



CITY OF LINDEN

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH LINDEN LIBRARY BOARD:**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.

LOCATION: LOOSE SENIOR CENTER, 707 NORTH BRIDGE ST., LINDEN, MI 48451

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mike Dietz at 6:33 p.m. The meeting was held within Loose Senior Center located at 707 North Bridge Street, Linden, MI 48451.

ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Aaron Wiens, Larry Allen, Mike Dietz, Stephanie Shaw

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT: Elizabeth Armstrong, Heidi Fletcher

ABSENT: Sadie Kosin

OTHERS PRESENT: Ellen Glass, City Manager; Tessa Sweeney, Director of Senior Services & Community Engagement; Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk; Adam Young, City Planner & Zoning Administrator

a. Excuse Absent Member(s)

Dietz excused Kosin.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioners suggested additions to the agenda, city staff clarified items included. Motion by Wiens, second by Allen to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(A) November 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

Motion by Wiens, second by Allen to approve the November 20, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(A) Parks and Recreation Plan Review with Adam Young, Wade Trim

Glass explained reasoning for the joint meeting and review of the plan. Young provided a detailed overview of the current City of Linden Parks & Recreation Plan and discussed plan update process and timeline. Staff, Commissioners and Board Members discussed goals and objectives within the plan and ways groups can collaborate.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

(A) Elections of Officers

Nominations for Chairperson were opened. Wiens nominated Dietz as Chairperson, Dietz accepted. Motion by Wiens, second by Shaw to nominate Mike Dietz as Chairperson. Motion carried 4-0.

Nominations for Vice Chairperson were opened. Allen nominated Wiens as Vice Chairperson, Wiens accepted. Motion by Allen, second by Shaw to nominate Wiens as Vice Chairperson. Motion carried 4-0.

Nominations for Secretary were opened. Dietz nominated Shaw as Secretary, Shaw accepted. Motion by Dietz, second by Allen to nominate Shaw as Secretary. Motion carried 4-0.

(B) 2026 Events and Programming

Sweeney referenced and discussed ideas from the last meeting and reviewed programming options. Discussion between Staff, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Library Board and Genesee District Library (GDL) representative present about program offerings; options; interest and shared ideas. Armstrong discussed planning for America250.

The Library Board exited the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Commissioners, Staff and Tyler Carpenter, Executive Director of SLPR discussed partnering for activities and benefits; referenced program catalog; event planning for year-round and programming collaboration; and shared ideas. Staff and Commissioner discussed 2026 event schedule, share list of ideas and aligning Plan objectives and goals: Kayaking with seniors/social event, movies in the park, farmers market; path from Loose to Shiawassee Shores, walking in the parade with flyers and QR Code; owl walk, water colors, cornhole and kayaking.

(C) Bylaws and Ordinance Review

Commissioners discussed postponing this item. Further discussion with Commissioners and staff about meeting frequency and scheduling a special meeting. Staff and Commissioners discussed adding this item to the next agenda.

Motion by Allen, second by Shaw to schedule a special meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., to discuss the Parks and Recreation Commission's bylaws and ordinance. Motion carried 4-0.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Dietz at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Shaw, Secretary

Approved: _____