Commission Approved October 13, 2026

Citizens' Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting of the Citizens' Recreation Commission was held on
September 8, 2026 at Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan.

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:01 p.m.

PRESENT:	**ABSENT:**
Amanda Starkey	Lindsay Frattaroli
Gib Heim	Amanda York
Melinda Billingsley	
Jason Gaidis	
Dave Andrews	
Abby Klotz	
Barbara Janutol	

ALSO PRESENT:
Angela Coletti Brown, Council Representative
Jim Kowalski, Director of Public Works
Tony Rennpage, Aquatics assistant

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion was made for acceptance of the agenda for **September 8, 2026** by Heim and seconded Gaidis.

Approval of motion:

Yes:	Heim, Gaidis, Andrews, Billingsley, Klotz, Janutol, Starkey
No:	**None**
Absent:	Frattaroli, York

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion was made for the approval of minutes from **July 14, 2026** by Billingsley and seconded by Janutol.

Approval of motion:

Yes:	Heim, Gaidis, Andrews, Billingsley, Klotz, Janutol, Starkey
No:	**None**
Absent:	Frattaroli, York

COUNCIL REPORT:

- Nothing recreation related to report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Delivered by Kowalski and Rennpage due to position being vacant.
- Pool is closed. Aquatics did a great job. Pool was clean and up to standards. Entire staff stepped up and did a great job.
- Bridge Walk yesterday with 60+ people in attendance.
- September 24th deadline for applicants for new parks director.
- Shoutout to Ryan in Activities Building.
- Melissa intends to return next season. Nancy is still here.
- Discussion: Bathroom at Chene-Trombley Park is closed due to vandalism of the heater unit. Perpetrator was caught due to video camera footage. New heater unit received and pending installation.
- Discussion: Security system with cameras still in use. Teens are hopping park fences at night, and nothing is being done about it. The teens are not misbehaving, except for hopping the fence. Audio warning system is operational but disregarded by the teens.
- Discussion: Perhaps buy new trucks for Chene-Trombley Park in the spring.
- GPP wants to use GPW pickleball courts in September while their courts are resurfaced, so an uptick in use is expected. PW intends to repaint lines after season.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Spent $620 for fishing derby, which is well under budget.
    - Major items:
        - Towels - $291
        - Trophies $252
        - Bate and lures donated by Moe's Bate Shop.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Fishing Derby Wrap-up:
    - For next year, plan to make request of older persons in community with fishing experience to help in derby and put on a pre-Fishing Derby clinic.
- Youth Advisory sub-committee
    - Tabled to October.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Review of Park Improvement Plan.
    - Discussion: Possibility for a ninja action park.
    - Discussion: Ghesquiere Park basketball.

- Replace Merry-Go-Round in next 3 years at Chene-Trombley.
- Discussion: Possible Sweeney Park rubber padding ground to replace wood chips would likely be cost prohibitive due to 100K+ price and high risk of sun damage.
- Discussion: Add toddler equipment to Sweeney and Lakefront
- Discussion: Lakefront refrigerated ice rink. Cost likely 275K+ as per previous cost estimates.
- Discussion: Concern about out-of-town kids damaging equipment. Forthcoming Youth Advisory Board to discuss clubs and organizations available for 10–14-year-olds who are not in organized sports.
    - Andrews to discuss with middle school principals.

- Event Calendar Review:
    - Jan 30 -Winterfest
    - No fall event
    - May 1 - Springfest
    - June 6 - Bike Ride
    - Aug 7 - Fishing Derby
- WinterFest Sub-Committee event prep:
    - Will submit special event application.
    - Location will be Ghesquiere.
    - Will fit 6 tables comfortably and have electricity available.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made to adjourn by Heim and seconded by Gaidis.

Approval of motion:

Yes: Heim, Gaidis, Andrews, Billingsley, Klotz, Janutol, Starkey

No: **None**

Absent: Frattaroli, York

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jason Gaidis, Secretary of the Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission.