



Equestrian Commission
AGENDA & NOTICE OF MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 6:30 PM
Village Hall
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010

1. Audio Options:

- Dial: 312-626-6799 and enter meeting ID 889-5617-0602
- Link: [Zoom Meeting ID 889-5617-0602; Passcode: 849920](#)

2. Call to Order & Roll Call

3. Public Comment

Be advised that public comment at the meeting is limited to three (3) minutes per person. If you are not able to attend, send your comment to the Village Clerk at clerk@barringtonhillsil.gov and it will be forwarded to the Commission Members.

4. Approval of Minutes

- 4.1 [Vote] Minutes - Special Meeting June 4, 2026
[06-04-26 EQU Comm Sp Mtg Minutes-Draft.pdf](#)

5. Horse/Large Animal Disaster Preparedness Plan - Discussion

6. Illinois Statute 625 ILCS 5/11-703 - Discussion

7. Save the Date! Barrington Hills Fall Festival - October 11, 2026

- 7.1 Barrington Hills Fall Festival Flyer - Volunteers Needed
[Barrington Hills Fall Festival Oct. 11.pdf](#)

8. Adjournment

NOTICE AS POSTED

VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS

EQUESTRIAN COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elaine Ramesh called the meeting to order at **6:30 p.m.**

ROLL CALL

Present

- Elaine Ramesh
- Mary Beth Holsteen
- Vicki Kelly
- Susan Helenowski
- Anna Paul, Director of Administration

Absent

- Laura Ekstrom, Trustee Liaison
- Tricia Wood

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Commission thanked outgoing members Angela Johnson and Jill Zubak for their service. Chair Ramesh welcomed new Commission members Vicki Kelly and Susan Helenowski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mary Beth Holsteen moved to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2026, meeting. Susan Helenowski seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED.

RECOGNITION OF EMILY McHUGH

The Commission recognized Emily McHugh for her many contributions to the Barrington Hills equestrian community as the Commission's first Chair.

HORSE/LARGE ANIMAL DISASTER PLAN

The Commission discussed development of a Horse and Large Animal Disaster Plan to assist the equestrian community during emergencies.

The following assignments were established:

- **Tricia Wood and Susan Helenowski** will develop educational materials to assist individual horse owners with disaster preparedness. A preliminary baseline disaster preparedness document was distributed for review and will be refined for future distribution to the equestrian community.
- **Vicki Kelly** will coordinate development of a volunteer training program. Anna Paul will determine when first responder horse-handling training was last conducted by the Police and Fire Departments and whether additional training opportunities are available.
- **Mary Beth Holsteen and Elaine Ramesh** will explore partnerships with equine facilities outside Barrington Hills to provide emergency horse boarding during disasters. Elaine Ramesh reported preliminary discussions with the Barrington Hills Park District regarding emergency boarding and will continue those discussions to develop a formal agreement.

Additional discussion included:

- Researching evacuation routes.
- Identifying show facilities with available stalls during emergencies.
- Establishing a central communication hub for disaster information.
- Encouraging horse owners to develop individual emergency plans.
- Coordinating with the Barrington Hills Police Department regarding emergency communications.
- Contacting the Village of Bull Valley regarding participation in regional disaster planning.

The Commission agreed that emergency operations would remain under the direction of the Police and Fire Departments, with the Equestrian Commission serving as a liaison

to the equestrian community. The Village website may be utilized to provide public updates during emergencies.

Potential transportation issues associated with increased freight rail traffic and blocked road crossings were also discussed.

The Commission's goal is to present measurable progress on the disaster plan at its September 2026 meeting.

AMERICA250 CELEBRATION

The Commission acknowledged the historic role horses played in the founding of the United States as part of the Village's America250 celebration.

LAND WE LOVE RUN

Commission members were encouraged to participate in the **Land We Love Run America250 5K/10K and 2-Mile Walk** on June 28, 2026, beginning at Cuba Township on Buckley Road.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mary Beth Holsteen moved to adjourn the meeting. Susan Helenowski seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at **7:11 p.m.**

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Equestrian Commission is scheduled for **September 1, 2026.**

Barrington Hills Fall Festival

Living Horse Museum
Exotic Animals | Bubbles
Food | Pony Rides | Face Painting
Live Music | Drinks
Attractions & So Much More

OCTOBER 11
NOON - 4 PM
BARRINGTON HILLS PARK DISTRICT
RIDING CENTER
361 BATEMAN ROAD

Brought to you by the Village of  **BARRINGTON
HILLS** More information at vbhil.gov/fall **5**st