



MEETING AGENDA

**MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**
Tuesday, October 10, 2023
6:00 p.m.
MEMORIAL HALL – MEMORIAL BUILDING
19 E. CHICAGO AVENUE
(Tentative and Subject to Change)

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a) Approval of Minutes- April 25, 2023
 - b) Approval of Minutes- May 9, 2023
- 5. LIAISON REPORTS**
 - a) Gateway Update
- 6. MONTHLY REPORTS**
 - a) Staff Report
- 7. OLD BUSINESS**
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
- 9. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 8. OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - a) Update on Parks and Recreation Projects
 - b) 150th Sesquicentennial and Memorial Building Campaign
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

Items listed on the agenda will be discussed and considered by the Commission. The Commission welcomes public comment on the agenda items during discussion. Items recommended for Board of Trustee approval at this meeting may be referred to the Board for further consideration at their next meeting. The Village of Hinsdale is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are requested to contact Andrianna Peterson, ADA Coordinator, at 630-789-7005 to allow the Village of Hinsdale to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

Visit the Village's Web Site at www.villageofhinsdale.org

DRAFT

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

4a.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Waverley called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Alice Waverley, Commissioners Darren Baker, Chris Boruff, and Heather Hester
Absent: Commissioners Steve Keane and Greg Moore
Others Present: Christine Gebauer, 629 S Monroe St
Shane Moore, 420 N Lincoln
Liz Pedota, 415 Warren Terr
Joe Pieraninni, 411 W North St
Rosemary Rojas, 552 N Garfield Ave
Sarah Tims, 111 N Adams St
Izabela Turba, 723 S Adams St
Staff Present: Michael Hayes, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Maggie South, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes- March 14, 2023
Commissioner Boruff made a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting as presented. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. Upon the call of the roll, the vote was:
Ayes: Commissioners Baker, Boruff, and Hester and Chairman Waverley
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Keane and Moore

The motion passed.

LIAISON REPORTS

None.

MONTHLY REPORTS

- A. Staff Report
This item was postponed to the May meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bench Donation
Mr. Hayes presented the request. The Walker family is requesting to donate a plaque on an existing bench in Burlington Park. This bench is the last available bench around the fountain. Commissioner Hester made a motion to approve the bench donation request. Commissioner Boruff seconded the motion. Upon the call of the roll the vote was:
Ayes: Commissioners Baker, Boruff, and Hester and Chairman Waverley
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Keane and Moore

The motion passed.

DRAFT

CORRESPONDENCE

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Burns Playground

Mr. Hayes presented the request. Currently, the playground at Burns Field is the oldest playground in the Village and is next to be replaced. The Village has budgeted \$180,000 to replace this playground. All three playground designs are ADA compliant, although one design does feature more ADA accessible elements. This project would begin at the end of summer when the playground is less heavily used. Because staff is working through the OMNIA Public Sector state purchasing agreement, major changes to the playground equipment cannot be made, although some pieces can be altered.

Christine Gebauer, 629 S Monroe St in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. She would like to see more spinning and sensory elements incorporated into the playground designs, as well as keeping the sand area and fencing around the playground

Izabela Turba, 723 N Adams St in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. She would like to see more ninja-style obstacles added to a future playground.

Morgan Howe, 317 N Garfield St in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. She would like to see the sand elements preserved as well as the fence and would like elements for different ages combined.

Timothy Rooney, 609 N Grant St in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. He would like to see additional toddler swings, a poured in place surface, and a sand area.

Liz Pedota, 415 Warren Terrace in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. She would also like to see fencing, a poured in place surface, and additional swings.

Rosemary Rojas, 552 N Garfield Ave in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. She would like to see a poured in place surface, additional swings, fencing, more sensory elements, and additional elements added to the toddler area.

Sarah Tims, 111 N Adams St in Hinsdale provided feedback on the proposed designs. She would like to see a higher, straighter slide and prefers a taller playground structure.

Overall, the members of the public were in favor of brighter colors for the new playground equipment. Mr. Hayes and members of staff will work with the playground company to put together an updated design incorporating the feedback from the public and will bring it to the May meeting.

B. Next Meeting – May 9, 2023

The next meeting is scheduled for May 9.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hester seconded the motion. Upon the call of the roll, the vote was:

Ayes: Commissioners Baker, Boruff, and Hester and Chairman Waverley

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Keane and Moore

The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.

Attest: _____
Maggie South, Administrative Assistant

**MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, May 9, 2023
6:00 p.m.
MEMORIAL HALL – MEMORIAL BUILDING
19 E. CHICAGO AVENUE
(Tentative and Subject to Change)**

DRAFT

4b.

CALL TO ORDER

Present:

Chairman Alice Waverley, Commissioners
Chris Boruff, Heather Hester, Steve Keane,
and Pat Rooney

Absent:

Commissioners Darren Baker and Greg Moore

Others Present:

None

Staff Present:

Alex Snyder, Management Analyst
Michael Hayes, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Hilary Poshek, Recreation Supervisor
Maggie South, Administrative Assistant

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes- April 25, 2023

This item was tabled until the July meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. April SRA Report

Mr. Hayes presented the report. 23 Hinsdale residents participated in Winter/Spring Gateway programs, meaning Hinsdale has the second most participants in the SRA. Mr. Hayes described the way the costs are split between the communities. Mr. Hayes provided a background on Gateway SRA for the Commissioners.

MONTHLY REPORTS

A. Staff Report

Mr. Hayes presented the report. Staff is currently offering 325 recreation programs, including 30 new programs. Pool memberships are currently on sale. This summer, staff plans to offer three Lunch on the Lawn and Movie in the Park events, as well as the annual Fourth of July parade. Mr. Hayes will work to bring forward a formal budget update at the July meeting. Mr. Hayes and the Commission also discussed the social media and marketing strategies for the Department. Mr. Hayes provided a parks maintenance update and an update on Phase 3 at the pool. The Commission discussed the report and pool staffing for the summer.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Burns Playground

Mr. Hayes provided updated renderings of the Burns Playground. The new renderings include the sandbox, an added swing, inclusive climbing structure, and an updated toddler

DRAFT

structure with more sensory panels. Staff was able to address most of the requests from the public in this concept. The Commission discussed the plans. The Commission was in favor of the new playground design in a brighter blue and green color palette. Mr. Hayes and the Commission discussed the timeline for replacing the playground.

Commissioner Boruff made a motion to recommend the replacement playground design to the Village Board of Trustees. Commissioner Keane seconded the motion. Upon the call of the roll, the vote was:

Ayes: Commissioners Boruff, Hester, Keane, and Rooney

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Baker and Moore

The motion carried.

B. Next Meeting: July 18, 2023

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Rooney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm. Commissioner Hester seconded the motion. Upon the call of the roll, the vote was:

Ayes: Commissioners Boruff, Hester, Keane, and Rooney

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Baker and Moore

The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

ATTEST:

Maggie South, Administrative Assistant



Gateway SRA Board Meeting
September 19, 2023
RGA Report



5a.

August 2023

Summer 2023

Fall 2023

District	Registered Participants	Number of Programs
Burr Ridge	4	22
Elmhurst	55	235
Hinsdale	23	96
Oak Brook	8	31
Pleasant Dale	4	8
Willowbrook	5	11
Westchester	6	20
Countryside	1	4
York Center	0	0
Non-resident	11	29
Total	117	456

District	Registered Participants	Number of Programs
Burr Ridge	4	24
Elmhurst	65	291
Hinsdale	23	140
Oak Brook	8	49
Pleasant Dale	3	5
Willowbrook	6	10
Westchester	6	19
Countryside	2	4
York Center	0	0
Non-resident	9	33
Total	126	575

Fall 2023 Program Line Up (Dates: September 11 – January 5)

- 22 weekly programs (Youth and Adult)
- Gators Athletics – Bowling, Volleyball, Basketball, Swim Team
- 12 Special Events
- 1 – 2-week winter break camp (December 27-29 & January 3-5)

Gateway Vehicles Update as of 9/13/2023

Vehicle #	Type	Year	Mileage	Maintenance	Plans
283	Paratransit Bus Ford E450 15p + WC	2016	55,963	None	Lease Ends August 2023
298	15p Ford Transit	2019	12,570	None (Yet)	None
312	15p Ford Transit	2023	2,348	None	None

Vehicles:

Needs: (1) 15 Passenger W/C assessible Bus

Ongoing Discussion & Updates:

- *Still waiting on figures from Midwest in regard to leasing 2 new para transit bus for July 2024

Leisure Education

- Elmhurst D205 interested in 1 day a week art therapy classes to start in October

Upcoming PR Events

- Oak Brook Park District Fall Festival – September 23

Continue to send Ryan events where "Gateway SRA" can be represented.

Upcoming Events for September Events

- Special Olympic State Softball Tournament
- Parents Night Out
- Country Line Apple Picking
- Disco Fever Dance with NEDSRA
- Chicago Fire Game

August Highlights

Summer Day Camp (Dates: June 12 – August 5)

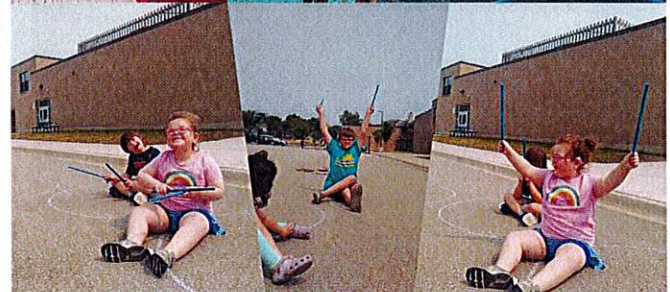
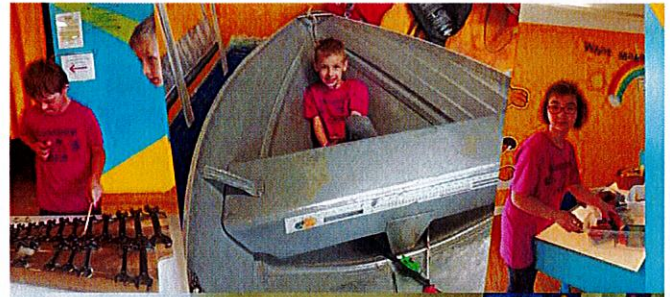
- Ended with 47 campers
- Kid Crocs (Elmhurst) & Get Up and Go (Hinsdale) & Gator Group (Elmhurst)
- Pools days, field trips, special guests, bounce houses, foam parties and MORE!

Kid Crocs Ages: 5-13	Registered Campers
Elmhurst	17
Hinsdale	1
Westchester	1
Non-Resident	1
Total	20

Get Up & Go Ages: 14-22	Registered Campers
Burr Ridge	2
Countryside	1
Oak Brook	2
Hinsdale	4
Westchester	1
Willowbrook	1
Total	11

Gator Group Ages: 14-22	Registered Campers
Elmhurst	16
Total	16









loa.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 10, 2023

TO: Chairman Waverley and Members of the Parks & Recreation Commission

FROM: Michael Hayes, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; CPRP, CPO

RE: Summer Staff Report

Recreation Supervisor

Todd Linder's first day with the Parks and Recreation Department was August 28th. Todd is replacing Hilary Poshek who resigned her position in July to begin a new career outside of the recreation field. Todd has a vast amount of knowledge in aquatics, events, and programming from working at the Bensenville Parks District.

Upcoming Brochure & Activities

The fall/winter brochure was posted on July 31st. Registration for residents and non-residents began on August 7th. This season, the Department is offering 287 recreation programs, including 30 new programs. New programs include some cooperative adult and senior programs to ensure equitable programming opportunities across all age groups. Our Breakfast with Santa and Lunch with Santa events are already sold out and have waitlists.

The winter/spring brochure is scheduled to be posted on November 27th and registration begins December 4th. In the Athletics portion for the winter/spring brochure one of the classes we are increasing is Ultimate Ninja (formerly Windy City Ninja). We have grown our class offerings now to include adult and early childhood Ninja classes.

Summer Special Events

This summer, staff offered our regular annual special events, including Lunch on the Lawn and Movies in the Park. This summer's Movies in the Park were Encanto at Robbins Park in June, The Santa Clause at the Pool in July, and Despicable Me at Robbins Park in July. Lunch on the Lawn acts this summer were Jeanie B! and the Jelly Beans, Miss Jamie's Farm, and Magic of Gary Kantor. Unplug and Play was scheduled to be held in July at Burlington Park, but was cancelled due to inclement weather.



MEMORANDUM

The 2023 Fourth of July Parade and Festival was one of our largest yet, with 80 different entries participating. Staff booked additional acts to celebrate the Village's 150th Anniversary, including the Jesse White Tumblers and the Oscar Meyer Frankmobile. These entries were well received by the community and added to the celebratory nature of the parade and the sesquicentennial celebrations. Staff also added some different carnival games and inflatables to the Festival, which were well received as well.

Upcoming Fall Special Events

The Hinsdale Family Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 14th in Burlington Park. This event will be held in partnership with The Community House, The Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce, The Hinsdalean, and the Hinsdale Public Library. The new location will bring Fall Fest in closer proximity to the Police and Fire Open House. This event will include free pumpkins for the first 500 attendees, inflatables, a costume contest, pictures with The Hinsdalean, giveaways, food vendors, and trick or treating in the downtown business district. Our premier sponsor is Paul Mancini with @properties. We also currently have 4 food vendors and 6 event sponsors. Chicago Tent has agreed to sponsor our event bags that we will hand out to the kids.

Holiday events will include Breakfast and Pizza with Santa on Saturday, December 2nd at The Lodge and Winter Wonderland on Sunday, December 3rd at KLM Park. Staff also plans to offer the popular Letters from Santa program again this year and will accept letters December 1st through December 8th.

The Fall T-Ball

T-Ball registration closed on Friday, August 11th with 108 participants enrolled in the program. There are total of 10 teams for the Fall season. For reference, the Spring of 2023 league saw 97 participants for 10 teams and Fall of 2022 also saw 10 teams with 115 participants registered. Salt Creek Ballet has provided a sponsorship of \$800.00 for the league as well. The Fall T-Ball League season runs on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. at various Hinsdale parks. The first two weeks are practices, followed by four weeks of games – for a total of six weeks. The program is slated to begin on Saturday, September 9, and is scheduled to conclude on Saturday, October 14 (weather permitting).



MEMORANDUM

Social Media Update

Below is a comparison of analytics from posts on the Village's Parks & Recreation Facebook page from spring to summer. Staff continues to actively create content to market programs and KLM.

KLM Paid Reach (Number of people who viewed posts)

March 5 – June 2 (829)
June 3 – August 31 (1,400)

KLM Engagement (Number of people who liked, shared or commented on posts)

March 5 – June 2 (42)
June 3 – August 31 (148)

Parks & Recreation Paid Reach (Number of people who viewed posts)

March 5 – June 2 (14,300)
June 3 – August 31 (15,500)

Parks & Recreation Engagement (Number of people who liked, shared or commented on posts)

March 5 – June 2 (661)
June 3 – August 31 (815)

Parks Maintenance Summer Highlights

- **Contractual Maintenance**
 - **Landscape Maintenance and Mowing**
 - Mowing and maintenance is on-going.
 - **Summer Weekend Parks Bathroom and Garbage Maintenance**
 - The Village's contractor continued weekend and holiday garbage disposal for Village Parks and the Central Business District.
- **General Park Maintenance**
 - **Bathrooms and Picnic Shelters (Six Sites – 12 Bathrooms, & 3 Picnic Shelters)**
 - Cleaned Monday – Friday
 - **Landscape Maintenance**
 - Brush areas in Ehret Park and Brush Hill were cut back
- **Athletics**
 - 25 athletic fields have been laid out and will be lined weekly through June
 - 23 soccer fields
 - 2 lacrosse fields

MEMORANDUM

- The Veeck Park softball field has been raked, screened and chalked twice per week in preparation for league play.
- The sand volleyball courts at Burns Field and Dietz Park were raked, cleaned and new nets installed
- Other
 - Staff set up for the Swim Club Meet
 - Staff cleaned sand pits in playgrounds and raked playground mulch areas
 - Staff installed the sunshades at Veeck Park playground
 - Staff repaired nets at Brook Park and Burns Field
 - Staff repaired bleachers at Veeck Park
 - Staff assisted in responding to tree damage from multiple windstorms
 - A new wind net was installed at Burns Field Tennis courts (**SEE PICTURE BELOW**)

Wind Net Burns Field



Summer Volunteers

This summer we had two volunteers help support the Parks Department. Below are some pictures from trash collection at KLM and garden work at Eleanor's Park. Eleanor's Park was completed as an Eagle Scout project by Faris Siddiqui where he turned the garden into a pollinator garden.

Trash Collection at KLM



Village of Hinsdale, Illinois-
Government

...

2d · 🌐

🌟 Grateful for an Amazing Team of
Volunteers! 🌟

... See more



Faris Siddiqui and Public Services Working on Pollinator Garden



MEMORANDUM

Faris Siddiqui





MEMORANDUM

Hinsdale Community Pool

The 2023 season officially ended on Labor Day. Staff will be starting to winterize the facility over the next several weeks. Staff received compliments on the condition of the facility. We will be conducting a municipal survey that is sent out to 182 Illinois Aquatic facilities regarding pool operations. The survey covers wages, staffing levels, staff incentives and also includes questions regarding pool operations. Several operational adjustments were made this year to enhance safety. Once we close out the 2023 operating budget, staff will present a formal aquatic operational report and financial report from Assistant Village Manager / Director of Finance, Carrie Dittman.

KLM Lodge August Update

In August, KLM Lodge hosted 4 weddings, a celebration of life event, a memorial for a veteran officer, a family reunion and a law enforcement training camp. School District 102 spent the day at The Lodge for their staff team building to prepare for back to school. KLM also hosted the annual Tommy's Camp, a multi-day bereavement camp for children who suffered the loss of a loved one.

Staff continues to work towards renting the facility on any remaining open days in our 2023 calendar with targeted postings on social media for corporate meetings, memorials and special events.



Staff also continued outreach with local churches and included KLM information in the weekly eHinsdale newsletter. Memorial bookings have increased, are well attended and continue to fill open weekday dates. Below are some pictures from August events.

Street Police Training



KLM Reception



August Analytics

Lodge Staff

- Fielded 45 inquiries for events
- 21 Lodge tours to potential clients and booked 5
- Currently booking for 2023-24 calendar
 - 34 booked events January-December 2024

Lodge Events

- 4 Weddings
- 1 Non-profit Day Camp
- 1 Family Reunion
- 2 corporate/school district meetings
- 2 Memorials
- Over 1000 people in attendance throughout the month
- 5 preferred catered events

Leads

- Website: 30
- The Knot/Wedding Wire: 15

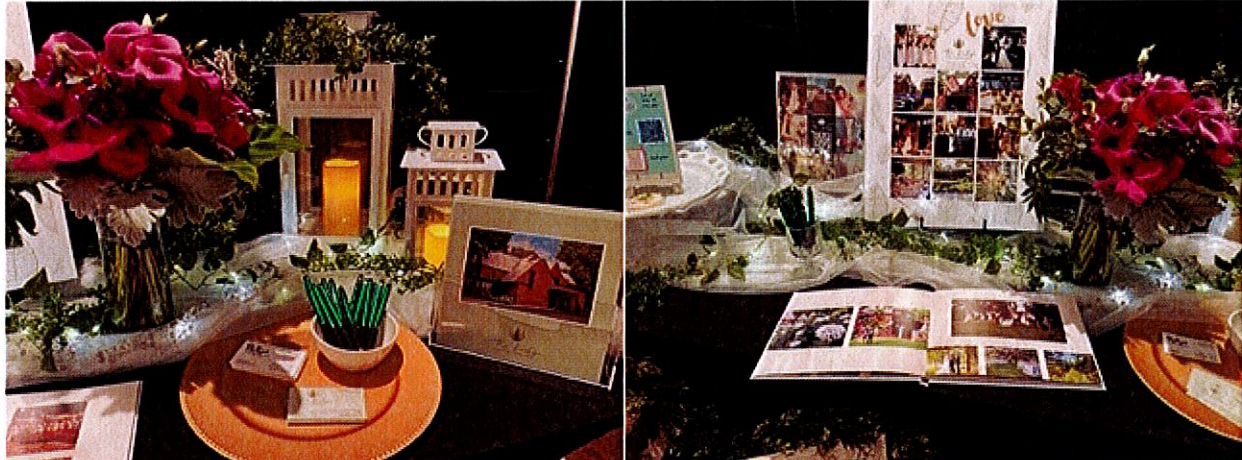
KLM Lodge September Update

In September, KLM Lodge hosted 7 weddings, 2 celebration of life events, a police forum hosted by IRMA and a fundraising event. The Violet Foundation hosted their first annual fundraising walk and auction to raise money for pediatric cancer. The event was well attended, bringing an opportunity for future clients and relationship building for KLM.

Staff also exhibited at Luxury Bridal Expo Chicago in Oak Brook which had well over 200 attendees. The Lodge display featured a photo book of the venue and events, an email signup list, photo displays and giveaway items with the KLM Lodge logo. Phillips flowers created a bridal bouquet and was featured as a floral vendor for The Lodge. We made connections with potential clients looking for a venue as well as networked with the other vendors exhibiting.

Staff is in the process of conducting a comparison study of similar facilities in the area, evaluating KLM operations and fees. More information will be provided as it develops.

Luxury Bridal Expo Chicago in Oak Brook





MEMORANDUM

September Analytics

Lodge Staff

- Fielded over 50 inquiries from potential new clients
- Gave 18 Lodge tours to potential clients and booked 6

Lodge Events

- 7 Weddings
- 1 fundraiser
- 1 corporate meeting
- 2 Memorials
- Over 1500 in attendance throughout the month
- 6 preferred catered events

Leads

- Website: 35
- The Knot/Wedding Wire: 9

Reviews (16)



Get reviews from your clients

Reviews are critical when it comes time to choose a vendor. Encourage your past clients to leave a review about their experience with your business.

[Request reviews](#)

4.6

out of 5.0
★★★★★



Quality of service
★★★★★ 4.7



Professionalism
★★★★★ 4.7



Flexibility
★★★★★ 4.6



Value
★★★★★ 4.7



Average response time
★★★★★ 4.6

16 Reviews



Michelle L., married on 09/16/2023

★★★★★ 5.0

Beautiful venue

All the staff we interacted with were very professional and kind. The venue is beautiful! We appreciated that we were able to drop some things off the day before.



Sent on 09/17/2023

DONATE NOW



HINSDALE
SESQUICENTENNIAL

1873 2023

HINSDALE 150:
Memorial Building
Historic Plaza and Roof Railing
CAMPAIGN

DONATE NOW



SCAN

villageofhinsdale.org/150



Dear Valued Community Member:

To commemorate the Village of Hinsdale's 150th anniversary, we are excited to announce our mission to have Hinsdale's Historic Memorial Building undergo a vital renovation and restoration for future generations to enjoy.

On behalf of the Village of Hinsdale, we are asking the community to come together to help us revitalize and restore this meaningful space by participating in Hinsdale's newly launched **Hinsdale 150: Memorial Building Historic Plaza and Roof Railing Campaign**. People and Businesses like you make up the strong fabric of our community - that's why we are reaching out to you today.

Campaign

In 1927, the Memorial Building was built to honor Hinsdaleans who served in our wars and as a tribute to those brave soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Funding to build this notable memorial was based solely on donations from generous Hinsdaleans. This historic landmark is the centerpiece of our Village, situated at the heart of Hinsdale, atop a hill that has served as our natural front lawn for nearly 100 years.

Our goal is to **REVITALIZE** the building's historic outdoor plaza. This valued plaza serves as a gathering space for library programs, the farmers market, Uniquely Thursday events, 4th of July celebrations, and other Village festivities.

Our goal is also to **RESTORE** the building's historic Chippendale Roof Railing, a distinctive frame feature that graced this structure for decades before being removed due to deterioration. This historical railing was part of the building's original Colonial Revival design.

Donation Levels

Hinsdale is known for its volunteer spirit and the remarkable achievements that can be realized when a community comes together. Nearly 100 years in, we are now asking the community to come together again to bring these renovations to light.

Every donation will have a powerful impact. To **DONATE**, please visit our website at <http://www.villageofhinsdale.org/150>. Here you will find various sponsorship levels and directions on how to make a tax-deductible cash, check or credit card donation.

Thank You

Thank you in advance for your donation and commitment to our community. You are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tom Cauley
Hinsdale Village President and the
Hinsdale Village Board of Trustees

HONOR • COMMUNITY • TRIBUTE

An American flag is draped diagonally across the left side of the page, showing the stars and stripes.

DONATION LEVEL

Our Levels

Leadership: \$10,000 and above

Benefactor: \$5,000 - \$9,999

Partner: \$1,000 - \$4,999

Supporter: \$500 - \$999

Patron: \$250 - \$499

Friend: \$249 and under

Donations of \$5,000 or above

- Recognition at the plaza commemoration ceremony
- Name included on a plaque, Village website, and in The Hinsdalean
- Display of support through a yard/window sign

Donations below \$5,000

- Inclusion on the Village website, and in The Hinsdalean
- Display of support through a yard/window sign

HISTORY OF THE MEMORIAL BUILDING

A patriotic ceremony was held on July 4, 1928 to dedicate the newly completed Hinsdale Memorial Building. The Memorial Building was built to honor the men from Hinsdale who served in the wars, a tribute particularly to those who went out from the Village and did not return. Mr. Philip R. Clarke, Chairman of the Hinsdale Memorial Building Committee, appreciated that the project must be community-wide in order to truly express the gratitude and civic pride of the Village. It was unanimously agreed that the memorial should take the form of a functional building, rather than an unserviceable monument. To erect a building to serve, and honor those who served, impressed the Committee as an utmost tribute to the memory of their heroes. In April 1927, the plans of architect Edwin H. Clark for the new Hinsdale Memorial Building at 19 E. Chicago Avenue, were accepted at a Village meeting, and a drive began to raise the \$150,000 needed to pay for the project. Ninety percent of the funds needed were raised by the end of the first week.

Architect George Maher noted the building's hilltop location as Hinsdale's "natural front yard."

The design of the building is reportedly based on Philadelphia's Independence Hall. The Memorial Building originally housed a number of rooms for local organizations, the Village offices, and the Public Library. Also, the foyer at the heart of the building, "the shrine of memory," contains a commemorative work by noted sculptor Oskar Hansen. The Memorial Building has always stood, both literally and figuratively, at the heart of Hinsdale.

The brick, 2 ½ story structure is a fine example of Colonial Revival design. A classic cornice above the second story windows on the original building is decorated with modillions and moldings. Four columns with ornate capitals support a central pedimented pavilion on the south (primary) elevation. Bedford stone sills and lintels define the windows and form two belt-courses around the building. Large, multi-paned windows in the central pavilion of the north elevation have round-arched tops. The building also has a tall Colonial Revival cupola that contains a clock tower.

The Village Board designated the property as a Historic Landmark on February 6, 2001 by adopting Ordinance O2001-6, making the Memorial Building the first local Historic Landmark in the Village.



Memorial Building honors past, present

Community drive in 1927 raises funds to build structure that serves as living tribute

By Sandy Illian Bosch
news@thehinsdalean.com

The stately brick structure known as the Memorial Building sits atop a hill in the heart of Hinsdale. Built nearly a century ago as a standing, living tribute to those who fought in the first World War, it serves as a hub for the workings of the entire village.

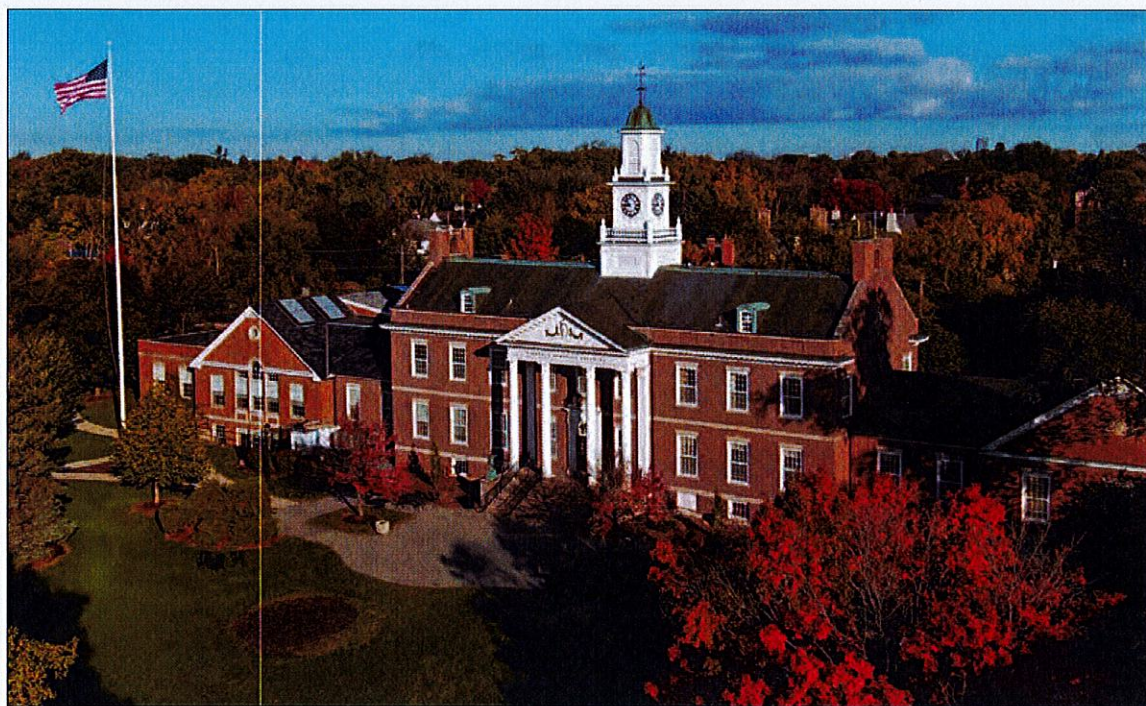
After a call to action from the editor of The Doings newspaper in 1927, the community quickly came together to form the Hinsdale Memorial Building Committee. The committee of Hinsdaleans designed the plan for the building and went door to door in an effort to raise the \$150,000 needed to see the plan to fruition.

In less than a week, the goal was nearly met, and as the story goes, donations were obtained from all but two Hinsdale residents. In the end, Hinsdaleans contributed \$171,000, resulting in the building that today serves as Hinsdale's Village Hall and houses the Hinsdale Public Library, HCS Family Services and the American Legion.

The building was dedicated on Independence Day, 1928. Its rotunda, whose official name is "The Shrine of Memory," features a marble sculpture titled "The Victory of Hinsdale" and a plaque listing the names of those from the village who died in the military service of the country.

As promised in the original village proclamation accepting the gift of the Memorial Building from the people of Hinsdale, the building offers a permanent home, free from rent, to the American Legion and HCS Family Services, known in 1927 as the Hinsdale Nursing and Relief Association. While the proclamation makes the same promise to the American Legion Auxiliary and the Girl and Boy Scouts, those organizations no longer occupy space in the Memorial Building, said Bethany Salmon, village planner and Hinsdale Historic Preservation Commission liaison.

Like Hinsdale itself, the



The Memorial Building, dedicated on July 4, 1928, has served as a symbol of the village for almost 100 years.

building has grown over the years. Since its completion in 1928, the Memorial Building has undergone several additions and renovations. According to the village website, the east wing was constructed in 1969, and the west wing in 1974. The northwest addition, housing the library, was built in 1989.

Molly Castor, former marketing and outreach manager at the library, said the library had several homes throughout the village before moving to the Memorial Building in 1929, where it has remained for 94 years. The library now occupies 30,000 square feet of space on the building's west side.

"We love being the building on top of the hill," Castor said.

The building's east side serves as the hub for the workings of the village. It is home to village administrators along with the parks and recreation, finance, community development, engineering and information technology departments. Meetings of the village board, plan commission and other governmental bodies are

held in Memorial Hall on the building's first floor.

Salmon has worked in the building for more than two years. She said the Memorial Building is a busy place, and despite the option to pay bills by mail or online, Salmon said many residents choose to visit the village offices to settle their water bill, obtain a building permit or buy a vehicle sticker.

"There's still significant pride in this building," Salmon said.

The building's walkability to downtown and proximity to the library encourages visitors and allow employees like herself to easily enjoy a visit to the weekly farmer's market or Burlington Park.

Salmon said that through its many changes and additions, great care has been taken to retain architect Edwin H. Clarke's original vision for the building, which was declared a local historic landmark in 2001 by the Hinsdale Historic Preservation Committee.

While most Hinsdaleans have likely entered the Memorial Building at one time or another, Salmon said

additions were built in the 1950s, 1970s and late 1980s. (photo for The Hinsdalean by Yannis Arvanitis)

there are details within its walls that are not often seen.

The upstairs area known as the "Scout room" is now used by HCS Family Services, but its walls still boast murals that beckon back to the room's original purpose, Salmon said.

Another little-known detail can be found on the bell inside the building's bell tower. It is inscribed with a dedication to the village's war heroes, dated July 4, 1929. Salmon said getting those bells ringing again is on the wish list of more than a few Hinsdale residents.

Just as the citizens of Hinsdale came together to build the original building, village leaders of today have announced Hinsdale's 150 Memorial Building Historic Plaza and Roof Railing Campaign. This fundraising effort will result in restoration of the building's original roof railing and a renewed patio area to the south of the building, commonly seen as the front of the building. The patio area will continue to welcome library patrons in search of a relaxing spot to enjoy a book, and it will serve

■ QUINTESSENTIAL HINSDALE

This is the another in a series of stories on places that make Hinsdale the town it is.

as a spot for planned events and community gatherings.

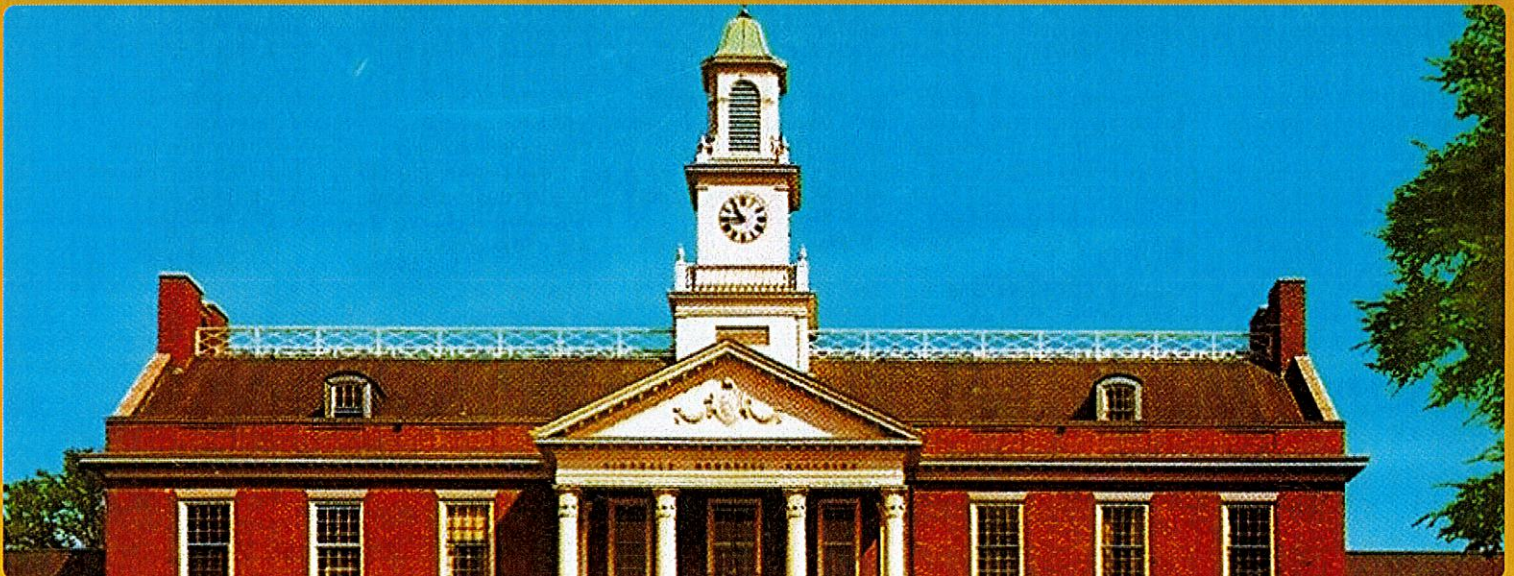
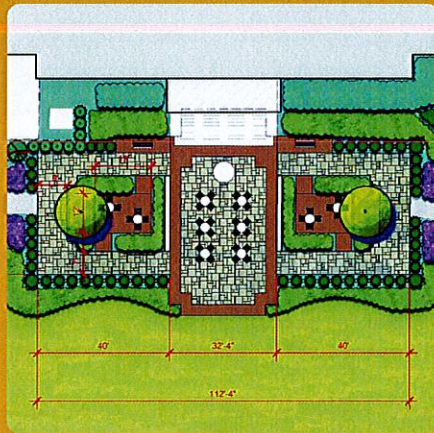
Andrianna Peterson, assistant village manager, said five donation levels are available to residents and friends of Hinsdale who would like to be part of the campaign. More information can be found at www.villageofhinsdale.org/150.

"To commemorate Hinsdale's 150th anniversary and in honor of our service members, we are asking the community to come together to help renew the Memorial Building Plaza, which has served as Hinsdale's natural front yard for nearly 100 years," Village President Tom Cauley said in a prepared statement. "This endeavor will further the legacy of the Memorial Building, which was originally funded by Hinsdaleans seeking to honor those who made the greatest sacrifice for our nation."

RENDERINGS



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN – SUBJECT TO FUNDING



PROPOSED RESTORATION PLAN – SUBJECT TO FUNDING

SAMPLE TAX DEDUCTION FORM



_____, 2023

[INSERT DONOR NAME AND ADDRESS]

Re: Acknowledgement of Cash Donation

Dear _____:

The Village of Hinsdale, an Illinois municipal corporation, (the “Village”) would like to thank you for the donation of \$ received by the Village on , 2023. No goods or services were exchanged in return for your cash donation. The Village's EIN number is 36-6005930.

Your donation was made to the Village for a public purpose and is tax deductible under Internal Revenue Code Section 170(c)(1).

VILLAGE OF HINSDALE, ILLINOIS

By: _____

Alison Brothen, Finance Director

Village of Hinsdale
19 East Chicago Avenue
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521-3431
(630) 789-7000

HOW TO DONATE

FOUR EASY WAYS:

- Pay Online by scanning the QR Code
- Cash - walk-in or use dropbox - include form below
- Checks - payable to the Village of Hinsdale at 19 E. Chicago Ave - include form below
- Credit card over the phone - call (630) 789-7005

ADDRESS

19 E. Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale, Illinois 60521

CONTACT

(630) 789-7005

150@villageofhinsdale.org

villageofhinsdale.org/150

DONATE NOW



Give back to your community with a tax-deductible donation below.

Individual/Family/Business: _____

Address: _____

Category: ☐ Plaza ☐ Roof Railing ☐ Plaza and Roof Railing

Donation Amount: _____ ☐ Keep my donation recognition anonymous

Method of Payment (Circle One): Credit Card Check Cash

Credit card payments may be taken over the phone. Checks made payable to the Village of Hinsdale.

SIGNATURE: _____

The Village is planning a future donation phase dedicated to the renovation of the interior of the Memorial Building, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2028.