

Park Board Minutes

(monthly meeting)

Emery Lee Bldg

503 S. Park Ave.
Alexandria, IN 46001

Meeting Called to Order: 5:37 PM

Members Present: Kim Terry, *President*; Barrett Key, *Vice President*; Devin Powers, *Secretary*; Sam Driffill, *member*; Angie Hilligoss, *member*; Tom Johns, *member*

Members Absent: None

Guests: Volunteer Project Director Eric Freeman and Caretaker Jon Thompson

Pledge of Allegiance led by Kim Terry.

Approve Previous Minutes: Tom motions to approve September minutes, Barrett seconded, no objections, motion passes.

Presentations:

- Eric Freeman - Provides the first draft of the survey questions for the board to review.
 - The survey touches on the use of current parks, activities in the parks, programs people are interested in, and getting a demographic of the people taking the survey.
 - The board is asked to look over the mock survey and give any notes on the contents. The board tells Eric to move forward on getting the surveys out, should he not hear any changes are needed by the following weekend.

Old Business/ Follow ups:

- School Report from Barrett
 - Career Day will have 42 kids for 6 hours on Oct 22nd, working in the park.
 - There are about 14 kids who have been out the last 2 Wednesdays weeding the flower beds and picking up sticks.
 - Kids will be out once a week for an hour to continue working on the parks.
 - Sam proposes we get a certificate and/or pizza party to thank the kids for their work
- Emery Lee roof replacement and Pool House work are both still pending on insurance.
- Pool House doors have been installed that were previously approved. Fixing the girls side door is being considered.
- Water supply by the horseshoe pits has been fixed.
 - Caretaker reports that there are kids messing with the horseshoe pits, among other parts. More on this at the “new business”.
 - Water will be shut off in about 2 weeks.
- Facebook page is being sent to Sam today to get access.
 - Sam will rename to “Alexandria Parks and Pool”
 - Sam will add other board members as moderators to help with the page

Old Business/ Follow ups continued:

- Caretaker's carpet. Not threadbare or coming apart, so it will be tabled until better weather.

New Business:

- City Council budget meeting - What is the Park Board budget update?
 - 2026 budget approval of the total budget. Allocation not set at this time.
 - The board will look over and will note any questions or concerns. The board has agreed to pause on any spending approvals until further notice.
- Bathroom vandalism and repairs are needed.
 - Approximately 8 kids are being destructive and obscene. All are over 12 years old. Police have been called. The caretaker has talked to the kids directly as well.
 - The destructive kids are showing up sometimes during school, but mostly after school hours, sometimes late into the night.
 - The caretaker is advised to call the police at the moment the vandalism is caught and have the police handle it. Tom is looking into the kids to see if he can identify them and contact their parents.
 - The damages: The paper towel dispensers were torn off the wall, toilet seats were damaged, and toilets were filled with paper products and caused an overflow. The solution at this time: close the bathrooms and only open during events.
 - New dispensers have been installed, and new curtains are needed.
- The board will request access to the facility rental calendar. The board expresses concern that a calendar is not available on the website for patrons to see what days are available.
- Pow Wow Sept. 10-13, 2026 approval needed. What are the Emery Lee restrictions?
 - Pow Wow asks that the Emery Lee not be used during that time.
 - The caretaker expresses concern. Pow Wow asked him to change trash bags and asked about electricity. He asked, "Do we supply trash bags?" The board's answer is "no".
 - The board decides that a further discussion is needed on what we expect from the Pow Wow in the use of the park during their stay.
 - Future discussions will be held on the cost of the green space in the park.
 - Barrett motions to approve the Pow Wow use of the grounds pending a rental agreement, Tom seconded, no objections, motion passes.
- The Bob Rogers building - comings and goings.
 - People are freely walking into the building. The board would like to put cameras up.
- Thermostat covers installed without the boards knowledge.
 - The board would like to look into how we can improve the thermostat situation.
- The Beulah Park corner sign is rotting.
 - Shop class will be asked to do a temporary solution to the sign issue.

Financial Report:

- This is being skipped for now

Caretaker Report:

- We need more rule boards posted.
- Mum placement. Caretaker needs 50:1 mix.

Announcements & Public Comments:

- Reminders of upcoming park events.
 - Monster Bash on the 24th
 - Homer’s Helpers Vaccine Clinic on the 25th
- Mowing volunteers
 - Barrett has a group of people willing to help. The Mayor will be asked about liability.
 - Angie suggested extra hours to lifeguards who would be covered under liability.
- Jon and Cora - Thank you for the mums.
- Need to adjust the monthly meeting to help with conflicting schedule with the City Council and other board obligations.
 - Changing to the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30
- Quick touch on greenspace rental. Information will be gathered for a future meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tom, Barrett seconded, no objections, motion carries

Next Meeting: A monthly meeting beginning at 5:30 at Emery Lee Building on November 18, 2025.

Meeting Adjourned: approximately 6:53 PM

Minutes Taken By: Devin Powers, Secretary

Approval of the October 21, 2025 minutes:

Signatures of members present:

Kim Terry

Barrett Key

Devin Powers

Sam Driffill

Angie Hilligoss

Tom Johns