

**VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
PLATZKONZERT COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 13, 2026**

Members in Attendance:

Gary Pilafas, Chair
Wendy Schmidt, Co-Chair
Jeremy Janhke

Members Absent:

Ken Busch
Linda Dressler
Gene Walters

Others in Attendance:

Ben Gibbs
Eric Palm
Michala Souronis
Alicia Guerrero
Craig Kuehne

Paul Sienko
Lauren Kincannon
Arturo Abod (Junior)
John Bending
Brian Fulkerson

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Co-Chair Wendy Schmidt called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Wendy Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Gary Pilafas. Motion approved by voice vote.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Committee Reports

- **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS – WENDY SCHMIDT/BEN GIBBS**
 - We reviewed and updated the schedule (see attached).
- **EVENT LAYOUT – MICAELA SOURONIS/BEN GIBBS/JEREMY JANHKE**
 - Michala Souronis distributed the updated site layout (see attached).
- **ENTERTAINMENT – BEN GIBBS**
 - We reviewed via the schedule (see attached).
 - The Special Olympics truck convoy is scheduled in the West Parking Lot on Saturday. Special Olympics will be included as an official Platzkonzert charity. **John Bending** is the POC and was in attendance. He is confirmed to have a Special Olympics table, T-shirt sales, a 30-minute on-stage segment, and a convoy drive-by on Prairie Stone Parkway.
 - Dachshund Dash – **Ben** to locate and post photos of last year’s winners and reserve the video board.
 - **Ben** ordered beer steins 2K, alpine hats, toys for Kinderplatz, trophy ribbons, tablecloths
- **FOOD/BEVERAGE – ARTURO ABOD/ALECIA GUERRERO**
 - **Alicia** presented the 2026 menu (see attached).

- **KINDERPLATZ – LINDA DRESSLER**
 - The Kinderplatz location will change, they will have more space.
 - **Linda** reached out to Boy Scouts, Face Painting and Balloons – just waiting to hear back.
- **GAMES – GARY PILAFAS/WENDY SCHMIDT**
 - **Ben** to purchase 2 additional beer marionettes
 - Need to discuss charging an entry fee for games, with a portion of proceeds benefiting Special Olympics. Square will be used for fee collection.
 - Stein Hoisting Contest – Boy Scouts to serve as judges.
 - Devil’s Wheel – A spinning endurance game; **Ben** will investigate feasibility.
- **SPONSORS – PAUL SIENKO**
 - Confirmed - Renewal by Anderson - 1K
 - Confirmed - Thrive Pet Health Care - 1K (contract not signed) - Bring out vets
 - Confirmed - T-Fiber - Activation truck (division of T-Mobile) 3K
 - Feb Meeting: Suggestions included beer tasting events, and partnerships with local breweries or restaurants such as Lucky Monk or The Gregory.
 - Compass - Paul to reach out to them
 - **Paul** to see if he can find a sponsor to have their logo on the mugs - 2K per year, sign a multi-year contract
 - Sponsor the beer Olympics stadium - pending
- **MASTER OF CEREMONIES – WENDY SCHMIDT**
 - Same sponsors for last year are confirmed.
- **MAKERS MARKET/VENDORS – MICAELA SOURONIS**
 - The Makers Market will return this year.
 - Adjust hours for 2026 to allow for extended operation.
- **MARKETING – CRAIG KUEHEN**
 - No discussion.
- **GOLF CARTS – JEREMY JANHKE**
 - He coordinates and finds people to drive the golf carts.
- **PHOTOGRAPHER – WENDY SCHMIDT**
 - **Craig, Linda, Gene, and Craig** will provide photographer leads.
- **VOLUNTEERS – WENDY SCHMIDT**
 - Additional volunteers are needed for Kinderplatz.
 - They get vouchers from **Michaela**.
- **GRANTS – BEN GIBBS**
 - Ben Gibbs will apply for grants again this year.
- **PLATZKONZERT DISPLAY – MICHELLE PILAFAS**
 - Display setup scheduled for August 28; takedown scheduled for September 25.
- **BUDGET/EXPENSES – GARY PILAFAS**
 - No discussion.
- **SUCCESS MEASUREMENTS (KPIS) – BEN GIBBS**
 - Website Traffic. Based on ESN cell phone
 - Profit
 - Google reviews
 - Cellular monitoring
- **FIRE/MEDICAL/SECURITY – BEN GIBBS/MICAELA SOURONIS**
 - They coordinate.
- **CLEAN UP – BEN GIBBS/MICAELA SOURONIS**

- **Linda** gets the Boy Scouts to help. Ben coordinates the restrooms.
- **LESSONS LEARNED – COMMITTEE**
 - No discussion.
- **LOGO – LINDA DRESSLER**
 - Completed.

Approval to Adjourn

Commissioner Wendy Schmidt made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Linda Dressler.

Next Meeting Date – June 8, 2026 at 4:00 PM at the Village Hall.

Further details and information can be found in the agenda packet attached hereto and incorporated herein and can also be viewed online at www.hoffmanstates.org and/or in person in the Village Clerk's office. The Village of Hoffman Estates complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For accessibility assistance, call the ADA Coordinator at 847/882-9100.