

MINUTES OF THE LINCOLNWAY SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 18, 2025 AT 9:30 A.M. AT THE LINCOLN WAY SPECIAL RECREATION CENTER, 1900 HEATHER GLEN DRIVE, NEW LENOX, ILLINOIS

I. General Functions

Call to Order: President pro tempore Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board member Hassett moved to make Board Member Lewis pro tempore president and Board member LaMore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: (5) Kelly, Hassett, LaMore, Marcquenski, Lewis

Nays: (0)

Abstain:(0)

Absent: (3) VanDuyne, Biesterfeld, Vitale

Motion Carried

Roll Call: Roll was taken and those present were:
Audrey Marcquenski, Director, Frankfort Square Park District
Greg Lewis, Executive Director, New Lenox Community Park District
Jay Kelly, Executive Director, Manhattan Park District
Gina Hassett, Executive Director, Frankfort Park District
Kelly LaMore, Park Manager, Peotone Park District
Absent: Kirsten VanDuyne, Executive Director, Wilmington Park District
Andy Biesterfeld, Executive Director, Crete Park District
Greg Vitale, Executive Director Mokena Park District

Others present were Katie Ngo, LWSRA Attorney; Melissa Jensen, Superintendent of Recreation; Tom Kraus, Office Manager: and Mary Strand, Recording Secretary.

Special Guests: None

II. Public Comments: None

III. General Functions (continued)

- 1. Treasurer’s Report – President pro tempore Lewis asked for a motion to accept the October 31, 2025 Treasurer’s Report.

Board member Hassett moved to accept the October 31, 2025 Treasurer’s report and Board member Kelly seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: (5) Kelly, Hassett, LaMore, Marcquenski, Lewis

Nays: (0)

Abstain:(0)

Absent: (3) VanDuyne, Biesterfeld, Vitale

Motion Carried

- 2. Payment of Bills:
 - A. President pro tempore Lewis asked for a motion to approve the Payment of the Bills in the amount of \$195,669.69 may include lodging and travel.

Board member Hassett made a motion to approve the payment of the bills as presented and Board member LaMore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: (5) Kelly, Hassett, LaMore, Marcquenski, Lewis
Nays: (0)
Abstain:(0)
Absent: (3) VanDuyne, Biesterfeld, Vitale

Motion Carried

- 3. Special Guest:)
- 4. Communications: None

IV. Consent Agenda:

- 1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2025. President pro tempore Lewis asked for a motion.

Board member Kelly made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Board member Hassett seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: (5) Kelly, Hassett, LaMore, Marcquenski, Lewis
Nays: (0)
Abstain:(0)
Absent: (3) VanDuyne, Biesterfeld, Vitale

Motion Carried

V. Staff & Committee Reports

Executive Director –

- a. Foundation – At the recent meeting it was discussed that they need new members. There will be only Golf Outing in 2026 at the Sanctuary and they will hold an event at the 19th Hole TBD.
- b. Donations - The Kindful Report is included in the Board’s packets showing the months donations of \$9,101. Keith noted that BDI Playhouse Therapy Duathlon donated \$2,000 to the Recreation Fund. The K of C donated a total of \$3,395 to the Hero’s Village Sensory Garden and the Financial Assistance program. The Wilson Family donated \$2,500 to assist adapted families with hardships. The New Lenox Lions will fully support another shed. Keith got a request to send the Sensory Bus to Florida but will decline.
- c. Grants –
- d. Distinguished Agency –
- e. Heroes Village Sensory Garden –

f. Sensory Bus –

1. **Marketing Coordinator - Jordan Desiderio** – The report is in the Boards’ packets.
 - a. Social media -The top reporting post from September was the LWSRC Gen Z tour with Sue.
 - b. Fund Raising – La Braid raised \$3,322 and Double Good raised \$9,767. It goes into the Hawks Bucks account.
 - c. Upcoming Events – Day with the Grinch, December 14th. Keith encouraged all to volunteer and/or sign up as this event sells out quickly.
2. **Inclusion and Outreach Supervisor - Emma Kreitz** – Report is in the Boards’ packets. Keith noted that it is doing very well.
3. **Facility Maintenance Supervisor** – Report in the Board’s packets. Starting in December there will be an ADA report.
4. **Office Manager/Support Services** – Report in the Board’s packets.
5. **Superintendent of Recreation** – Melissa Jensen’s report was in the packets. She noted all programs are going well. Staff is looking forward to the Holiday events. The Family Holiday Party is December 15th and the Part time party is on the 17th and all board members are encouraged to stop by.
 - I. Staff and Safety -
 - II. Part Time Staff –
 - III. Intakes –
 1. Manager of Programs
 - a. Rentals
 - b. Transportation
 - c. Teen and Adults Programs & Events
 - d. Titans Recreation Club
 - e. Athletic Programs –
 - i. Volleyball -
 - ii. Basketball – There are 9 Basketball teams and 9 Wheelchair Basketball teams. LWSRA hosted a tournament this past weekend. The Hawks garnered three gold medals, a silver medal and one fourth place. The Juniors received a silver medal.
 2. Manager of Programs –
 - a. Student Internships
 - b. Youth and Hawkings Programs
 3. Adaptive Supervisor
 - a. Adaptive Sports and Events
 4. Program Supervisor
 - a. Club Hawk After School Care

VI. Finance & Personnel – None.

VII. Facilities Planning – Board member Lewis noted that he is working with The Village of New Lenox to add additional batting cage and additional parking lot where the 10th field would be. He believes that multiple boundaries can be taken out to eliminate the islands so that LWSRA tournaments could be held in the parking lots without going out of town.

VIII. Old Business – None

IX. New Business –

X. Director/Board member Comments

Executive Director Wallace said thank you to the Board for their support. He informed the Board that Will County has \$10 million for mental health initiatives. He will send information to all.

Board member Lewis inquired if the Executive Minutes review is scheduled yet. Keith replied it will be on either the December or January agenda. He said Happy Thanksgiving. He thanked the staff for doing what they do. He brought up the subject of getting money from the gaming tax. He is curious as to why Park Districts do not get any of it. Discussion was held. He discussed the Forest Preserve Trail and access from NLPD. There are 4 new developments in New Lenox. Discussion was held.

Board Member LaMore said she is looking forward to the holidays. She wishes that everyone has great holidays.

Board Member Hassett said Happy Thanksgiving. Amplifund was discussed.

Board member Marcquenski said Happy Thanksgiving everyone. She told Keith and Tom that she would appreciate continuing their discussion on night golf. She has a new golf instructor that has some experience with it.

Board member Kelly thanked all that came out to the Trick or Treat Trail and he is looking forward to the Winter Fest on December 5th. His District will be posting two full-time positions soon. One is a Parks position and one a Round Barn Manager. In the near future they will also post a part-time marketing position. He then told everyone Happy Thanksgiving. The Round Barn was discussed. It will be finished June, 2026. There are significant ADA improvements, the 2nd level is fully accessible. Sprinklers will be installed. The annexation to the property will be finalized in December.

XI. Executive Session - None

XII. Adjournment – President pro tempore Lewis asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:55 a.m.

Board member Hassett moved to adjourn the meeting and Board member Kelly seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, all voted Aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Mary T. Strand, Recording Secretary