

Village of Lake Orion Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order by the Chairperson

The Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Village of Lake Orion Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee was called to order at Village Hall by Rosemary Ford at 6:37pm.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Present: Chairperson: Rosemary Ford
Secretary: Cristy Garbacik
Member: Erin Crane
Council Member: George Dandalides

Vacancies: One

Also in attendance: DPW director Wes Sanchez
Susan Dandalides, Dan Nelson, and Erin Rohlfing

3. Approval of Minutes

Meeting Minutes – October 1, 2024

By Cristy Garbacik,

RESOLVED: That the regular minutes of the Oct. 1, 2024, meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee be approved with the adjustment of attendance.

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

4. Call to the Public

Erin Rohlfing attended with interest in joining the committee and to share that she applied.

5. Approval of Agenda

By Cristy Garbacik,

RESOLVED: To approve the Agenda of the Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

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

7. New Business (*Moved to an earlier time to allow the public to present sooner.*)

A. Green Space Initiative

Susan Dandalides informed us of the green space initiative she is creating in collaboration with Orion Township. Her vision is to preserve the current wild green space as passive recreation and habitats for plants and animals. Her goal is to develop a Millage in 2026 for possibly .3 mills for 10 years, about \$300,000.00. This money would be used to purchase the current green spaces that would continue in their current state without being able to be developed or sold in the future. Her plan is to present to Village Council in the future.

B. Sponsorship of Green's Park

Dan Nelson, LOLA president elect, informed us of the Lake Orion Lake Association website and commitment in informing the community of events and opportunities surrounding the lake. (lolainfo.org). Additionally, he was looking for possible storage of the buoys during the non-lake season (currently about 17 buoys are placed in the area of the Village vs. Orion Township areas on Lake Orion). He presented an opportunity for LOLA to support Green's Park with the possible use of the park for future LOLA events. He brought up concerns about the park's costs to group reservations as well as event costs. He mentioned the idea of helping with docks, grass, invasive plant removal, and watering solutions. They would also like to have a Fishing event on June 7, 2025 from 8-12.

The committee thanked the LOLA organization for their interest in future collaboration and we will be adding this discussion to our future agenda. Additionally, we clarified our committee does not have the authority to adjust fees established with Green's Park. We explained we are an advisory committee, and we encouraged Mr. Nelson to visit the Village Hall to book events and discuss adjustments to fees with the Village Council.

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.**

Added:

-Green's Park – Fence needs repair due to August storm.

Removed:

- Green's Park – Fence needs repair due to August storm.

- Green's Park – Cleats were installed on docks by DPW.

B. Budget Review

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

Added:

-Atwater Park – 11-25-24 CDBG funds of \$9,348.00 were approved by Council for bb Court refurbish

7. New Business

A. Green Space Initiative (see above)

B. Sponsorship of Green's Park (see above)

C. Oakland County Grants

This item was tabled due to lack of time in the schedule and will be revisited at the next meeting. See April 16, 2024, minutes for previous information.

8. Reports

A. Atwater basketball court

On November 25, 2024 the Village Council approved the proposed uses of PY2025 Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG) in the approximate amount of \$9,348.00 towards the Atwater Park Basketball Court Refurbish project.

Previous minutes Oct. 1, Aug. 20, July 23, June 25, May 28, April 16, and Feb. 28, 2024.

A motion was made to approve George Dandalides to present to Village Council our plans to proceed with the Atwater basketball court using CDBG funds and requesting the remaining funds of about \$24,600.00 be supported by Village Council.

By Cristy Garbacik

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

B. Paint Creek Bank Stabilizing Options

The Village and DDA have a goal of improving sidewalks and bank stabilization in the DDA district. A 75/25 plan allows 75% of funds to be allotted for needed infrastructure.

Previous minutes Aug. 20, 2024, May 28, 2024, April 16, 2024, Oct. 24, 2023, and Sept. 26, 2023.

C. Green's Park Docks

Green's Park dock cleats were installed by DPW. The materials and installation were different than the suggestions provided by John Jones from Walk on Water, who originally installed the docks. Leveling the docks, installing bumpers (piling fenders), and capping dock poles were not completed. Rosemary Ford has received donated pole caps she will install once the weather warms up.

Previous minutes: 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

D. Event Collection (Dragon on the Lake)

Dragon on the Lake was billed \$500/day for 3 days for the use of Green's Park. Per Darwin, we are continuing to wait for 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

Oakland County Grants

Reports

Atwater basketball court

Paint Creek Bank Stabilization

Green's Park Docks

Event collection (Dragon on Lake)

10. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:30 at Children's Park.

11. Committee Member Comments

We would like to thank Teresa Rutt for her unwavering commitment and twelve-year appointed time frame holding many office positions on the P&R committee! Many of the project's developments and success were due to her vision and leadership. We would like to wish her great success in her newest roll as Village Council's president.

We would like to welcome George Dandalides in his newly appointed position on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. We are excited to work with him on the future of our parks.

Rosemary Ford noted she will be contacting the Orion Review about adding information about Children's Park in the recent publishing of the "Lake Orion Area Answer Book" 2025 edition.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Rosemary Ford, seconded by Erin Crain, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Rosemary Ford, Chairperson

Date Approved: As presented on April 22, 2025

Cristy Garbacik, Recording Secretary

Lake Orion Village Parks Maintenance Items

Updated Per March 11, 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 by new spirilla – two have died.
- 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

- 1 – Bank stabilization needed!—eroding very close to sidewalk—Teresa/Darwin/grant – DPW/permit
- 2 – Attach sign to granite block – Wes DPW/Rose
- 2 – Adjust placement of new sign from Atwater to new pedestrian bridge.

Green's Park

- 1 - (5/26/15) East-West seawall is failing.
- 1 – (7/26/22) Caps, bumpers need to be installed & leveling for new docks – Rosemary has cap donation
- 1 – (7/26/22) Repair and restore sprinklers to water lawn – (motion / DPW working on a quote)
- 1 – Verify locks for bathrooms – Teresa to check with Darwin
- 2 – Move Mobi beach mat to be placed on the north end of the beach (closer to the bathrooms).
- 2 – Sign for park with rules, directional map, passes required, & “for park users only” – dock time limit?
- 2 – Directional map at park entrance – Riva to create and share
- 2 – Installing security video cameras for docks and outside bathrooms (funded with boat passes)
- 3 – Remove small wooden and small concrete seawall inside beach on south side.

Swiss Village Park

- 3 – Border around playground.

Unger Park

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

Atwater Park

- 1 – Basketball court needs to be replaced (Erin and Wes received quotes/Rosemary to contact Orion Twp)
- 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.

Village of Lake Orion Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
March 11, 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				
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 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	
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)		