

October/November 2025 Nyack Parks Commission Meeting

Jim Willcox
Andrea DeVitto
Minerva Parker
Joe Carlin, Village Board Liaison

Meeting (virtual) starts at 6:30 pm

NY Forward: Jim mentioned that the projects for the NY Forward grant have now been finalized by the village, and the recommendations have been submitted to New York State. The state will then select the projects that will receive funding. Joe noted that the village will likely have to float a bond to cover the cost, and the state will then reimburse the village.

One key proposal is for the village to repair the bulkhead at the former River Club property and then build a restaurant in that space. Once constructed, the village will then seek to lease the restaurant, thereby restoring a waterfront presence in the village. It would also have bathroom facilities for marina slip renters. All the commissioners were strongly in favor of the project, with the hope that some clearing of the property could occur in the spring, allowing it to be used for the 2026 season, perhaps with picnic tables and food trucks.

Jim asked if the bulkhead construction would affect any of the marina slip holders. If so, they should be notified early. Joe will check with Ann Marie Trsty to see.

The commissioners also hope to be involved in some of the planning of the new restaurant and amenities.

Joe believes that the final decision about which projects will be funded will be made in April 2026.

4th of July: Joe revealed that the 4th of July fireworks in Nyack will be on July 3rd in 2026, due to cost savings on not having them on the 4th itself. He also mentioned that the village would like to have a longer fireworks display, but it depends on the size of the barge used for launching. There's hope the village will be able to use the larger barge.

There was some discussion if the work on the new waterfront walkway would interfere with the fireworks viewing, though it would only affect the area closest to the river between the bridge over the inlet and the viewing platform near the brook. It is unclear if the gazebo itself will be affected.

Joe will discuss with the village administrators the possible effect that the construction will have.

Shoreline Project: There was a question about whether the plan has been finalized and when construction will start. Joe will check with Ann Marie. Several meetings have been held, and a final choice of three different plans was presented. Not sure if the final decisions on furniture choices have been made.

Boat Ramp in the Marina: Jim mentioned that there had been some discussion about the village closing the boat ramp next season, except for some opening and closing days to allow slip

renters to get their boats in and out. It was suggested that the commission reach out to the mayor and village administrator to discuss before any decisions are made.

Parks checklist. Several years ago, the Parks Commission had developed a park checklist of maintenance and repair items that the village should be aware of. The idea was to resurface the idea and see if the village thought it helpful. It was acknowledged that the village has been doing a significantly better job of maintaining the park and its facilities than it was several years ago.

Exercise machines in Memorial Park. The village administrator reached out after receiving a request to install outdoor exercise equipment in the park. The commission would like to receive more information about the types of equipment and the exact location. It appears that the area just outside the south side of the basketball courts would be a possible location; however, the commission noted that there have been several other suggestions for that same spot, ranging from pickleball courts to a horseshoe pit. Minerva also said there had been a request for seating for those watching basketball games. More discussions are to be had, Jim noted, as they are common in Korea and Japan, with many elderly people using them daily.

Baseball Backstop. Once again, a question about keeping the backstop or removing it. There had been considerable previous discussion on how much it is used, and that it also provides a barrier, stopping balls from entering the children's playground and possibly the splash pad.

Security force. We've been seeing posts on Facebook that people feel the downtown area has improved. The question was whether the situation in the marina has improved, and how the security's interactions with people partying and racing in the marina have gone. Joe said it's too soon to tell, but it would be good to get feedback from the security team.

Marina Gates. Closely related, the village is considering adding gates to the marina parking lot entrance to prevent after-hours activities. Additionally, consider blocking off the entrance from Spear Street, installing speed and/or security cameras, and adding speed bumps to discourage racing on Burd Street.

The meeting ends at 7:20.