



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, January 27, 2026

6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Acceptance of Agenda
3. Presentations/Reports – none
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4-a. Minutes from October 28, 2025
5. Townhall

Persons wishing to address the public body must register prior to Call to Order.
Please note that public comment is limited to 5 minutes per speaker.
6. Old Business
 - 6-a. Coloring Book – Ongoing. Update to be provided by Director Govind.
 - 6-b. Historic Preservation of Photographs – ongoing
 - 6-c. Historic Preservation/Organizing Documents/Items of Historical Significance – ongoing
 - 6-d. Historic Timeline of the Village. See attached. – Ongoing
 - 6-e. Discuss process and resources for identifying structures of historical significance, including Sears & Montgomery Ward Catalogue homes built in Hanover Park. See attached.
– ongoing

- 6-f. Cemetery on Greenbrook Blvd
- 6-g. 2025 Heritage Plaque Program. Plaques were ordered.

7. Action Items:

- 7-a. None.

8. New Business

8-a. Board Liaison Update

8-b. Staff Liaison Update

- Upcoming 2025 meetings:

February 24th, March 24th, April 28th, May 26th,

June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th, September 22nd, and October 27th

*** No meetings in November and December.

8-c. Committee Members Update

9. Adjournment



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Juliana A. Maller

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REGULAR MEETING

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

Tuesday, October 28, 2025
6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Chairman Irene Walther called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Members: Member Ken Carlson & Member Ruth Carlson

VILLAGE OFFICER: Officer Kevin Pini

STAFF

PRESENT:

GUESTS: Jonathan, Curator for the Elk Grove Park District Museum

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Member Griesmer 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 Griesmer made a motion to approve the minutes from April 22, 2025, which was seconded by Member Mueller. Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

4-b. Member Griesmer made a motion to approve the minutes from May 27, 2025, which was seconded by Member Mueller. Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion Passes.

4-c. Member Griesmer made a motion to approve the minutes from August 26, 2025, 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 Catalogue homes built in Hanover Park. See attached.
– ongoing
- 6-e. Coloring Book – Ongoing. Update to be provided by Director Govind.
- 6-f. National Registry of Historic Places: 27W250 Ontarioville Rd, known as the “Executive House”. On hold for funding. – Ongoing
- 6-g. Cemetery on Greenbrook Blvd
- 6-h. 2025 Heritage Plaque Program. Proofs attached, looking for feedback.

7. Action Items:

7-a. None.

8. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):

- 8-a. Working group with Volunteers to help organize and sort photos and documents on Saturday, November 8th, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Flyer attached. Drinks and light snacks to be provided.
- 8-b. Board Liaison Update
- 8-c. Staff Liaison Update
 - Upcoming 2025 meetings:
January 27th, February 24th, March 24th, April 28th, May 26th,
June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th, September 22nd, and October 27th
*** No meetings in November and December.
- 8-d. Committee Members Update

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 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 28th day of October, 2025

Irene Walther, Chair

COLORING BOOK

Lisa M's Questions for the committee:

- Our library's former director said our graphic design department could help design a cover, as long as Poplar Creek Public Library District was acknowledged on the cover. Is this something the committee would be interested in? I would have to ask my supervisor to check if this is still okay. (A: *Design done*)
- I am not sure what we meant for "The Rose." Is this about the 1970s Rose of Pasadena? Or the stained glass window at the Marek House? I have information about the Rose of Pasadena, but someone else would need to write the description for the stained glass rose. (A: *Stained glass window at Marek House*)
- Should we say "circa" or "around" for estimated dates? For example: "Built around 1876," or "Built circa 1876?" (Q: *Just use 'c' before the date?*)
- Did we decide on 1925 or 1926 for the date Benner's was built? What is on the most recent draft of the historical marker for this location? (A: *Plaque says 1926*)

Shubhra's Questions for the committee:

1. Some buildings have had several uses/businesses. Which name to use for the Coloring Book?
2. Some structures no longer exist. Add location/address?
3. Some descriptions may be longer – ok if the description box is varied in size?
4. Should we include colored renderings/pics, if available, to act as a guide for the kids – on the back page? If so, flame can be one of the pages
5. What is the total/max number of pages?

Potential order we would want these in:

1. The rose (front cover)
2. Page for brief summary and Thank Yous
3. The Bartlett House
4. The train station
5. The Harmening House
6. Ontarioville School
7. The church and parsonage
8. Prairie Station Pub
9. Marek House
10. The Rose?
11. Benner's
12. 1975 Devon Ave
13. Executive House
14. Pet cemetery
15. Old Village Hall
16. Flags/Logos
17. The Flame (back cover)? Or advertisers if we get some?

Shorter Possible Opening (I think this one would be best):

In 1872, what was then called the Chicago & Pacific Railroad laid tracks on the property of a settler named Edwin Bartlett. He donated some of his land for a train station and a grain elevator. Around the train station sprung the small community of Ontarioville, with many businesses along the main road. Ontarioville became a part of the village of Hanover Park in 1982. Although some of these buildings live only in the past, you can still see pieces of Ontarioville while driving down Devon Avenue and Ontarioville Road! These pages will explore much of the rich history of Hanover Park.

Longer Possible Opening:

What is now Hanover Park was first land inhabited by various Native Peoples. These tribes included the Hoocąk (Ho-Chunk), the Kaskaskia, the Bodéwadmi (Potawatomi), the Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), the Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (Sioux), the Myaamia (Miami), and the Peoria. After the forced removal of Native Peoples, more settlers moved into the area.

In 1872, what was then called the Chicago & Pacific Railroad laid tracks on the property of a settler named Edwin Bartlett. He donated some of his land for a train station and a grain elevator. Around the train station (close to where the current station stands) sprung the community of Ontarioville. The community had a school, a post office, dairies, a wagon shop, a blacksmith, taverns, a general store, and other vital businesses. By 1920, Ontarioville had a population of around 250. Hanover Park became an official village in 1958, and Ontarioville became a part of the village in 1982. But you can still see pieces of Ontarioville while driving down Devon Avenue and Ontarioville Road! The entire village of Hanover Park is full of interesting places that we will explore within these pages.

Possible thank yous:

This book was put together through the hard work of the Hanover Park Historic Committee. If you are interested in preserving our history, the committee meets once a month in Village Hall.

Thanks to Director of Community and Economic Development Shubhra Govind for her beautiful illustrations. Thanks also to Trustee Liza Gutierrez, Officer Kevin Pini, Irene Walther, Erika Griesemer, Ken Carlson, and Ruth Carlson. Thank you to Lisa Mueller and the Poplar Creek Public Library for their assistance on this project. More historic photos and other records from the Hanover Park Historic Committee can be found in Poplar Creek Public Library's Local History Collection on their website.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has committed their time to the committee over the years.

DESCRIPTIONS OF DRAWINGS:

- **Edwin Bartlett Home**
 - Built in the 1850s
 - Formerly located near 2000 W Lake Street
 - Description/Historical Significance: Edwin Bartlett is known as the founder of Hanover Park, and this was his home with his wife and 11 children. Bartlett donated some of his land to build a railroad depot for the new railroad.
 - OR: Edwin Bartlett is known as the founder of Hanover Park, and this was his home with his wife and 11 children. By donating some of his land, the village of Ontarioville was born.

- **Ontarioville Train Station**
 - Built circa 1874
 - Formerly located near Ontarioville Park on Devon Avenue
 - Description/Historical Significance: Gallons of milk were shipped every year from Ontarioville. Passengers rode the train to go shop or visit family in Elgin, Chicago, or other destinations.

- **Harmening House**
 - Built circa 1872
 - Formerly located at junction of Lake Street and Greenbrook Boulevard
 - Description/Historic significance: The Harmening family moved here after the Great Chicago Fire. There was also a large dairy farm on the property.

- **Ontarioville Elementary School**
 - Built in 1928
 - Located at 2100 Elm Street
 - Description/Historical Significance: The school had 29 students when it was dedicated in 1928. The two-room building, with its central heating, lighting, and inside plumbing, was considered very modern for its time.

- **Community of Hope Church**
 - Built circa 1871
 - Located at 7N728 Church Road
 - Description/Historical Significance: A team of horses moved the church building from Greenbrook Boulevard to its current location in 1876. Its previous names include the Ontarioville Church, the Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church.

- **Prairie Station Pub and Grill**
 - Built circa 1875
 - Located at 1951 Ontarioville Road

- Description/Historical Significance: This building began as a large dairy owned by Sidney Wanzer before it was turned into a tavern. Previous names include Hank and Bob's, Tony and Maria's, Brixie's, and Billy D.'s
- **Anna Marek's Law Office**
 - Built circa 1873
 - Formerly located at 27W242 Ontarioville Road
 - Description/Historical Significance: The building began as a general store offering many goods and services for villagers and visitors, such as groceries, clothing, tools, medicine, and candy. It also housed the post office. It later became the law office of Anna Marek.
- **The Rose**
 - This rose was part of a beautiful stained glass window gifted to lawyer Anna Marek by a client. It was displayed at her law office/home on Ontarioville Road.
- **Raiz Hair Salon**
 - Built circa 1925
 - Located at 1971/1973 East Devon Avenue
 - Description/Historical Significance: This building was a bustling grocery store called Benner's Cash & Carry from the 1940s to the 1970s. It later became the A&A Music Academy.
 - OR: The building was Benner's Cash & Carry food market from the 1940s to the 1970s. Mr. and Mrs. Benner lived above their grocery store.
- **A & A Music & Art Academy**
 - Built circa 1875
 - Located at 1975 East Devon Avenue
 - Description/Historical Significance: This building was formerly a farmhouse. Its occupants included the families of Fred Feuerhaken and William Meyer.
- **Executive House**
 - Built circa 1903
 - Located at 27W250 Ontarioville Road
 - Description/Historical Significance: This home was built to house the executives of the cheese factory that used to be next door.
- **Illinois Pet Cemetery**
 - Begun in 1926

- Located at 347 County Farm Road
- Description/Historical Significance: Michael Bloze was inspired by pet cemeteries he saw in France during World War I and created the cemetery on family farmland in order to honor pets.
 - OR: Over 2,000 pets have been lovingly honored since Michael Bloze created the cemetery in 1926.
- **First Hanover Park Village Hall**
 - Built in 1961
 - Formerly located at 2121 W Lake Street
 - Description/Historical Significance: The original village hall housed offices, meeting rooms, and a jail cell. Before a village hall was built, board meetings were held at a restaurant and at a farmhouse.
 - Or: Among the rooms were a meeting room, a mayor's office, a village clerk's office, other department offices, and a jail cell. It was replaced by the current village hall in 1976.
- **Hanover Park Flags/Logos**
 - Description/Historical Significance: Hanover Park has flown three different official flags since the beginning of the village, along with having various logos.
- **Hanover Park Flame Sculpture**
 - Description/Historical Significance (not sure if we'll need this if it's on the back page): The "Eternally Remembered" flame sculpture by Bruce A. Niemi was placed in Hanover Park's Veteran's Memorial in 2012.

Hanover Park Timeline

Date	Event
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.
October 1, 1959	The first census was taken showing a population of 330 residents.
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.
April 15, 1962	Hanover Park officials approved Ontarioville's annexation into Hanover Park.
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.
January 1, 1964	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.
April 20, 1965	Eugene Domingue was elected Village President, replacing Gordon Jensen.
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.
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.
April 2, 1985	Sonya Crawshaw is elected Village President, replacing Lou Barone.
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.

Hanover Park Timeline

Date	Event
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.
November 11, 2011	•November 11, 2011: Veterans Memorial Plaza in front of Village Hall was dedicated. It is dedicated to the veterans of the United States.
	•2020: According to the 2020 national census, Hanover Park's population was 37,470.
March 13, 2020	Governor J.B. Pritzker ordered the closure of all public and private schools K-12 through at least March 30th to combat the spread of COVID-19. Schools moved to remote learning.
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.
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.
1995-1996	Widening of County Farm Road between Ontarioville Road and Schick Road
Fall 1992	Church Road extension - Barrington-County Farm
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.
	Opening of Ontarioville Elementary School

Hanover Park Timeline

Date	Event
	<p>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.</p>
	<p>People began moving into the Hanover Highlands subdivision near the end of 1962. Hanover Highlands Elementary School opened.</p>
	<p>Building for the Longmeadows subdivision began along Longmeadow Lane. The Hanover Park Park District formed. Emil Rinne was named first Park Commissioner.</p>
	<p>Hanover Park held its first annual "I Am an American Parade."</p>
	<p>Tradewinds Shopping Center is completed. It was located at the northeast corner of Barrington Road and Irving Park Road.</p>
	<p>According to the 1970 national census, Hanover Park's population was 11,916. Parkwood Elementary School opened.</p>
	<p>The Hanover Park-Ontarioville Historical Society is founded and Beth Carpenter is appointed to serve as its first chairwoman. Greenbrook Elementary School opened.</p>
	<p>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.</p>
	<p>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).</p>

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 Cataloge Home (Yes /No)	Notes	Date Built	Date Demolished
1	7N728	Church Road	Immanuel Envangelical 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	
2	7N728	Church Road	Parsonage	No	No		c 1870	
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	
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	
15	27Q024	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	
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	