



Village of Hanover Park Administration

Municipal Building
2121 West Lake Street, Hanover Park, IL 60133
630-823-5600 tel 630-823-5786 fax

hpil.org

Village President
Rodney S. Craig

Village Clerk
Kristy Merrill

Trustees
Troy Albuck
Yasmeen Bankole
Jenni Broccolino
Liza Gutierrez
Jon Kunkel
Herb Porter

Interim Village Manager
Courtney Sage

VILLAGE OF HANOVER PARK HISTORIC COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

2121 W Lake Street, Room 212, Hanover Park, IL

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Acceptance of Agenda
3. Presentations/Reports – none
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4-a. Motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 26, 2026, as presented.
 - 4-b. Motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 23, 2026, as presented.
5. Townhall

People wishing to address the public body must register prior to the Call to Order. Please note that public comment is limited to 5 minutes per speaker.
6. Old Business
 - 6-a. Historic Preservation of Photographs. Ongoing
 - 6-b. Historic Preservation/Organizing Documents/Items of Historical Significance – ongoing
 - 6-c. Historic Timeline of the Village. See attached. Ongoing
 - 6-d. Identify structures of historical significance, including Sears & Montgomery Ward Catalog homes built in Hanover Park. See attached. Ongoing

6-h. 2026 Heritage Plaque Program. Discussion on properties to be considered for selection.

7. Action Items:

7-a. Need a decision on 2026 Heritage Marker recipients. Previously discussed properties included the Illinois Pet Cemetery located at 6N347 County Farm Road and the residence located at 27W024 Ontarioville Road.

8. New Business

8-a. Board Liaison Update

8-b. Staff Liaison Update

- Upcoming 2026 meetings:

July 28, August 25, September 22, and October 27

*** No meetings in November and December.

8-c. Committee Members Update

9. Adjournment



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VILLAGE OF HANOVER PARK HISTORIC COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING
2121 W Lake Street, Room 212, Hanover Park, IL

Tuesday, May 26, 2026
6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Chairman Irene Walther called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT: Members: Trustee Liza Gutierrez, Chairman Irene Walther, Member Lisa Mueller, Member Erika Griesemer, and Member Maria Woerle

ABSENT: Members: Member Ken Carlson

VILLAGE OFFICER: Officer Kevin Pini, Director Shubhra Govind

STAFF

PRESENT:

GUESTS:

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Member Griesemer made a motion to accept the agenda, which was seconded by Member Mueller.
Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

3. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS:

3-a. None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

4-a. Member Griesemer made a motion to accept the minutes from April 28, 2026, which was seconded by Member Mueller.
Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

5. TOWNHALL SESSION:

5-a. None.

6. OLD BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):

- 6-a.** Historic Preservation of Photographs – ongoing
- 6-b.** Historic Preservation/Organizing Documents/Items of Historical Significance – ongoing
- 6-c.** Historic Timeline of the Village. See attached. – Ongoing
- 6-d.** Discuss process and resources for identifying structures of historical significance, including Sears & Montgomery Ward Catalog homes built in Hanover Park. See attached.
– ongoing
- 6-e.** Coloring Book – Ongoing. Director Govind will present the Committee with a draft of the coloring book at the February 21, 2027 meeting.
- 6-f.** Cemetery on Greenbrook Blvd
- 6-g.** 2026 Heritage Plaque Program. Plaques were received. Discussion needed for presentation. Follow-up needed with Ontarioville School for presentation in the Fall.
- 6-h.** 2026 Heritage Plaque Program. Discussion on properties to be considered for selection.

7. Action Items:

- 7-a.** None.

8. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):

- 8-a.** Board Liaison Update
- 8-b.** Staff Liaison Update
 - Upcoming 2025 meetings:
June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, and October 27
*** No meetings in November and December.
 - The Committee will have a table at the June 19 Movie-in-the-Park from 6-8 pm at East Harbor Park (Wildwood Ln/Grosse Pointe Cir) as part of the America 250 Celebration. The movie will feature “National Treasure”.
- 8-c.** Committee Members Update
 - Member Griesemer learned that Bruce Nemei, the sculptor of the Veteran’s Memorial Plaza “Eternal Flame,” had passed away. She requested that the verbiage be added to the coloring book page with the flame along the lines of, “In memory of Bruce Nemei, Sculptor of the “Eternal Flame,” which was designed by resident and veteran, Kenneth Griesemer. She also discussed the recent “Bartlett Bingo” activity created by the Bartlett Historical Society.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:10 p.m., Chairman Griesemer made a motion to adjourn, which Member Mueller seconded.
Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

Recorded and transcribed by:

Officer Kevin Pini, Secretary
On this 26th day of May, 2026

Irene Walther, Chair

6. OLD BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):

- 6-a. Historic Preservation of Photographs – ongoing
- 6-b. Historic Preservation/Organizing Documents/Items of Historical Significance – ongoing
- 6-c. Historic Timeline of the Village. See attached. – Ongoing
- 6-d. Discuss process and resources for identifying structures of historical significance, including Sears & Montgomery Ward Catalog homes built in Hanover Park. See attached.
– ongoing
- 6-h. 2026 Heritage Plaque Program. Discussion on properties to be considered for selection.

7. Action Items:

7-a. Member Griesemer made a motion to recognize the Illinois Pet Cemetery located at 6N347 County Farm Road and the residence located at 27W024 Ontarioville Road for the 2026 Heritage Marker Program, which was seconded by Member Mueller.
Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

8. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):

- 8-a. Board Liaison Update
- 8-b. Staff Liaison Update
 - Upcoming 2025 meetings:
July 28, August 25, September 22, and October 27
*** No meetings in November and December.
- 8-c. Committee Members Update

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:31 p.m., Chairman Griesemer made a motion to adjourn, which Member Mueller seconded.
Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

Recorded and transcribed by:

Officer Kevin Pini, Secretary
On this 23rd day of June, 2026

Irene Walther, Chair

Hanover Park Timeline

Date	Event
August 14, 1958	To avoid getting swallowed up by neighboring communities, the residents voted to incorporate the Village of Hanover Park. It became official on August 14, and Ontarioville was not included.
September 27, 1958	Hanover Park had 125 registered voters and all but one person cast their ballots. The election made Gordon Jensen Hanover's Park's first Village President, along with members of his "People's Party," who were elected to the remaining positions in the Village.
October 16, 1958	The first meeting of the Hanover Park Board of Trustees was held at Roy Schneider's Grill, a restaurant that opened in 1951.
November 14, 1958	Clyde West was appointed as first police chief.
February 22, 1959	Acting Police Chief Carl Ahlstrand was killed in the line of duty.
October 1, 1959	The first census was taken showing a population of 330 residents.
October 28, 1961	Hanover Park held a dedication ceremony for the new village hall.
February 24, 1962	The Hanover Park Lions Club was presented its club charter.
October 25, 1962	Laurel Hill School held their dedication ceremony.
November 14, 1962	Gromer Supermarket held its grand opening. Along with Pic-N-Pay Walgreen Agency Drug Store, Gromer's was one of the first two shops in the new Park-N-Shop Shopping Center. This shopping center is now referred to as Hanover Square.
June 23, 1963	Ahlstrand Fieldhouse was dedicated. The fieldhouse, and the park on which it is located, was named after Carl Ahlstrand, who was a trustee and Hanover Park's second police chief. He was killed on duty in 1959 by a semi-truck whose driver had lost control, an event also resulting in the deaths of two young children. The park later added "Rinne" to its name. This honored Emil Rinne, who was one of the founding fathers of Hanover Park.
February 10, 1964	Hanover Highlands Elementary School opened.
July 12, 1964	Hanover Park held its first annual "I Am an American Parade."
April 20, 1965	Eugene Domingue was elected Village President, replacing Gordon Jensen.
April 19, 1966	Hanover Park Junior Women's Club began hosting meetings. Events and activities done by the Women's Club over the years included Christmas parties, blood draws, senior lunches, donating toys and food baskets, Halloween parties, environmental projects, a child fingerprinting and videotaping program run with the police department, a baby picture contest, and their annual fashion show.
September 5, 1967	Anne Fox Elementary School opened.
October 29, 1967	Ontarioville School held an open house for its new expansion, gaining eight new rooms and a gymnasium. The school originally opened in 1928.
April 16, 1969	Richard Baker is elected Village President, replacing Eugene Domingue.
February 6, 1970	President Richard Nixon visited the Metropolitan Sanitary District's new sewage treatment plant in Hanover Park, which was the first major tertiary wastewater treatment center in the nation.
October 31, 1977	Horizon Elementary School opened.
	According to the 1980 national census, Hanover Park's population was 28,850.
October 13, 1981	Spring Wood Middle School opened.
October 15, 1981	Hanover Park artist Buck Warren unveiled his 25-foot-tall wooden "Pasadena Rose" sculpture. The sculpture would later stand in front of the Rose Bowl in Pasadena.
January 1, 1982	Elsie C. Johnson Elementary School opened.

Hanover Park Timeline

Date	Event
April 15, 1982	Hanover Park officials approved Ontarioville's annexation into Hanover Park.
April 2, 1985	Sonya Crawshaw is elected Village President, replacing Lou Barone.
December 7, 1985	The "People Tree" flag of Hanover Park is introduced. The tree represented the village working together and growing towards the future.
January 1, 1990	According to the 1990 census, Hanover Park's population was 32,895.
January 1, 1990	Turnberry Lakes Business Park opened.
September 22, 1991	Poplar Creek Public Library District's Hanover Park branch opened to the public. It was later renamed after late Village President Sonya Crawshaw.
July 19, 1992	Hanover Park became a sister city with Cape Coast, Ghana.
July 22, 1992	The entirety of the village was linked together when Barrington and County Farm Roads were connected via an underpass under the Metra tracks.
January 1, 1993	Schaumburg Library District's Hanover Park branch opened to the public. A new building would later open in 2006.
June 10, 1993	Canon groundbreaking
November 2, 1993	Elgin O'Hare Expressway opened.
January 1, 1994	Camcraft groundbreaking
March 10, 1994	First Eagle National Bank opening
June 1, 1995	Filming for the movie <i>Normal Life</i> , starring Ashley Judd and Luke Perry, took place in Hanover Park in June. The film tells the story of husband-and-wife bank robbers who at one point lived in Hanover Park. The film premiered October 25, 1996.
June 15, 1995	Opening of Elgin-O'Hare Expressway
September 14, 1995	Comark groundbreaking
November 16, 1995	The ribbon cutting for the new Metra commuter station was held.
December 19, 1995	Post Office Groundbreaking
	Dedication of Gazebo in Ontarioville Park
October 16, 1996	DuComm groundbreaking
	New Sewage Treatment Plant #1 completed
April 1, 1997	Irwin Bock is elected Village President, replacing Sonya Crawshaw.
	According to the 2000 national census, Hanover Park's population was 38,278.
March 9, 2006	Village President Irwin Bock passed away. Robert Packham had been serving as interim mayor since Village President Bock became ill.
July 22, 2006	The village held the grand opening of its new multi-million dollar fire station at 6850 Barrington Road. The station is dedicated in honor of Irwin Bock.
May 17, 2007	Rodney S. Craig was sworn in as Village President, replacing Robert Packham.
	According to the 2010 national census, Hanover Park's population was 37,973.
September 10, 2010	Hanover Park became a sister city with Valparaiso, Zacatecas, Mexico.
November 11, 2011	Veterans Memorial Plaza in front of Village Hall was dedicated. It is dedicated to the veterans of the United States. The eternal flame statue in the plaza was designed by Kenneth Griesemer and sculpted by Bruce A. Niemi.
May 29, 2017	The War Dog sculpture was dedicated in Memorial Plaza. It honors all canines that have served in the U.S. armed forces. The statue was cast by Renee Bemis.
December 17, 2017	The "America's Global Village" logo and flag were introduced at a board meeting. The multi-colored globe represents the different cultures of the people living in Hanover Park.
	According to the 2020 national census, Hanover Park's population was 37,470.

Hanover Park Timeline

Date	Event
March 13, 2020	The COVID-19 pandemic impacts schools, businesses, and Village operations.
June 23, 2021	A grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the new Ontarioville Plaza on Ontarioville Road.
December 30, 2023	Hanover Barber Shop on Barrington Road closes its doors sixty years after Antonio Perri opened it.
1995-1996	Widening of County Farm Road between Ontarioville Road and Schick Road
Fall 1992	Church Road extension - Barrington-County Farm
	Opening of Ontarioville Elementary School
	According to the 1960 national census, Hanover Park's population was 451.
	Construction began on Hanover Builders' second subdivision, Hanover Park Estates. This was located on the former Finke farm.
	People began moving into the Hanover Highlands subdivision near the end of 1962.
	Building for the Longmeadows subdivision began along Longmeadow Lane.
	The Hanover Park Park District formed. Emil Rinne was named first Park Commissioner.
	Tradewinds Shopping Center is completed. It was located at the northeast corner of Barrington Road and Irving Park Road.
	According to the 1970 national census, Hanover Park's population was 11,916.
	Parkwood Elementary School opened.
	The Hanover Park-Ontarioville Historical Society is founded and Beth Carpenter is appointed to serve as its first chairwoman.
	Greenbrook Elementary School opened.
	Lou Barone is elected Village President, replacing Richard Baker. Hanover Park's first female trustee, Janice Smith, is also elected.
	Albert Einstein Elementary School opened.
	The Hanover Park Park District Community Center at Walnut Avenue and Church Street opened. At the time of its completion, it was the largest park district facility in the state of Illinois (at 105,000 square feet).

Village Presidents	Terms
Gordon Jensen	1958-1965
Eugene Domingue	1965-1969
Richard Baker	1969-1973
Louis Barone	1973-1985
Sonya Crawshaw	1985-1997
Irv Bock	1997-2006
Robert Packham	2006-2007
Rodney Craig	2007-Present

Properties of Historical Significance in Hanover Park

	Property Address	Street	Property Known As	Sears Catalogue Home (Yes / No)	Montgomery Ward Catalogue Home (Yes /No)	Notes	Date Built	Plaqued	Date Demolished
1	7N728	Church Road	Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Smyrna Church, Community of Hope Church	No	No	Built elsewhere, then moved here. Gothic Revival architecture qualities. Graveyard south of Church bldg.	c 1870	Yes - 2023	
2	7N728	Church Road	Parsonage	No	No		c 1870	Yes - 2023	
3	7N581	County Farm Road	Residence	Yes	No		1931		
4	7N595	County Farm Road	Residence	Yes	No		1927		
5	2030	Devon					1951		
	2050	Devon							
	2070	Devon							
	2080	Devon							
6	2090	Devon					1954		
7	2100	Elm Avenue	Ontarioville Elementary School	No	No		1928	Yes - 2025	
8	2060	Maple Avenue					1924		
9	27W009	Oak Street					1937		
10	27W010	Oak Street					1937		
11	27W023	Oak Street					1945		
12	27W029	Oak Street					1943		
13	27W035	Oak Street					1955		
14	1951	Ontarioville Road	Prairie Station Pub	No	No		c 1880	Yes - 2025	
15	27W250	Ontarioville Road	Executive House / Dairy Manager Building	No	No	Original character still intact, the only brick house in the district. Formerly a dairy cooperative executive residence	c 1900		
16	27W014	Ontarioville Road	A & A Music			Previously a Newspaper Office	1900-1920	Yes - 2024	
17	27W024	Ontarioville Road					1923		
18	27W040	Ontarioville Road					1933		
19	27W040	Ontarioville Road					1956		
20	27W054	Ontarioville Road					1926		
21	27W072	Ontarioville Road					1940		
22	27W250	Ontarioville Road					1933		
23	27W281	Ontarioville Road					1923		