

VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2026

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll Call was answered by Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood (remotely), Tony Kircher (remotely) and Tammie Mahoney. Dwight Bennett and Kasia Lazar were absent. Also present was Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approve Minutes of December 9, 2025, Special Meeting

Motion by Tammie Mahoney and seconded by Frank Fontana to approve the Minutes of December 9, 2025, Parks and Recreation Commission Special Meeting. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood, Tony Kircher and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

New Items

Chairperson Lauffer stated the Commission must make decisions about dates and events to be sponsored by the Commission in 2026. The Commission agreed the schedule of dates for the Summer Concert Series (the second Saturday of each month) would remain the same.

Chairperson Lauffer stated he was in touch with the Chairperson of the Environmental & Health Commission to design a joint events mailer.

The date for the Fall Festival will be decided following the determination of the Barrington High School Homecoming date.

Chairperson Lauffer referred to Tony Kircher to review his proposal for a North Barrington Community Campout to be held at Eton Park. The proposed date is Saturday May 16, 2026, 5:00 p.m.-Sunday May 17, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Mr. Kircher outlined the schedule and all pertinent details. Volunteers will be needed, and he suggested reaching out to the North Barrington Cub Scout Pack as well as the North Barrington Girl Scouts. The proposal included a menu and shopping list. The Scouts held a very successful community camp out a few years ago. It will now be considered a Parks & Recreation Commission event.

Motion by Frank Fontana and seconded by Tammie Mahoney to approve the Community Campout as a Parks & Recreation Commission event. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood, Tony Kircher and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

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Chairperson Lauffer stated Tony Kircher will be the organizer of this event. It was confirmed that there are funds in the budget to cover the expenses. It was discussed that it was preferable for attendees RSVP for the event.

There was a review discussion of the Kids Concert held in 2025. It was agreed the event was popular among the residents. The Commission discussed the number of events currently on the calendar and questioned if all were needed, including the September 9-11 Recognition Concert.

Motion by Tammie Mahoney and seconded by Tony Kircher to approve replacing the Summer Concert Series in June with a daytime Kids Concert, thereby holding one event in June. The Commission would like Tunes with Tim to perform again. On voice vote Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood, Tony Kircher and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. Chairperson Lauffer abstained. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

The Commission agreed that a Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on the first weekend of December 2026. The event would be held at the Village Hall and would include refreshments/crafts/caroling. An appearance by Santa or the Grinch would be considered.

The Commission discussed the bands that played at the previous Summer Concert Series. The subject of more detailed contracts with the performers at the Summer Concert Series and Fall Festival was discussed. Tony Kircher stated the risk and contingency for rainout must be shared in the contract. Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy will send Chairperson Lauffer the current Performance Agreement for review.

Motion by Tammie Mahoney and seconded by Frank Fontana to approve engaging Paddygrass to perform at the 2026 Fall Festival. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. Tony Kircher abstained. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

Motion by Jeff Harwood and seconded by Tammie Mahoney to approve Kerosene Band for the Summer Concert Series. On voice vote Chairperson Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood, and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. Tony Kircher abstained. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tammie Mahoney and seconded by Jeff Harwood to approve the non-engagement of the Who Knew Band from the Summer Concert Series. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood, Tony Kircher and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

Motion by Frank Fontana and seconded by Tammie Mahoney to approve the non-engagement of John Anthony from the Summer Concert Series. On voice vote Frank Fontana, Jeff Harwood, Tony Kircher and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. Chairperson David Lauffer voted NAY. Motion Carried.

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The Commission discussed some additional bands they will consider after listening to their music.

There was extensive discussion. The Commission will most likely engage Jazz Response for the September 9-11 Tribute concert.

Tony Kircher will follow up on the possibility of engaging the Barrington Youth Symphony to perform at Village events.

Initiative Updates

A. 5-Year Master Plan

Chairperson Lauffer stated he is pleased with drafts completed and presented by Kimley Horn for the implementation of the 5-Year Master Plan. He feels Kimley Horn is providing the Commission with good guidance and data.

B. Kimley Horn Update

The consultant, Daniel Grove from Kimley Horn will present a needs assessment summary to the Board of Trustees at the January 21, 2026, Board Meeting. Chairperson Lauffer will be attending. The presentation will outline a breakdown of itemized data relevant to the Village's current Parks and Recreation facilities and resources. The needs assessment was formulated from the three categories of resident interest and feedback.

C. Next Steps

Kimley Horn will continue their final preparation of the 5-Year Master Plan.

Marketing Support

A. Intern/Volunteer/Social Media (Facebook)

Parks and Recreation Commission Member Tammie Mahoney's daughter is maintaining the Village Facebook page.

Chairperson Lauffer is communicating with the Environmental & Health Commission Chairperson about marketing their events.

B. Website Update

The Commission has updates for the website.

Budget Review and Updates

Chairperson Lauffer stated the Village Fiscal Year ends April 30, 2026.

Recruitment Updates

Chairperson Lauffer happily announced the Commission currently has no vacancies.

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New Business

The Commission is satisfied with Tropical Chill providing the ice cream for the Summer Concert events.

The range of fees charged by the Summer Concert bands was discussed.

The out-of-district fees issue for the Barrington Park District Program was discussed. The Village used to reimburse North Barrington residents for the difference between in-district and the out of district fees at the Barrington Park District. Chairperson Lauffer will be investigating options.

Jeff Harwood left the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Tammie Mahoney and seconded by Tony Kircher to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Tony Kircher and Tammie Mahoney voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

John Lobaito, Village Clerk

