

Nyack Park Commission Meeting Minutes March 2025

Members in attendance:

Jim Willcox

Andrea DeVitto

Minerva Parker

Meeting held March 3, 2025 at 6:00 pm (virtual)

Points of Discussion:

1. **New Parks Commissioner Members:** The Parks Commission will be looking to add at least two additional members to fill vacant slots. Prospective members must reside within the village of Nyack. Jim will reach out to the mayor and village administrator for recommendations before conducting a broader outreach.
2. **Penguin Plunge.** Happened over the weekend, bitterly cold. There was a loud boom that caused questions on social media, with some believing it to be a cannon at the event.
3. **Issues in the park.** During some unseasonably warm weather, there were a lot of after-hours activities in the marina and Memorial Park. Andrea said that cars were again racing up and down Burd Street and into the marina parking lot. Cars aren't stopping at the stop signs. There was a collision there a month or two ago when a car blew past the stop sign and hit another car, pushing it into the Spear Street café. Andrea has taken videos of the cars revving their engines and racing up and down the street. She also said that a resident on Piermont Avenue has a video of two cars blocking the intersection of Piermont and Main Street so motorcycles could race in groups down Piermont. On Saturday, motorcycles raced around all day and night, coming to the end of the block and then speeding from the stop sign through the parking lot. Andrea sent a message to village trustee Joe Carlin, and residents at the Cleremont have gathered signatures on a petition and were supposed to meet with the Orangetown traffic calming committee. The Parks Commission will send a memo to the village, noting that this is likely a precursor to what will happen again once the warmer weather arrives. The village needs the Orangetown police to regularly patrol the area in the marina and enforce the codes and make regular swings through Memorial Park to remove after-hours visitors.
4. Stop sign at the corner of Hudson and Piermont in front of the Historical Society building. Although this isn't a Parks Commission issue per se, it is a dangerous crossing into and out of the park. The stop sign on Piermont heading south is often obscured by

trees and bushes, so cars and bicycles often don't see it or fail to stop (especially bicyclists traveling at relatively fast speeds). It is also an issue, as the stop sign in the opposite direction is a considerable distance away, located in front of the American Legion Hall, and cars often fail to stop at it. It is recommended that the village or library trim or cut back the bushes, so the stop sign is clearly visible and perhaps consider an alternative to the stop sign in front of the American Legion hall.

5. Labyrinth in Memorial Park. Nancy Selover has met several times with the Parks Commission to discuss the possibility of installing a labyrinth in the park. She has sent a few documents to the Parks Commission with various designs. The main issues for the Commission are its size, location, and whether it would be a permanent installation or a pop-up that could be dismantled. It was suggested that she make a short proposal to the Village Board. The Parks Commission has no objection per se, but it should be considered in light of other proposed amenities for the park, given the limited space available.
6. Feeding ducks and geese. This remains a popular activity, but people continue to use bread, despite signs warning that it is actually unhealthy for the birds. Suggestions include enhancing public outreach through social media, as well as making healthier food options available in the park, either via food truck vendors or vending machines.

Meeting ends 7:00 p.m.