AGENDA

Septemberfest Committee

Monday, February 2, 2026
7:00 PM
Al Larson Prairie Center for the Arts
Meeting Room A & B
201 Schaumburg Ct.
Schaumburg, IL 60193

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG
PROGRESS THROUGH THOUGHTFUL PLANNING

A G E N D A

Septemberfest Committee Meeting

I. Call to Order:

1. 7:00 PM

II. Committee Members & Assistants, Staff, Student Representatives & Guests Sign Attendance Sheet

III. Approval of Minutes:

A. January 5, 2026

IV. Approval of Expenditures:

V. New Business:

1. Septemberfest 2026 Planning Updates

VI. Unfinished Business:

VII. Chair Report:

VIII. Coordinator Report:

IX. Committee Reports:

1. Arts & Crafts Show
2. Craft Beer & Wine
3. Layout & Carnival
4. Local Entertainment
5. Main Stage Entertainment
6. Maintenance & Fireworks
7. Parade
8. Sponsorship & Marketing
9. Student Representatives
10. Taste of Schaumburg
11. Taste of Schaumburg's Not-for-Profit Day
12. Volunteers

X. Staff Reports:

1. Community Development Department (CDD)
2. Engineering Public Works Department (EPW)
3. Fire Department
4. Police Department

XI. Comments from the Public:

XII. Adjournment:

XIII. Next Septemberfest Meeting: 3/2/2026

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable Federal and State laws, the meeting will be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Persons requiring auxiliary aids and/or services should contact the Village Manager's Office at 847.923.4705, preferably no later than five days before the meeting.

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

January 5, 2026
02/02/26
Septemberfest Committee

Presenter:
Lead Department: Cultural Services

Executive Summary:

Recommended Action:

ATTACHMENTS:
- 2026 01 05 Septemberfest Meeting Minutes.pdf

SEPTEMBERFEST MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

COMMITTEE ROLL CALL

Chair Rich Wiskirchen presiding. Committee members Jeannette Ackland, Laura Sue Awick, Arturo Barin, Mike Braheny, Melanie Brown, Marc Campbell, Victor D'Amelio, Eric Engelson, Bill Flesch, Jay R. Flynn, John Fraser, Liv Frullani, Dawn Hamilton, Brandy Hansen, Ken Johnson, Natalie Hansen, Mary Jane Lange, Joe Lenoci, Jeff Mytych, Tracy Richter-Papaproko, Jeff Sanderson, and Eric Todd present. Committee members Maui Mendez, George Mussman, Crystal Schuster, and Bruce Webber, were absent.

STAFF ROLL CALL

Roxane Benvenuti (Special Events Coordinator), *Department of Cultural Services*; Tiana Weiler (Director), *Department of Cultural Services*; Michael Rons, *Fire Department*; Sgt. Todd Bochenek, *Police Department;* and Heather Anderson, *Community Development Department* present. Bob Mamrot, *EPW Department*; and Lt. Adam Wis, *Police Department,* were absent.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ROLL CALL

None.

GUEST ROLL CALL

Mike Lange, *Arts & Crafts Show Assistant*; Carol Brey, *Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club*; Jack Brey, *Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club*; and Mary Wroblewski, *Sons and Daughters of Italy in America*.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rich Wiskirchen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 3, 2025. **Motion to approve made by Mr. Ken Johnson, seconded by Mr. John Fraser. Voice vote taken, all ayes. Motion carries.**

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

1. Contract extension status update for beer & malt beverage provider/sponsor, carnival & novelty vendor, main stage production, private security, tables, electrical services, generators & light towers, sanitation, temporary labor, chairs, tents, and shuttle bus.

   All vendors agreed to an increase within the Consumer Price Index (CPI) average and two vendors are not affected by the CPI. The CPI range for Septemberfest 2026 is 2.9 - 3.1% with an average of 3% this year. In comparison, 2025 was 3.5 - 3.8 with an average of 3.65% and 2024 was 2.3 - 2.5% with an average of 2.4%.

   The Carnival & Novelty Vendor is not affected by CPI since the specs indicate the agreement for each option year; however, the company agreed to the third and only option year contract extension. The Beer & Malt Beverage Provider/Sponsor is not affected by CPI since the specs indicate the agreement for each option year

that is based on market pricing; however, the company agreed to the third and only option year contract extension.

2. Review of drone display service proposal results and vote

As indicated on last year's Septemberfest critique list and final report, we need to consider providing a drone show over a fireworks display, given the reduced parking issues with Our Saviour's United Methodist Church which would require budgeting for an added parking lot rental expense going forward.

On December 19, 2025, the proposals submitted for the provision of a minimum of ten (10) minute drone display choreographed to music by the drone company (played from the Main Stage) for Septemberfest for the year 2026, with options for years 2027, 2028 and 2029 with a total cost not to exceed $30,000 for 2026 and currently for each of the optional years, were opened. Seventeen (17) requests were distributed, and the proposal was available on the Village's website. The Septemberfest Committee reviewed the results from five (5) proposals received.

After much discussion of all five submittals, the group narrowed their choices between two vendors. Chicago Drone Light Shows of La Porte, IN and Johnny Rockets Fireworks of Lincolnshire, IL & Northern Lights Drone Shows of Caledonia, WI submitted the most responsible proposals offering the most product for our budget. Chicago Aerials would provide 100 fewer drones, Fantasy Drone Shows also would provide 100 less drones and requires three hotel rooms be provided, and Illumin Drone Shows LLC would have 50 fewer drones, the cost would increase each year while the expense would remain the same for the other vendors, and a site map including the launch and recovery area, operational boundaries, geofencing, and designated crowd separation zones was not attached as requested.

Chicago Drone Light Shows of La Porte, IN is the provider for the Schaumburg Boomers and Elk Grove Village shows and the feedback has been positive. Mrs. Laura Sue Awick, Septemberfest Parade Chair and Special Events Coordinator for Elk Grove Village reported that Chicago Drone Light Shows have done an amazing job for Elk Grove events, and their staff are easy to work with and responsive. The company will provide 300 drones for our budget for a 12-14 minute show offering up to 20 designs; all custom made for Septemberfest. Since they do local events, they are familiar with our layout, provided a detailed layout map and ensured the parking lots at Our Saviour's United Methodist Church will not be affected as they were with the fireworks display.

Johnny Rockets Fireworks of Lincolnshire, IL & Northern Lights Drone Shows of Caledonia, WI is the provider for Lincolnshire, Bolingbrook, Oak Brook, and Round Lake Beach, IL, and Johnny Rockets Fireworks was the Septemberfest fireworks provider for 18 years, so they are familiar with our layout although Northern Lights Drone Shows is not. The company will provide 300 drones for our budget for a 13.5-14 minute show offering approximately 13 distinct scenes,

with 20–28 unique visual images, and an average of two animated formations per scene.

Motion to approve the proposal for a Septemberfest Drone Display submitted by Chicago Drone Light Shows of La Porte, IN for a term of one-year with a potential for three optional one-year extensions not to exceed the budget amount of $30,000 for Septemberfest 2026 with options for years 2027, 2028 and 2029 made by Mr. John Fraser, seconded by Mr. Marc Campbell. Voice vote taken, 20 ayes, 2 opposed, and 1 abstain. Motion carries. The bid will need to be submitted to the Village Manager for final approval.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Septemberfest 2026 Planning Updates

   We were informed that the electrical building for the new municipal center will not be built prior to this year's Septemberfest so sponsorship row booth activations will not be affected as originally thought.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. None

CHAIR REPORT

1. Chair Wiskirchen informed the group that Ms. Liv Frullani (Sponsorship & Marketing Co-Chair) and Mr. Eric Engelson (Maintenance & Drone Display Co-Chair) were appointed to the Septemberfest Committee on December 9. Mr. Bruce Webber changed positions to join the Taste of Schaumburg team.

COORDINATOR REPORT

1. Mrs. Benvenuti reported that the 2025 Septemberfest final report was approved at the November FLAGG meeting.

2. Mrs. Benvenuti stated that Ms. Weiler is working on the Septemberfest 2026 (FY 26/27) budget proposal and is requesting new revenue generating ideas since expenses increase each year.

3. Mrs. Benvenuti informed the group that, as indicated in the final report, job descriptions will need to be updated by all teams detailing their roles, timing, responsibilities, and requirements. Mrs. Benvenuti will provide the committee with the most recent list to be updated by the March meeting, and it will be reviewed and updated at the end of each year going forward. Once completed, the Sponsorship & Marketing team will develop standardized templates to be updated as rolling documents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Arts & Crafts Show: The applications will be posted and notifications sent in the upcoming weeks.

2. Craft Beer & Wine Garden: It was confirmed the Craft Beer & Wine Area will be called the Craft Beer & Wine Garden. White rope lighting was purchased for the recent Tree Lighting event and can be used for this area as well. Mr. Bill Flesch stated that he will schedule some entertainment in this area and will need a 10' x 10'tent for performances.

3. Layout & Carnival: Mr. Mike Braheny suggested Mrs. Benvenuti reach out to the Park District to request benches for the arts & crafts show area if they have any that can be moved.

4. Local Entertainment: Mr. Bill Flesch said he is booking Tony Ocean to perform again this year.

5. Main Stage Entertainment: No report.

6. Maintenance & Fireworks/Drone Display: No report.

7. Parade: No report.

8. Sponsorship & Marketing: Mr. Jay R. Flynn reported that the team is updating application guidelines, cataloging photos from last year and updating sponsorship packages to be available soon.

9. Student Representatives: No report.

10. Taste of Schaumburg: No report.

11. Taste of Schaumburg's Not-for-Profit Day: Mr. Jeff Sanderson reported that another used ice merchandiser was purchased since EPW may not be able to loan theirs going forward.

12. Volunteers: No report.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Community Development Department (CDD): No report.

2. Engineering Public Works Department (EPW): No report.

3. Fire Department: Mr. Michael Rons stated that payroll OT can be reduced if the festival changes from fireworks to a drone display which is a cost savings.

4. Police Department: No report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Ms. Tiana Weiler informed the group that the Septemberfest 2022 lawsuit Parr vs. Village of Schaumburg reached a settlement agreement. It will go before the

Village Board, and our legal counsel will handle all inquiries from the media or others regarding the case and its outcome.

ADJOURNMENT
Chair Rich Wiskirchen entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Bill Flesch, seconded by Mr. Eric Todd. Voice vote taken, all ayes. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next meeting is on February 2, 2026.