

OLYMPIA FIELDS EAST HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2026
Meeting Held at Olympia Fields Conference Center, 20701 Governors Hwy., Olympia Fields, IL 60461

The meeting was called to order by President Carlando Owens at 9:00 AM.

Attendance

The following board members were present: Carlando Owens, Thomas McNeal, Sam Cosentino, Meli Marquez, Monica Plaid, Arthur Bryd, Steven Jackson, and Larry Mullins. Board Members absent: Beverly Sanders and Pat Hopkins.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the board meetings of March 14, 2026 were distributed to all board members prior to the meeting. Thomas McNeal moved to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of March 14, 2026, Sam Cosentino seconded, and the motion was unanimously carried by the Board.

President's Report

President Carlando Owens provided a Public Works update. The monument signage and lighting projects remain tabled. Village Administrator Jessica Washington (Washington) and Trustee Kelvin Oliver (Oliver) will reach out to Monica Plaid and Meli Maquez regarding lights and monuments. The OFEHA Secretary position remains vacant, and residents are encouraged to volunteer for the opening.

Social Committee/Fundraising Report

The Spring Steppin' event will be held on Friday, May 29, 2026 from 7 pm – 11 pm., at the Sargeant Means Park Bradford Barn. Refreshments/food are included in the \$35 per ticket price. Payment can be made by cash or online using a QR code. The event will bring the community together for a fun social gathering. Thomas McNeal provided an update and requested support in selling tickets. Washington has taken a stack of tickets to Village Hall.

Beautification Committee Report

Committee Chair Meli Marquez reported the following:

- The Beautification Committee is hosting a Plant Event on May 31, 2026.
- Marquez shared that the Park District has agreed to provide two trash cans along the 207th median but was met with opposition from two residents who live on that street.
 - Members of the board shared that this amenity will in fact be helpful, as many of the residents and board members have on occasion picked up trash with nowhere to dispose of it.
 - Marquez went on to specify that the amenity is free of cost to our HOA and will be maintained by the park as long as residents do not dispose of home trash. If that occurs, the amenity will be pulled.
- The Village extended the timeline for the 50/50 tree program
- Concerns raised by attendees:
- A resident has concerns about addressing her neighbor's landscaping company blowing leaves onto her property—Owens recommended she address this concern with the neighbor directly and Washington noted that the landscaper should be responsible for cleaning leaves blown into resident yards.
 - Washington recommends code enforcement if the landscaper is not meeting standards
- It was noted: neighbors can be fined

OFEHA Minutes of May 9, 2026 (continued)

- Steve Jackson inquired about the permit status for grass cutting
- Washington emailed the approved lawncare list to the group in March
- Steve Neely raised concerns about the quality of grass cutting — no trimming around signs or trees on 207th median
- Volume & Trucks Code Enforcement & Fines inquiries:
Village may raise fines for truck violations — Lincoln Hwy is the truck route
Fine increase proposed: from \$500 to \$1,000
State/Village responsible for enforcement
Village might raise fines — Lincoln Hwy is the designated truck route
Fine increase proposed: \$500 to \$1,000
- State/Village Pothole Responsibility Questions:
Steve Jackson asked how the country club contributes to the community
Oliver noted the Village taxes them, which helps keep costs low
- Empty Houses / Property Issues
Thomas: empty houses — grass cut partially; bank/realtor sent photos
207th & Corinth — boulders were not returned
Hwy 30 / Orchard has not been maintained — state-owned property

Finance Report

President Owens provided a budget summary.

Communications Committee Report

Committee Chair Sam Cosentino reported the following:

- Printing costs are too high — newsletter now all digital
- OFEHA meeting times have been updated on the OFEHA website
- Dues payments — use the notes section for address
- Plaid has questions about how new members get added
 - New members lists are distributed by Owens

Membership Committee Report

Committee Chair Monica Plaid reported as follows:

- Cookout / Community Event
 - Share the date with families — coordination to follow
 - August 29 on a weekend
 - Requested volunteers — see Plaid
 - Oliver provided an update of village-wide centennial celebration
 - Carl Hill — Chair
- Three new residents received welcome baskets.
- Village new resident event: Ventrindi (May 30)
- New member onboarding
 - Thomas wants door-to-door advocacy to join the HOA

OFEHA Minutes of May 9, 2026 (continued)

- Question raised: do we share the by-laws?
- Steve Neely asked how to know when dues have been paid — change name request process
- Suggestion: implement a procedure with a quarterly check-in
- Jackson: follow up later; send list to Owens

Village Liaison

There was no formal report.

Old Business/Tabled Topics

- Bylaws updates continue
- Dedication plaque for past OFEHA President Pat Collier

General Discussion

Memorial — Steve Altman passed away on the first of May. He is described as 'best neighbor' and very helpful person. He is survived by his wife Trish. A memorial or dedication TBD.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Thomas McNeal moved to adjourn the meeting, Monica Plaid seconded, and the motion was unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Next Meeting Date

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 9 AM at the Olympia Fields Conference Center.