

Minutes of Meeting
Elkhart Parks and Recreation Board
Tuesday, June 9th, 2026, 6:00pm
Elkhart City Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Mary Luna Duffy, Stephanie Kaczmarczyk, Brianna Hanke, Cheyanne Sipes, Steven Seefeld (arrived @ 6:12)

Others Present: City Council Member Angie Schaffer (arrived @ 6:15), Mike Kappos

3. Approval of June 9th meeting agenda

Motion to approve the June 9th, 2026 meeting agenda, by S. Kaczmarczyk, seconded by Sipes.

Motion carried 5-0

4. Approval of May 12th Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the May 12th meeting minutes by Hanke, seconded by S. Kaczmarczyk.

Motion carried 5-0

5. Park Updates

- a. Memorial Ball Park Updates
 - i. Two members of the board plan to meet with AES to find out which property is AES' and which is the city's. The Board determined to hold off on requesting donations for Memorial Park this year.
- b. Updated Memorial Ball Park Facility Use & Rental Policy
 - i. City Administrator Wilson is going to have 3T's review & provide feedback. The Board liked the updated policy & requested approval/feedback from AES.

6. Fundraising & Grants

- a. Izzy Richmond - Girl Scout Silver Award Proposal - Planting Improvements
 - i. The Board agreed to move forward with the little library by Prairie Pointe Park located near the shelter at the sidewalk intersection. The Board requested to learn if maintenance of plants & library needs would be provided by Girl Scouts.

7. Parks Planning

- a. Community Parks & Recreation Survey Update
 - i. The Board proposed goal #1 to promote beautification within city limits. The Board agreed goal #2 would need to be revisited to include community engagement, recreation programs.

8. Parks Programs - Discussion & Planning

- a. Elkhart Days Festival - June 19th-20th
 - i. Hanke had some minor updates to complete on the community survey. The Board determined to not attend the kiddie parade & continued to finalize plans for the Parks & Recreation float. The Board's booth would be set up in the pickleball

court from 10:30am to 1:30pm & contain sidewalk chalk & bubbles for the children to play with.

- b. Summer Bingo Card
 - i. The Board approved the Bingo card proposed by Sipes.
- c. Kids Art Workshop - July Date
 - i. The Board agreed to postpone until Winter & revisit at a later time.
- d. Idea - School Supply Drive Week of Aug 8th
 - i. Drop off will be at S. Kaczmarczyk's House located at 208 NE Mandy Ave Elkhart, IA 50073. Sipes will provide an outdoor storage container for drop-off. The Board also proposed to make this a teacher's supply drive rather than a children's supply drive but will need to be revisited in July's meeting.
- e. Recaps - Yoga in the Park & Fishing Derby
 - i. The Board agreed the turnout for Yoga & Fishing Derby was great. There is some interest in a future Yoga event at the Park. Sipes is working on coordinating that event with the instructor & finding prices for a future event. DNR was satisfied with our turnout. Public Works did great with the water levels & great feedback from participants & vendors.

9. Tabled for Next Meeting

10. Adjourned - 7:52pm

Next meeting is July 14th, at 6pm at City Hall.