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

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call
Roll Call was answered by Chairperson David Lauffer, Bob Gustafson, Tony Kircher and Paul Stockton. Frank Fontana, Kasia Lazar and Tammie Mahoney were absent. Also present was Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy.

Public Comment
None.

Approve Minutes of September 8, 2026 Meeting
Motion by Tony Kircher and seconded by Paul Stockton to approve the Minutes of September 8, 2026, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Frank Fontana, Bob Gustafson, and Paul Stockton voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

Update from the America 250 Celebration committee
There were no further updates from the committee.

New Items

A. Concert Series and Events

The Commission decided to discuss summer events in 2027. They agreed it was a successful Summer Concert Series. The Commission may change the start time for some of the summer concerts to 5:00 p.m. to take advantage of the daylight. New signs will be ordered.

B. Community Campout

The Commission reviewed the September 26, 2026, campout held at Eton Park. Tony Kircher stated it was great fun, although, few people stayed the entire night. The Commission agreed they are in the process of building the event. There were a few unexpected events, such as video games, lanterns and plastic toys. There was a full moon that evening, and attendance of 30 children and 12 adults. Mr. Kircher brought oranges, donuts, and items for s'mores. The long skewers were very helpful. There were sufficient garbage cans and paper towels; there was minimal cleanup the next morning. The handwashing stations were used. The Commission would like more involvement from the local Scouts next year. The possibility of a permanent firepit was brought up. The Commission discussed the changing demographics of North Barrington.

C. Fall Festival

1. Layout review

Chairperson Lauffer stated there were approximately 400 attendees. He estimated 10%-15% were nonresidents. The event layout was very functional with the use of three separate tents, location of the band and food truck. The number of bubbles, games and power sources were perfect. More event volunteers would have been good, particularly for transporting supplies from the Village Hall garage to Eton Park as well as event clean up.

The Commission agreed they would like to engage the Scouts in 2027. The face painter, balloon man, petting zoo and hayrides were all popular. There were some negative comments about the police K-9 demonstration.

The event was posted on the Village website and Facebook page. The Commission did not spend money on a flyer this year and felt it was not necessary.

2. Food Selection

Chairperson David Lauffer stated the attendees were very pleased with the food choices. Mr. Kircher stated having the food close to the band was simply too loud.

Chairperson Lauffer stated he would like a subcommittee of residents outside of the Parks and Recreation Commission to plan and manage the Fall Festival in 2027. A member of the Commission would be a liaison with the Village staff. The Commission discussed the lack of any other civic organizations within the Village.

D. Winter Events

1. Tree lighting and "Bruce" the reindeer installation

The Commission plans to have a Winter Event at the lower-level Village Hall on December 4th, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The tree will be lit at 6:30 p.m. and the Commission would like to have Santa, craft activities, gift bags, and carolers. Paul Stockton offered to take charge of the event, and he will work with Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy on some details. He will also reach out to North Barrington School for possible carolers.

Initiative Updates

A. 5-Year Master Plan Initiative

Chairperson Lauffer stated Kimley Horn was at the Fall Festival engaging with the residents to measure the level of support for various amenities throughout the Village. He stated this venue may be a required Community Engagement event for Kimley Horn. Their implementation calendar was updated, and the results of the Fall Festival survey were sent to Chairperson Lauffer for distribution to the Commission.

B. Review next steps for implementation

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

Chairperson Lauffer stated to the Commission he will contact Kimley Horn.

Marketing Support

A. Intern/Volunteer/Social Media /Facebook

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

B. Website Update

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Budget Review and Updates

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Recruitment Updates

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Adjournment

Motion by Paul Stockton and seconded by Tony Kircher to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote Chairperson David Lauffer, Bob Gustafson, Tony Kircher and Paul Stockton voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

John Lobaito, Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON SEAL