



MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 / 5:30 p.m.

Emery Lee Building

503 S. Park Ave.

Alexandria, IN 46001

Present: Sam Drifill, *President*; Barrett Key, *Vice President*; Devin Powers, *Secretary*; Angie Hilligoss, *member*; and Kim Terry, *member*. **Absent:** Tom Johns, *member*

Guest: Eric Freeman, Superintendent

Special Guest: Libby Manning, Development Advisor for Madison County Community Foundation.

President Sam Drifill called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

1. Presentation from Libby Manning

The Madison County Community Foundation has a fund for the Alexandria Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$99,000.00. Every fall, the Foundation will let the Board know the amount available for spending (the annual spendables) for the Park Board to use towards a project or save. Contributions to the fund are allowed and encouraged. A special campaign has been launched this year, with every contribution to the fund being matched dollar for dollar. This is guaranteed from now to December 31, 2026. There is a contribution cap of \$100,000 per year, being enforced quarterly at \$25,000 per quarter. Anything over \$25,000 collected in a quarter is encouraged to hold onto and used as a start to the next quarter. At the end of every quarter the board will write a check for the Madison County Foundation Alexandria Parks and Recreation Endowment Fund. The Foundation created a QR code for the Park Boards Fund that people can scan and directly contribute to the fund. The total collected by this method can be viewed by the Board's financial officer. Ideas for contributions are:

- a. Ask Funeral Homes if they can include it on their list for potential donations in honor of a family member in lieu of flowers, etc.
- b. Have the QR code available at park events such as the upcoming DAR tree planting.
- c. Put together a fundraising event or 2 that are specifically going towards this fund.

2. Approval of Minutes

Devin seconded Barrett's motion to approve meeting minutes from 3/18/2026. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Financial Report

- a. The Park's general fund is operating at a positive rate, with a \$5,281 difference in spending compared to 2025.
- b. Facility costs are coming from the non-revert. This seems to be an error of some kind, as the facilities have their own fund account that these costs should come from. It is being looked into.
- c. Angie seconded Barrett's motion to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.
- d. Added discussion that there seems to be multiple keys floating for the Bob Rogers building. The Board would like to get a count on how many and who has them.

4. New Business

- a. Barrett seconded Angie's motion to give 2 One-Day Family Pool Passes for the Alexandria School Fun Fest on 5/15. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Barrett seconded Kim's motion to approve the Harrison Square Clock Repairs and the cost of the Pool House door supplies. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Devin seconded Barrett's motion to pay Eric for his park-related expenses shown on pages 9-11 in

the agenda packet. Motion passes unanimously.

- d. Angie seconded Barrett's motion to approve Eric's ability to spend up to \$2,000 in park-related costs without first getting the Board's approval, with receipts being provided at the following meeting. Motion passes unanimously.
- e. Wendy Goens had requested the use of the park on June 13th for an event by United Way to educate the local children on bike safety. There was a calendar conflict where the Alexandria Community Band would be using the area on that day. Barrett will be checking into it.
- f. Angie seconded Barrett's motion to approve 50 pool passes to give to the library for their Summer Reading program. Motion passes unanimously.
- g. Devin seconded Barrett's motion to approve Alan Erwin's request to use the pavilion for Thursday night Community Band practice. Motion passes unanimously.
- h. Barrett seconded Angie's motion to approve the use of some of the dog park outer area for gardening. Motion passes unanimously.
- i. A request was made by the Madison County Invasive Species Task Force to use the Emery Lee building on June 16th at 6:00. This conflicts with the Park Board meeting in the same building starting at 5:30. Kim will talk to the group to possibly have their meeting in the pavilion instead. The request is tabled until more information is obtained.
- j. Kim brought up the possibility of getting t-shirts for the Park Board members to help make us identifiable when we are out in the park or at events. This would be paid out of our own pockets. Barrett is going to look into a possible vendor.
- k. The bridge on the playground equipment has a caution strip on it as there was a piece that was poking up that concerned a parent. Mark is getting it fixed.
- l. The Board mentions getting keys to all board members for the bathrooms and other areas in the park, so that if Eric is not available to unlock something, a member who is available can help.

5. Old Business

- a. Mermaid pool cleaner update/vote postponed since Tom is not in attendance to give the details.
- b. DAR tree planting is set for 4/24/2026. The tree will be picked up by Kim who has chosen the area outside and to the left of the Emery Lee building, a spot at least 10 feet from the tree recently damaged and cut down after high winds. Kim warns that musket volleys will be fired for the event.
- c. Kim found and will mark the 4 Bradford Pear trees that need to be removed. The Board would like to reach out to those who have plaques with those trees to make them aware of the situation and to hear if they have any reservations about the removal.
- d. The new rental fees are in dispute with the Clerk's office. The office will be unable to accommodate the additional options and ask that we revert to a simple fee schedule for ease. Devin will rework the fee chart to send to the board for possible edits. The Board points out that this further shows the need for a digital option of rentals to take it off the City's plate.

6. Superintendent's/Staff Report

- a. LED sign estimates - There are 2 bids so far. One more bid is needed.
- b. Caretaker's House is secure. It is decided that further work can be set aside for now.
- c. Non-Reverting Fund and Facilities Rental Fee issues are being looked into.
- d. The Easter Egg Hunt for 2027 is being set for 3/27/2027 (the day before Easter). Perhaps all or most of the local churches that have hunts would want to throw in to one big one at the park.

7. Announcements, Upcoming Events & Public Comment

- a. DAR planting of the tree is 4/24/2026, where Sam will be in attendance to represent the board.

Kim seconded Barrett's motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Taken By: Devin Powers, Secretary

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m. @ Emery Lee Auditorium.