

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the Village of Nyack Board of Trustees  
Held at Village Hall at 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 21, 2026**

**Present:** Joseph Rand, Mayor  
Pascale Jean-Gilles, Trustee  
Joseph Carlin, Trustee  
Nathalie Riobe-Taylor, Trustee – *Arrived 7:21 pm*

**Also Present:** Andrew Stewart, Village Administrator  
Dennis Michaels, Village Attorney  
Linda Donnelly, Village Clerk

**Absent:** Donna Lightfoot-Cooper, Trustee

**Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Mayor's Introduction**

Mayor Rand wished residents a meaningful Memorial Day weekend and noted that the parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. at Main and Franklin, organized by American Legion Post 310, with special thanks to Commanders Quintana and Grey.

He reported that Nyack received \$4.5M of the \$6.5M in New York Forward project requests, funding downtown improvements, a waterfront restaurant, and upgrades to several arts venues.

He noted that some projects were not funded, including uptown rezoning work, John Greenhouse repairs, and volunteer firefighter housing. He expressed disappointment and pledged to help the fire department pursue alternative funding.

**COMMENTS FROM THE VILLAGE BOARD**

*Trustee Jean-Gilles* – Wished everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend, urging responsible travel. She supported assisting the fire department and recommended exploring funding through the state's Housing and Community Renewal agency, which has experience partnering with nonprofits on similar projects.

*Trustee Carlin* – Agreed with earlier comments and reported that he and Andy Stewart attended the Hudson Valley Affordable Housing Summit, which provided useful information on zoning and organizations that support affordable housing development. He also noted that planning for Nyack's USA 250 celebration is moving quickly, with banners up and a major two-day event being prepared.

## **PRESENTATION**

Mayor Rand highlighted and thanked Ronald Henderson for his exceptional dedication and reliability in the Parking Authority, noting that Ron is completing 30 years of service to the Village of Nyack. He also extended appreciation to the entire Parking Authority staff for their often-challenging but essential work enforcing parking and street-safety rules.

Ron, thank you for 30 years!

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**


None

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **AMENDING CHAPTER 360 (ZONING) OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF NYACK, SO AS TO REPEAL LOCAL LAWS #2 AND #7 OF 2025, AND TO REFER AND DEFER TO NEW YORK STATE'S PREEMPTIVE REGULATIONS AND LAWS REGARDING PROXIMITY DISTANCES FOR CANNABIS DISPENSARIES**

*Motion by Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles to open the public hearing on Amending Chapter 360 (Zoning) of the Code of the Village of Nyack, so as to Repeal Local Laws #2 and #7 of 2025, and to Refer and Defer to New York State's Preemptive Regulations and Laws Regarding Proximity Distances for Cannabis Dispensaries at 7:50 pm.*

Mayor Rand invited public and Board comment.

 Village Attorney Michaels – Explained that New York State has clearly ruled that municipalities cannot set their own distance or proximity rules for recreational cannabis dispensaries. Because state law fully preempts local regulations, he advised repealing Local Laws 2 and 7 of 2025 and deferring to state rules.

Trustee Carlin – Asked if the only thing the village could regulate was hours of operation.

Village Attorney Michaels – Explained that while the state fully preempts local rules on cannabis dispensary distance requirements, municipalities still retain limited authority over zoning and certain operational factors. However, zoning cannot be used to effectively ban dispensaries after opting in, and local regulations must remain compliant with state law.

Trustee Carlin – Explained that the Board isn't creating a new law but simply rescinding the two earlier local laws because state preemption requires deferring to state rules.

Village Attorney Michaels – Explained that the public hearing was the time to raise any concerns about the impact assessment. If no major issues are raised, the planner will finalize the SEQRA document for June 11, when the Board can question him and request revisions if needed.

The Village Board formally indicated support for directing the Village Planner to prepare Part 3 of the environmental assessment form, stating a negative declaration that the project would have no significant environmental impacts.

*Motion by Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles to continue the public hearing on June 11, 2026 at 7:30 pm at Village Hall, 9 N Broadway, Nyack. Motion carried.*

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES** – 05/07/2026

*On motion of Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles. The minutes of the meeting held on 05/07/2026 were accepted as presented.*

**ACTION ITEMS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-95 – ACCEPTING AUDITED VOUCHER SUMMARY**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

WHEREAS, the Audited Voucher Summary was presented to the Nyack Village Board of Trustees at its regularly scheduled meeting of May 21, 2026.

RESOLVED, the General Fund Claims set forth on Pages 1 through 10 in the below listed amounts are approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 57,994.42
NYACK PARKING AUTHORITY	\$ 16,161.86
WATER FUND	\$ 38,739.10
CAPITAL PROJECTS – 2017 Improvements	\$101,708.37

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

<i>Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes</i>	<i>Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Absent</i>
<i>Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . Absent</i>	<i>Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes</i>
<i>Trustee Carlin. . . . . Yes</i>	



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-96 – REFUND FOR PARKING TICKET PAYMENT**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Jean-Gilles, seconded by Trustee Carlin.*

WHEREAS, Parking Ticket No. 9101797703 was issued to Debbie Arbolino on March 13, 2026, although parking had been paid at the time, but an incorrect license plate number was entered; and

WHEREAS, the ticket was dismissed by Judge Knoebel on March 26, 2026 due to the license plate entry error; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Arbolino later received an unpaid-ticket notice and, believing the fine would continue to increase, paid \$53.50 on May 4, 2026 (Ref. 516U260503D27280); and

WHEREAS, the Parking Enforcement Department has confirmed that the ticket was dismissed and that Ms. Arbolino's payment was made in error;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes a refund of \$53.50 to Debbie Arbolino for Parking Ticket No. 9101797703, and directs the Village Treasurer to issue the refund.

Trustee Carlin – Noted that the parking meters have a slight delay when pressing buttons and advised users to pause between inputs to avoid mistakes.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

<i>Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes</i>	<i>Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Absent</i>
<i>Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . Absent</i>	<i>Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes</i>
<i>Trustee Carlin. . . . . Yes</i>	



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-97 – APPROVE A PERMIT APPLICATION FROM KATHIE BENNEWITZ FOR A SPECIAL EVENT ON NORTH BROADWAY, JUNE 21, 2026**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nyack authorizes the issuance of a special event permit to Kathie Bennewitz for a Special Event on North Broadway, June 21, 2026, (rain date 6/27/26) with street closure DPW costs to be paid by the event sponsor.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

<i>Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes</i>	<i>Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes</i>
<i>Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . Absent</i>	<i>Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes</i>
<i>Trustee Carlin. . . . . Yes</i>	



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-98 – APPROVE A PERMIT APPLICATION FROM KATHIE BENNEWITZ FOR A PLEIN AIRE PAINTING EVENT IN MEMORIAL PARK, OCTOBER 17, 2026**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nyack authorizes the issuance of a special event permit to Kathie Bennewitz for a Plein Aire Painting Event in Memorial Park, October 17, 2026.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes*  
*Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . . . . Absent*  
*Trustee Carlin . . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes*  
*Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-99 – APPROVE A PERMIT APPLICATION FROM KATY ERDMAN FOR A BLOCK PARTY/SPECIAL EVENT ON S. MILL ST., ON JUNE 26, 2026**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nyack authorizes the issuance of a special event permit to Katy Erdman for a Block Party/Special Event on Summit St, on June 26, 2026.

Administrator Stewart – Stated organizers agreed to add an additional safety measure by placing their own vehicles behind the standard barriers so any car that turned in by mistake would be stopped.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes*  
*Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . . . . Absent*  
*Trustee Carlin . . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes*  
*Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-100 – APPROVE A PERMIT APPLICATION FROM BRIANA MOORE FOR A GROUP PICNIC IN MEMORIAL PARK, AUGUST 28, 2026 (RAIN DATE 9/5/26)**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nyack authorizes the issuance of a special event permit to from Briana Moore for a Group Picnic in Memorial Park, August 28, 2026 (rain date 9/5/26), to include use of gazebo for an hour, and Upper Lawn for a picnic event. Noon – 4 PM, contingent on payment of \$150 security deposit to cover any unplanned cleanup costs.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes*  
*Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . . . . Absent*  
*Trustee Carlin . . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes*  
*Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-101 – APPROVE A PERMIT APPLICATION FROM BILL BATSON FOR THE NYACK GLOBAL RHYTHM FÚTBOL FEST, SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2026**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Jean-Gilles, seconded by Trustee Riobe-Taylor.*

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nyack authorizes the issuance of a special event permit to Bill Batson and the Chamber of Commerce for closures of South Broadway between Hudson Ave and the gas station driveway and Veterans Parking Lot for events related to the county-funded World Cup celebration in Nyack on Sunday, July 5, 2026, event sponsor to reimburse DPW street closure costs.

Bill Batson outlined plans for a village-wide World Cup celebration running June 11–July 19, with a major push on July 5. Events will include dancing, family activities, game-watching throughout Nyack, and a guided food-and-drink stroll, all designed to involve businesses across the village.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes*  
*Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . Absent*  
*Trustee Carlin . . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes*  
*Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-102 – APPROVE A HOME RULE REQUEST FOR NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY BILL A.8140A AND SENATE BILL A.7538A REGARDING A PARKLAND ALIENATION IN THE VILLAGE OF NYACK**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Carlin.*

WHEREAS, New York State Assembly Bill A.8140A and Senate Bill S.7538A authorize the Village of Nyack to alienate certain parklands located at the site of the former River Club Restaurant and associated marina parking area for redevelopment purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees has determined that the alienation of said parcel is necessary to enable the long-term leasing and redevelopment of the former River Club property; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation requires the Village to dedicate an amount equal to or greater than the fair market value of the alienated parkland toward the acquisition of parklands and/or improvements to park and recreational facilities, together with compliance with any applicable federal requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nyack hereby approves and adopts a Home Rule Request in support of New York State Assembly Bill A.8140A and Senate Bill S.7538A, as currently drafted and as may be amended; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Home Rule Request forms and related documents, and the Village Clerk is directed to transmit certified copies of this Resolution as required for legislative processing.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes*  
*Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . . . . Absent*  
*Trustee Carlin . . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes*  
*Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-103 – APPROVE A TEMPORARY MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT ADJUSTMENT POLICY**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Jean-Gilles, seconded by Trustee Riobe-Taylor.*

The purpose of this policy is to establish a temporary adjustment to the Village mileage reimbursement rate in response to elevated fuel costs while maintaining consistency with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) standard mileage rate methodology.

Due to increased fuel costs, the Village shall implement a temporary supplemental mileage reimbursement rate of 79.5 cents per mile.

If the IRS issues a mid-year mileage rate adjustment, the Village reimbursement rate shall automatically adjust to match the updated IRS rate.

The temporary supplemental adjustment is intended solely to address unusually high fuel costs and shall remain in effect only during periods of elevated gasoline prices.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes*  
*Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . . . . Absent*  
*Trustee Carlin . . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes*  
*Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-104 – APPROVE A REQUEST BY JUSTINE MACCHIA FOR A HAVEN COURT STREET CLOSURE FOR A BLOCK PARTY**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the temporary closure of Haven Court for a block party on June 13, 2026, with a rain date of June 14, 2026, under the Village’s rules for block parties requiring that vehicles be used to block off the roadway for safety.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes  
Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . Absent  
Trustee Carlin. . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes  
Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-105 – APPROVE YMCA OPEN-RUN BASKETBALL AND KICKBALL IN MEMORIAL PARK**

*The following resolution was offered by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles.*

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves allowing the YMCA to run basketball and kickball open run on Thursdays in July and August from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

*On roll call the vote was as follows:*

*Trustee Jean-Gilles . . . . . Yes  
Trustee Lightfoot-Cooper . . Absent  
Trustee Carlin. . . . . Yes*

*Trustee Riobe-Taylor . . . . . Yes  
Mayor Rand . . . . . Yes*



**DEPARTMENT REPORTS (based on availability)**

*OPD – Schedule conference call.*

**Motion to Reschedule Meeting**

Mayor Rand made a motion to reschedule the June 25<sup>th</sup> Village Board Meeting from Village Hall to the Nyack Senior Center, 90 Depew Avenue, Nyack, at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles. Motion carried.

*Village Administrator – Reported that the roof replacement is nearly complete, air-conditioning upgrades are underway, and the Shoreline Project is progressing well. He thanked the Village*

beautification teams, the Pollinator Group, and Trustee Carlin for new flower gardens at several locations. He noted that the NY Tourism Grant round is open until June 15th and that Visit Nyack is assisting applicants. He also highlighted the recent New York Forward grant award and reminded the Board that state funding contracts may take several months to arrive.

Mayor Rand – Noted that Andy led the grant application process and stated that he did a great job, also acknowledging the strong work of the committee involved.

*Village Clerk – None*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Parking Fee Schedule Amendment**

Recommended keeping the free 15 minutes.

The Board reviewed specific parking violations and clarified which fines should be adjusted. For alternate-side parking (both 3–6 a.m. and 8–11 a.m.), they agreed to increase only the late fees, not the initial fines. For “no parking 3–6 a.m.,” they again chose to raise only the late fees. All other proposed changes would remain as previously suggested. The Board also agreed to add increases for “no parking in crosswalks,” raising that fine to \$125 plus a \$75 late fee, and to raise the fine for “no standing/no stopping” and double-parked to \$75. Raise “blocking driveway” by \$25. Resolution for next meeting.

### **E-bike Regulation in Memorial Park**

Draft local law – no riding bikes on the footbridge or park, with the exception of instructional.

### **Park Permit Fee Policy Memo**

Review for discussion at next meeting.

### **Nyack Tourism Grant**

### **Shoreline Path Update – Adding \$65k in Paving for Parking Lot**

It was noted that the project scope was expanded to include additional asphalt work. Because the total cost now exceeds the grant amount, the Board will need to consider an additional bond. A bonding plan for the unfunded portion will be reviewed at the next meeting.

### **Pride Center Date Change for BIPOC Event on Jackson Ave., Thursday, 6/25/2026**

#### **Motion to Change the BIPOC Event**

Motion by Trustee Riobe-Taylor, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles to change the BIPOC Event from Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **NYF Grant Announcement**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Robert Garcia and Marcello Mazzeo, Park Permit Request for Basketball Game in Memorial Park, Tuesday August 18, 2026, 5-7 PM.

Marcella Mazzeo announced that legendary local DJ Papy will bring his global basketball tournament to Nyack, noting it's free for high-school players and has an entry fee for adults.

Mayor Rand requested clarification on the time period and start time.

Resolution for next meeting with details.

Sonya Rogers, Park Permit Request for Basketball Game In Memorial Park, Saturday – Sunday, August 15-16, 2026, 10 AM – 3 PM.

Defer a final decision until we have clarity that the rain date is going to be okay.

Justin Macchia, Haven Ct Closure For Block Party, 6/13/26 Rain Date 6/14/26

See Resolution #2026-104

Phil Donnelly, YMCA Open-Run Basketball And Kickball In Memorial Park, Thursdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6, 13, 20, 27, 5:30-9pm (RESO?)

See Resolution #2026-105

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Motion by Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Jean-Gilles to enter into executive session at 9:00 pm.*

*Reason for session: Contractual Arrangement*

*Motion by Trustee Carlin, seconded by Trustee Riobe-Taylor to end executive session at 9:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion offered by Trustee Jean-Gilles, seconded by Trustee Riobe-Taylor to adjourn meeting at 9:11 pm. Motion carried.*



**VILLAGE CLERK**