

Village of Lake Orion Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order by the Chairperson

The Tuesday, May 27, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Village of Lake Orion Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee was called to order at Green's Park by Rosemary Ford at 6:38pm.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Present: Chairperson: Rosemary Ford
Secretary: Cristy Garbacik
Member: Erin Rohlfing
Council Member: George Dandalides
Absent: Vice Chairperson: Erin Crane
Vacancies: None

3. Approval of Minutes

Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2025

By Cristy Garbacik,

RESOLVED: That the regular minutes of the April 22, 2025, meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee be approved.

Seconded by Erin Rohlfing and adopted: AYES: 4; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1.

4. Call to the Public

Logan Garbacik from Scout Troop 284 attended to complete one of his Citizen in the Community requirements. He took notes and commented on some of the park conversations.

5. Approval of Agenda

By Rosemary Ford,

RESOLVED: To approve the Agenda of the Tuesday, May 27, 2025, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee with the addition of 7C Volunteer Days.

Seconded by Erin Rohlfing and adopted AYES: 4; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1.

6. Pending Business

A. Parks Maintenance.

An updated parks maintenance needs list is presented on a word document **which is attached and incorporated as part of these minutes.**

Green's - DPW executed a large cleanup on the south side removing bushes and trees, creating a view.

Added:

Children's – New Maple tree died.

Green's – New Maple tree died.

Swiss Village – Grass needs to be cut including hill.

Swiss Village – Grass growing in playground sand.

Removed:

Meeks – Bank Stabilization. (on budget for Spring 2026)

Meeks – Attach sign to granite block. (DPW completed)

Green's – Caps for docks. (Rosemary installed)

Green's – Move Mobi Mat. (DPW completed, Rosemary to request extension mat)

Green's – Signs and directional maps. (No longer a priority)

Atwater – Basketball court replaced. (on budget for Spring 2026)

B. Budget Review

An updated budget list is presented on an excel document **which is attached and incorporated as part of these minutes.**

The committee re-brought up the desire to employ a specific individual to give attention to the parks, particularly to washing the playground equipment and weeding. George inquired about the past resolution of this previously budgeted item. We informed him in June 2024 the manager deemed our capital outlay money can only be spent on purchasing materials and not employees. Additionally, DPW deemed assistance was not needed in park maintenance. Cristy will forward the June 2024 email.

7:15 George Dadalides left to attend a Village Council meeting.

7. New Business

A. Sponsorship of Green's Park

We will receive an update from George at the next meeting.

B. Orion Township networking

Rosemary Ford and Teresa Rutt met with Orion Township Supervisor, Chris Barnett and Parks and Recreation chairperson, Aaron Whatley, to discuss working together to support park areas used by both communities. Currently, all Village Township citizens pay taxes to Orion Township. Specifically, into the Township Park added tax capture collected by Orion Township and issued to parks in the township (which do not include any of the 6 village parks).

The meeting was well received, and a proposal was requested. We are currently discussing support with Atwater Park as Orion Township's Parks and Recreation uses the baseball fields.

C. Volunteer Days

Erin Rohlfling contacted Lake Orion High School's student volunteer chair, Kristi Pavelich, to discuss adding volunteering for park cleanup to the students' opportunities. Pavelich agreed requesting a write-up, dates, number of students, and an adult must be present the entire time. Our committee agreed with the idea, suggesting a 2-hour weekday spot with DPW and assigning each member to a park.

Swiss – Erin R., Unger – Erin C., Children's – Rosemary F., Atwater – Cristy G., Meek's – George D., Green's – Pam W.

8. Reports

A. Lake Orion Bikes & Adventure Company

Our previous motion to support the Lake Orion Bike & Adventure company's kayak and paddle board kiosk proposal at Green's Park was approved by council. This idea is now being reviewed by the Village attorney.

B. Green's Park Docks

While at Green's Park, we had a discussion on the quality of installing cleats on an angle. Continuing to have concern of not following the installation method suggested by Walk on Water who installed the docks. We also noted the uneven dock for a second Summer.

Previous minutes: 3/11/25, 10/1/24, 8/20/24, 7/23/24, 6/25/24, 5/28/24, 8/1/23, 4/25/23, 3/38/23, 7/26/22

C. Event Collection (Dragon on the Lake)

Dragon on the Lake was billed \$500/day for 3 days for the use of Green's Park. We are unsure about the payment from the Orion Art Center.

9. Items to Be Placed on Next Agenda

Pending Business

Parks Maintenance

Budget Review

New Business

Sponsorship of Green's Park

Orion Township networking

Volunteer Days

Reports

Green's Park Kayak proposal

Green's Park Docks

Event collection (Dragon on Lake)

10. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 6:30 at Atwater Park.

11. Committee Member Comments

Cristy Garbacik mentioned she would like to volunteer her daughter's Girl Scout Troop 75690 to assist in planting the replacement trees in Green's and Children's Parks.

Rosemary Ford commented on the Orion Review from May 21 listed the Village Parks. Some updates could help with the accuracy of the post.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Erin Rohlfing, seconded by Rosemary Ford, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Rosemary Ford, Chairperson

Date Approved: as presented June 24, 2025

Cristy Garbacik, Recording Secretary

Lake Orion Village Parks Maintenance Items

Updated Per May 27, 2025, Meeting

Red = 1st Priority, Orange = 2nd Priority, Blue = 3rd Priority

All Parks

- 1 – **Power wash and weed all parks monthly or as needed.**

Children's Park

- 1 – Add woodchips next to the red slide, all new spirilla have died. (Jose will call)
- 1 – (5/27/25) New Maple tree by Cookies and Cream died. (planted 7/23/24)
- 1 – Playground equipment Twist is broken, needs to be raised – (Landscape Structures contacted)
- 2 – Stones that create the walls are disintegrating.
- 3 – Picnic table multiple seats cracked (close to parking lot) – DPW to replace with wood

Meek's Park

- 2 – Adjust placement of new sign from Atwater to new pedestrian bridge.
- 3 – (4/22/25) Tree fell in river.

Green's Park

- 1 – (5/26/15) East-West seawall is failing.
- 1 – (7/26/22) Bumpers need to be installed & leveling for new docks.
- 1 – (7/26/22) Repair and restore sprinklers to water lawn – (motion / DPW working on a May '25 quote)
- 1 – Verify locks for bathrooms – Teresa to check with Darwin
- 1 – (5/27/25) New Maple tree by beach died. (planted 7/23/24)
- 2 – Installing security video cameras for docks and outside bathrooms (funded with boat passes)
- 3 – Remove small wooden and small concrete seawall inside south beach on. (5/27/25 met with engineer)

Swiss Village Park

- 2 – (5/27/25) Grass needs to be cut including hill.
- 2 – (5/27/25) Grass growing in playground sand.
- 3 – Border needed around playground.

Unger Park

- 1 – Japanese Knotweed needs to be removed.
- 3 – Small slide pole moves on ground base.

Atwater Park

- 2 – Concerns about the increase of dog waste in the baseball field (Ordinance Chapter 96.09)
- 3 – Paint top of main sign.
- 3 – Chairs crooked around tables.
- 3 – (4/22/25) Benches need to be replaced.
- 3 – (4/22/25) Shade sails over benches.

Village of Lake Orion Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
May 27, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Village of Lake Orion Parks & Recreation Committee Budget						
2025-2026 Possible Budget Items for Planning						
	Budget Item	Priority Level	Cost Estimate	Cost Actual	Notes	Voted & Agreed
1	Children's and Meek's Park - Bank Stabilization	High	300,000 - 400,000		The Village and DDA have a goal of improving bank stabilization in the DDA district. A 75/25 plan allows 75% of funds to be allotted for needed infrastructure.	4-22-25 Village, DPW, and DDA have approved completing this project in Spring 2026.
2	DPW Assigned daily maintenance employee on grounds	High	\$2,500	7-'24 DDA seasonal helper \$18.25 hour x 8 hours=\$146/week x 20 weeks =\$2,920.	8-23-22 discussed Motion and contact DDA	6-25-24 Yes 7-'24 denied manager McClary and DPW Director Sanchez
3	Atwater Park Basketball Court - 4"	High	\$6,000	5-28-24 Birmingham Seal \$30,733.00 (50x50 2,500sf) removal +\$4,700 9-21-24 Hutch Paving \$33,965.00 (68x50 3,400sf) and removal	6-25-24 DPW to look into cost 11-25-24 Council approved CDBG funds of \$9,348.00 to be used towards Atwater bb court refurbish	11-25-24 Council approved uses of PY2025 CDBG \$9,348.00 project. April '25 Council approved allocations for '25-'26 fully fund project, projected to be complete in Spring of 2026
4	Green's Park Pavilion at SW of basketball court	High				
5	Atwater Additional Swings	Medium	1200-1500			
6	Children's Additional Shade Sail(s) (1-3)	Medium	1200 each			
7	Green's Park Retaining Wall	Medium				
8	Children's Park Bridge	Medium				
9	Unger Park Basketball court	Medium		Birmingham Seal \$15,000.00 5-28-24 (quarter court)		