

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
August 18, 2025**

President Tinaglia called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Tinaglia; Trustees Bertucci, Dunnington,
Manganaro, Schwingbeck, Shirley, Zyck

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Santa Maria
Trustee LaBedz (arrived at 7:07pm)

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Thomas, Stella Butler

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Interview of Jennifer Thomas for appointment to the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities, term ending April 30, 2028

Mayor Tinaglia introduced Jennifer Thomas and asked her to explain why this commission is important to her and how she thinks she can contribute.

Jennifer went to grammar school in Arlington Heights and is now raising her family here. She has over 26 years in public service, is a member of the disability community and has based her career in disability rights. To give back to her community is an honor.

Trustee Schwingbeck asked if Jennifer has attended any of the commission meetings. Jennifer responded that due to her work schedule, she hasn't been able to attend any meetings this year. However, she has now arranged to work from home on the nights of the meetings and she has begun reading through some of the minutes. Jennifer explained that she believes in person-first language and would like to help the Village re-shape the way people look at citizens with disabilities.

Trustee Schwingbeck asked what Jennifer can bring to the commission with her vast experience. Jennifer mentioned that she would have to abstain from voting on transit issues due to her employment. She thinks about what accessibility looks like in different scenarios and has a different perspective that she can bring to the Village – practical versus functional.

Trustee LaBedz entered the meeting.

Trustee Manganaro mentioned that he has previously spoken with Jennifer and that he learned a lot from their conversation. He knows she will bring something special to this commission.

Jennifer has several book and white paper recommendations to help people understand the person-first language.

Trustees thanked Jennifer Thomas for her willingness to serve on the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities.

Trustee Schwingbeck moved, seconded by Trustee Bertucci to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Jennifer Thomas to the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities, term ending April 30, 2028

The following voice vote was recorded:

8 Ayes

0 Nays

The motion passed.

B. Interview of Stella Butler for appointment to the Environmental Commission, term ending April 30, 2026

Mayor Tinaglia explained that Stella Butler was recommended by a different commissioner and that Stella is looking to serve as the youth member of the Environmental Commission. He is confident that she will be an outstanding voice on this commission and asked Stella to share how she plans to participate on this commission.

Stella stated that she will be the youth representative for the community. She is planning to pursue Environmental Studies and Environmental Policy so has interest in the field. She also wants to give back to the community.

Trustees Dunnington and LaBedz commented that they were impressed with her resume and letter of recommendation. Trustee LaBedz mentioned the importance of Environmental Policy going forward.

Village Manager Randy Recklaus mentioned that he knows Stella and can attest to the fact that she is a very impressive person. He believes that Stella is exactly the type of person the Village wants to have on their commissions.

An audience member asked if there could be a discussion about having solar roofs on government buildings in Arlington Heights. Mayor Tinaglia let him know that this is already under way and Village Manager Randy Recklaus offered to talk with him about it.

Trustees thanked Stella Butler for her willingness to serve as a youth member on the Environmental Commission.

Trustee LaBedz moved, seconded by Trustee Dunnington to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Stella Butler to the Environmental Commission, term ending April 30, 2026.

The following voice vote was recorded:

8 Ayes

0 Nays

The motion passed.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS - none

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 1 - Melissa Cayer asked that we put reminders on the water and sewer bill for people to clear the debris from the sewer grates and curbs that are near their property. Mayor Tinaglia mentioned that we could possibly put that on the website.
- 2 - Melissa Cayer asked if a street cleaner notices a sewer grate that isn't getting cleared, what is the standard operating procedure? Mayor Tinaglia mentioned that Public Works could answer that question.
- 3 - Melissa Cayer asked how they clear the weeds from the curbs and sewer grates.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Trustee Manganaro moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.