

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 4:30 pm in the AP Room at the Administrative Building of the Park District.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

- Call to order** President Schulz called the October 28, 2025, meeting to order at approximately 4:30pm.
- Roll Call** President Schulz asked for everyone to state their names for the record; the following were present, Commissioner Larson, Commissioner Fischer, Commissioner Kraemer, Commissioner Ott, Executive Director Greg Lewis, Associate Executive Director Lea Pipiras, Director of Golf Bob Schulz, Director of Recreation Olga Viano, Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Director of Parks and Maintenance Ken Stephens, Marketing and PR Supervisor Amy Maher and Ron McGrath of Tria Architecture
- Referendum
Concept and Design** Executive Director Lewis noted the purpose of this meeting was to develop plan A and plan B for a referendum proposal. He stated that they will need to compile a list of potential members for the citizen advisory committee and send out invitation letters in mid-November. Those present at the meeting would like to schedule the first citizen advisory committee meeting for mid-January and the second meeting for mid-February. Executive Director Lewis stated that we will need to coordinate with the mayor and village to discuss the use of the property for the aquatic center and potential support. He noted that there may be updates of the design renderings and graphics to reflect any revision to the concept plan.
- Discussion** The group discussed the proposal for a community aquatic center and dog park. They discussed the updates that came from the October 1st workshop and the financial impact of those changes. Due to the increased cost the group reviewed the previous proposal which included an aquatic center with a six-lane lap pool, vortex, outdoor water playground and party rooms with a total cost of approximately \$27 million after three years of inflation. The renovation to the Lions Den Park would include a dog park, with bathrooms and a play area, with a cost of \$3 million. The project requires a \$30 million budget, with potential savings by adjusting playground and dog park designs. They emphasized the need for a tax rate increase and explored potential grants and partnerships to fund the project. The meeting focused on securing funding and support for a new recreational complex. Executive Director Lewis emphasized the need for legislative support and suggested renaming the facility to attract donors. There was a discussion regarding the challenges of messaging due to the village building the gymnasium facility at the Sports Complex. The task force will include diverse community members to ensure credibility as well as the importance of involving the village and mayor in property discussions. Potential construction could start in 2028 with the pool being ready by 2029.
- The final goals of the meeting were to develop a clear, focused proposal that includes specific amenities. The importance of securing property for the pool and potential cost-sharing with the village, the need for a detailed plan to present to the public and secure their support. It was agreed upon by the meeting members that the final plan needs to balance community needs with budget constraints and operational costs.
- Adjournment** At approximately 6:07pm, President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the October 28, 2025, Special Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Upon voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa McGrath
Recording Secretary