-time staff member to the Crossroads Sports Complex. Caleb Gorecki was first hired in June of 2025 as a Food & Beverage Coordinator and has now been promoted to Full-Time Food & Beverage Manager.
- Commissioner Ott stated that Sharon's Bay Park Redevelopment project is showing progress, and everything looks normal when it comes to the financial report. He noted that if anyone had any questions, they could reach out to Director of Business Services, Braglia.
- Commissioner Ott noted that the audit report for 2024-2025 was received late and the board hasn't had a chance to review but everything looks good and will approve the findings. The presentation and review will take place at the November meeting.
- Commissioner Ott stated that we have an extension to our IParks Liability Insurance to go to a calendar year going forward.
- Commissioner Ott asked Director of Business Services Braglia to speak regarding the PDRMA 2026 Health Plan Selection and its increase. Director of Business Services Braglia stated that there is a 9% increase, which is within budget compared to other organizations. He noted that the district covers 100% of employee health insurance, with employees responsible for family coverage.

**Facilities / Planning** President Schultz commented that there is just general maintenance going on throughout the park district. He noted that at the Crossroads Sports Complex field rentals have increased Monday through Thursday, with a wide variety of sports and organizations utilizing the space. With the increase in foot traffic, it has positively impacted on the food and beverage revenue and is providing a greater community engagement with the facility.

President Schulz reported that Executive Director Lewis and Associate Executive Director Pipiras have begun participating in planning meetings with the Village for Phase II of the project, which will focus on the development of an indoor rental facility designed to accommodate a variety of sports and recreational activities.

**Golf Course** Commissioner Kraemer stated that September outperformed last September with overall revenue with the trend continuing to go up. The league's wrapped up in September with a steak dinner. He reported that the Golf and Fish event was once again a huge success. Commissioner Kraemer stated that Director of Golf Schulz secured tournaments again for the 2026 season including MAJGT, IJGA and State AM Qualifying. He reported that there is some movement regarding obtaining the car chargers. A vendor to install the charging stations has been secured and an Intergovernmental Agreement will be put in front of the board in November. We have applied for a grant from Com Ed to help offset our 20% outlay. He noted that the lights have started to be used on the range field for the Top Tracer with the hours going forward being Sunday- Thursday open until 7:30pm and Friday and Saturday open until 8pm

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Food and Beverage had another decent month. The heat really hurt some of the sales in September. We are going to start limiting menu options in October as we transition into the fall.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that there were no major turf issues to report as the cooler nights have helped with the grass growth, especially on the 14 hole. There was an issue with our new irrigation pump, and we thought maybe it was a warranty issue, but we found out it was hit by lightning, so it will be replaced by insurance.

**Parks/Development** *Athletic Associations*  
Commissioner Larson reported that all fall seasons are winding down with playoffs continuing into November. He noted that we will be collecting approximately \$42,000 in Out of District fees, which will be towards equipment costs.

*Contracted Services*  
Commissioner Larson stated that pond maintenance services have ended for the season and mowing will conclude at the end of the month. Most sites will have the Porta Johns pulled by the end of the month.

*Fleet and Equipment*  
Commissioner Larson noted that our 2026 Ford F-250 arrived and will be picked up on October 17, 2025, and will bring our fleet back to normal.

*Out in the Parks*  
Commissioner Larson reported that the original Stonebridge Park bridge was repaired with new lumber and paint. He stated that at the Crossroads Sports Complex the foul poles were added to the main baseball fields, the turf company Act Global has gone out of business and we are currently looking for a new turf company. He noted that the weekend tournaments are ending at the end of October, but we still have daily rentals.

Development Projects Update

Sharon's Bay Park Redevelopment – OSLAD Update

Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens reported the base coating for the playgrounds has been installed and the rest will be getting the mulch put in. They are working on the north water fountain to get the water line installed. They are doing curb and sidewalk work.

Nelson Prairie and Nelson Ridge Playgrounds

Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens stated that they are working with District #122 on a concept plan for replacing both playgrounds.

Bristol Park

Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens noted that this is still on hold.

Teerling Lakes

Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens reported that they are moving along pretty well with sidewalks and parking lot being installed along with a park site for the playground.

**Recreation**

Special Recreation

Executive Director Lewis noted due to the way the calendar dates fall, the LWSRA meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2025.

Recreation

Commissioner Fischer reported that on September 16, 2025, the park district had the opportunity to present at the Village of New Lenox Citizen's Academy. He noted that 25 participants attended the session, which highlighted the vital role parks and recreation play in strengthening the community.

Commissioner Fischer highlighted a few of the athletics that have been offered this fall including our fall kickstart soccer league for three- to six-year-olds with 28 volunteer coaches. He noted that we have 432 children registered for our basketball league and ultimate volleyball returned for another season of classes and game play for eight- to thirteen-year-olds. The fall pickleball league at Water Chase Park began on September 7<sup>th</sup> and will run through November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our Adult softball leagues began their season getting to play at the Crossroads Sports Complex.

Commissioner Fischer stated that we had 14 participants go on a bus trip to Paramount Theater in Aurora to enjoy lunch and see the musical "Come From Away". He noted that we have two adult exercise classes running this fall with 24 adults enrolled between the two. Our before and after childcare program called ACES has 425 children registered.

Commissioner Fischer reported that Our Friends of the Park "Empty Bowls" event that is held in conjunction with the Village of New Lenox "Last Call Before Fall" was held on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 5pm in the New Lenox Commons was again very popular. This event benefits the New Lenox Food Pantry. Over 200 bowls were sold to participants. A huge thank you to the 12 different establishments who provided chili or soup for this event. The local establishments included United Methodist Church, 3 Corners, Sanctuary Golf Course, North & Maple, Gina's Teardrop Café, Berkots, Aurelios of Frankfort, Portillos, White Horse, Arrowhead Ales, Hog Wild and Gatto's. Commissioner Fischer thanked everyone that donated soups.

Commissioner Fischer noted that staff have met with the mentor for the Accreditation process and will continue to work together to be completed by November of 2026.

Announcements:

Commissioner Fischer announced the Big Bad Pumpkin Party will take place on Sunday, October 16, 2025, from 9:30am to 11:30am at Walker Country Estates Park with a lot of fun events taking place, including a costume party, bounce house, face painter and hayrack rides.

President Schulz announce the Village of New Lenox annual Scarecrow Stroll will be available for viewing from October 20<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup> in the Village Commons.

**New Business**

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 – Audit Approval

President Schulz asked if there were any further questions regarding the Audit. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Audit as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Kraemer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Notice: 2026 Annual Postings of Regular Park Board Meetings

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Public Notice: 2026 Annual Posting of Regular Park Board Meetings. Hearing non, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Public Notice: 2026 Annual Posting of Regular Park Board Meetings. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Annual Renewal of the General Liability Insurance (Policy Period 11/08/24-1/01/26)

President Schulz asked if there were any further questions regarding the Annual Renewal of the General Liability Insurance, hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Annual Renewal of the General Liability Insurance. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

PDRMA 2026 Health Plan Selection Form (NLCPD)

President Schulz asked if there were any further questions regarding the PDRMA 2026 Health Plan Selection Form, hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the PDRMA 2026 Health Plan. Motion made by Commissioner Kraemer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #25-12 Authorizing the Execution of the Lease/Purchase with De Lage Landen Public Finance, LLC – (2026 Ford F250 4x4)

President Schulz requested any questions or comments on Resolution #25-12 Authorizing the Execution of the Lease/Purchase with De Lage Landen Public Finance, LLC for 2025 Ford F250 4x4. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #25-12 Authorizing the Execution of the Lease/Purchase with De Lage Landen Public Finance, LLC. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #25-13 Credentials Certificate – Annual Delegates to the Business Meeting of the IAPD

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution #25-13. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #25-13 Credentials Certificate – Annual Delegates to the Business Meeting of the IAPD. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Kraemer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

At approximately 6:36 p.m., President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the October 15, 2025, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melissa McGrath, Recording Secretary