

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
March 17, 2025**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Hayes; Trustees Baldino, Bertucci, Dunnington, Grasse, LaBedz, Schwingbeck, Shirley and Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus; Assistant Village Manager Diana Mikula

OTHERS PRESENT: Aleena Patel; Maria Georgakopoulos

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes Committee of the Whole minutes February 3, 2025

Trustee Grasse passed.

Trustee Bertucci moved to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes from the meeting on February 3, 2025. The motion was seconded by Trustee LaBedz.

8 Ayes

0 Nays

1 Abstained (Grasse)

The motion passed.

B. Approval of Minutes Committee of the Whole minutes February 18, 2025

Trustee Schwingbeck passed.

Trustee LaBedz moved to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes from the meeting on February 18, 2025. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tinaglia.

8 Ayes

0 Nays

1 Abstained (Schwingbeck)

The motion passed.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Interview of Aleena Patel for appointment to the Youth Commission, term ending April 30, 2026

Aleena's term will officially start on April 30, 2025. The Mayor is impressed with Aleena and stated that she has been waiting for an opportunity to serve on the Youth Commission. He emphasized how much impact Aleena can have through her school, this Commission and by interacting with other Commissions.

Aleena stated that she wants to help her community of peers. She would like to address several issues that she has witnessed, especially vaping at school. Aleena feels that it is important to get people together to talk openly, and without judgement, to discuss the problems. They could also spread awareness about the available resources.

Trustees thanked Aleena for her willingness to serve.

Trustee Schwingbeck moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Aleena Patel to the Youth Commission, term ending April 30, 2026. Trustee Shirley seconded the motion.

The following voice vote was recorded:

9 Ayes

0 Nays

The motion passed.

B. Interview of Maria Georgakopoulos for appointment to the Youth Commission, term ending April 30, 2026

Maria's term will officially start on April 30, 2025. The Mayor is impressed with Maria and stated that she has been waiting for an opportunity to serve on the Youth Commission. He emphasized how much impact Maria can have through her school, this Commission and by interacting with other Commissions.

Maria stated that she is a people person, feels she has a lot to contribute and knows it will enrich her leadership skills. She also noted issues at her school with vaping and drinking, but feels that the Youth Commission can make a change. Maria suggested inviting organizations who spread awareness about these issues to come and speak to the students about the issues and the consequences. She also would like to create more places like Downtown Arlington Heights where the youth can meet and connect with one another.

Trustees thanked Maria for her willingness to serve.

Trustee LaBedz moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Maria Georgakopoulos to the Youth Commission, term ending April 30, 2026. Trustee Grasse seconded the motion.

The following voice vote was recorded:

9 Ayes

0 Nays

The motion passed.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS - none

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Trustee Baldino moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.