



AGENDA
Youth Commission
Commissions Room
Arlington Heights Village Hall
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd., AH 60005
September 17, 2026
6:00 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. June 18, 2026 Minutes
- IV. REPORTS
 - A. Library
 - B. Park District
 - C. Police Department
 - D. Schools
 - E. Members at Large
- V. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Teen Job Fair
Commissioners will discuss finalizing the time of year, scope, and naming for the 2027 event.
 - B. Lawn Mowing Referral Program
Updates on participants, teen intake form, and FAQs for teens.
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. E-Bikes Informational Event for Teens
Commissioners will consider involvement in event and ways to help promote it.
 - B. Mental Health First Aid Training for Teens
Commissioners will consider involvement in event and ways to help promote it.
 - C. Youth Commission Guidelines for Commissioners
Commissioners will provide feedback and discuss best practices and expectations for participating on Youth Commission.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Announcements / Correspondence

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to speak on a subject not on the Agenda may speak at this time. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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**Minutes
Youth Commission
Village Hall, Commissions Room
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd.
June 18, 2026
6:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Son called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Chair Son introduced the newest Commissioner, Tyler Bennett. Commissioner Bennett provided a brief introduction, and the remaining Commissioners and staff members introduced themselves as well.

Present

Alice Son, Chair

Matt Healy

Alejandria Galarza

Sydney Galla

Afroz Hafeez

Ava McQuade

Maria Georgakopoulos

Tyler Bennett

Also Present

Mila Tsagalis, Liaison

Kimberly Witt, Administrative Assistant

Joe Cloud, Public Guest

Dennis Cloud, Public Guest

Absent

Taryn Holdman

Riley Phillips

Colin Smith

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from April 16, 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner McQuade to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2026, meeting, seconded by Commissioner McQuade and approved by unanimous consent.

IV. REPORTS

A. Library

Commissioner Galarza reported that the Library's Summer Reading Program is underway, with a revised approach designed to encourage teens to read materials of their choice and earn prizes for participation. The library is also offering weekly games and activities in the teen space, The Hub. Summer programming remains active, supported by interns and student staff, and community members are encouraged to visit the library and participate in summer activities.

B. Park District

Commissioner Healy reported that summer programs are in full swing, with strong participation in camps, swim lessons, and pool activities. Pool attendance and concession sales have increased significantly compared to last year. The Park District continues to provide employment opportunities for many local teens through seasonal positions. Construction projects are nearing completion, with improvements at ARC Park finished and work at Recreation Park continuing. Preparations are also underway for the 50th anniversary of Frontier Days, and volunteers are still being sought to assist with the event.

C. Police Department

No Report.

D. Schools

No report.

E. Members at Large

Commissioner Galla from Prospect High School reported that she is currently taking the ACT. She also shared that work is underway to renovate the field at Prospect High School, with the project expected to be completed before the start of the upcoming school year.

Commissioner Georgakopoulos from Buffalo Grove High School reported that finals went well and summer camps are now underway, including lacrosse, soccer, and basketball camps. She shared that her school's football field is being renovated, which will require the team to play away games for the first half of the season. She also noted that she is currently preparing for and taking the ACT.

Commissioner McQuade from Hersey High School reported that Hersey's track is being renovated, resulting in some summer camp activities being relocated to MacArthur. Finals concluded successfully, and students were generally ready for summer break. Commissioner McQuade also noted that she is taking the ACT again this summer.

Commissioner Bennett from Prospect High School reported that finals went well overall and that he is participating in several summer activities, including driver's education, baseball, health class, and band camp. He noted that band camp runs from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. during the summer.

Commissioner Hafeez reported participating in the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network advocacy day in Springfield in support of increased cancer research funding and encouraged future involvement in similar advocacy efforts. He also noted his role as an American Heart Association Heart Coach with volunteer opportunities available locally. Additionally, he highlighted the American Cancer Society's "Lights of Hope" fundraiser, which honors survivors and remembers loved ones through sponsored luminaria displays at community events and in Washington, D.C.

Chair Son reported attending several District 214 end-of-year events, including a community partners breakfast highlighting local apprenticeship and internship opportunities. She noted it was impactful to see the range of student involvement in community-based learning and workforce experiences, including library-hosted interns and apprentices.

She also attended the rescheduled District 214 “State of the District” presentation, which provided updates on district initiatives, including new athletic fields at Buffalo Grove and broader programming updates. Chair Son expressed particular interest in ongoing discussions around the integration of AI in education and noted similar conversations occurring within the library system.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Chamber of Commerce

1. Consider the opportunities for partnering with the AH Chamber of Commerce

Commissioner Healy reported initial discussions with the Chamber of Commerce regarding youth volunteer opportunities. The Commission discussed potential approaches, including long-term partnerships versus one-off service opportunities. Members noted that logistics—particularly timing, duration, and seasonal scheduling—are key factors for student participation and agreed that most teens appear to be aware of existing volunteer opportunities.

The Commission voted unanimously in favor of pursuing a one-off service opportunity for the Commission to participate in and possibly inviting other teens.

The Commission also discussed the importance of including both volunteer organizations and employers offering paid opportunities for teens at the Teen Job Fair, which led to discussion of potential outreach to golf courses and employers hiring pool attendant at the end of summer.

B. Lawn Mowing and Snow Shoveling Referral Program

1. Update on FAQs for the program – Commissioners Hong, McQuade and Georgeakopoulos will draft and review to present at meeting.

The item was tabled until the next meeting. Chair Son will distribute a document to Commission members and solicit feedback for further discussion.

2. Program feedback and promotion

Ms. Tsagalis reported that members of the Senior Citizens' Commission recently shared positive feedback about the Lawn and Snow Shoveling Program, noting its value to residents. Discussion focused on improving communication and managing expectations, particularly regarding response times for snow shoveling requests. Suggestions included updating the FAQ and promotional materials to clarify program logistics. Ms. Tsagalis also shared that a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities expressed interest in providing a testimonial about the program's impact. The possibility of a future presentation by the Senior Citizens' Commission was also discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Commission's Intent and Purpose

1. Gain insight and discuss what issues affect the welfare of teens in our community currently.

Chair Son reviewed the Youth Commission's purpose of providing recommendations to the Village Board on matters affecting the welfare of Village youth and promoting youth programs. She encouraged members to actively share their ideas and perspectives, emphasizing that the Commission serves as a forum for youth voices and leadership within the community. She also reminded members that the Commission is driven by youth participation and input.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Announcements / Correspondence

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hafeez, seconded by Commissioner McQuade, moved to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. all concurred and the motion carried unanimously.



VILLAGE OF
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
— INC. 1887 —

Youth Commission
9/17/2026

Item: E-Bikes Informational Event for Teens
Commissioners will consider involvement in event and ways to help promote it.

Department: Health & Human Services

Item Description:

ATTACHMENTS:

None



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Youth Commission
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Item: Mental Health First Aid Training for Teens
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Department: Health & Human Services

Item Description:

ATTACHMENTS:

None



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Item: Youth Commission Guidelines for Commissioners
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Department: Health & Human Services

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ATTACHMENTS:

None