

## **GAMING ADVISORY BOARD** **MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2025**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Gaming Advisory Board of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana was held on 3/26/2025 at 5 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Alexander, Czulno, Dabertin, Edwards, Farrell, Roberts, Salinas, Szany, Venecz, Miller

**ABSENT:** Dorsey

**TOTAL:** 10

Chairman /President Scott Miller – Alright, so we are very pleased that the Committee has completed our work for this session and were going to go thru first and we're going to be doing a bunch of awards, very exciting, and we will go ahead and get started.

### **APPLICATION GRANT AWARDS**

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>RECEIVED \$</b>
*4 Quarters 4 Life Community Organization	\$5,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*American Veterans Collection Inc.	\$3,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative	\$600
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Bishop Noll Institute	\$5,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Book, Brushes & Bands	\$10,000
Motioned by Szany, second by Alexander, abstained by Farrell	Motion carries
*CAASH Charity	\$3,000
Motioned by Farrell, second by Szany, abstained by Dabertin	Motion carries
*Challenger Learning Center of Northwest Indiana	\$10,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Community Center Development Corporation – Ophelia Steen	\$10,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*Department of Defense Honor Guard	\$5,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Szany	Motion carries
*Eggers Community Garden	\$3,000
Motioned by Szany, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*Excel Youth Programs, Inc	\$3,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*Family and Friends of NWI Inc.	\$1,000
Motioned by Venecz, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Fire Fighters Monument Corp of Hammond	\$3,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Girls on the Run of Northwest Indiana	\$5,000
Motion by Roberts, second by Edwards	Motion carries

# **GAMING ADVISORY BOARD**

## **MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2025 cont.**

### APPLICATION GRANT AWARDS cont.

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>RECEIVED \$</u>
*Greater Hammond Community Services DBA Community Services	\$10,000
Motioned by Szany, second by Roberts	Motion carries
*Hammond Boxing Club	\$5,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Farrell	Motion carries
*Hammond Central Boys & Girls Wrestling	\$3,500
Motioned by Edwards, second by Szany	Motion carries
*Hammond Central High School – Softball Team	\$3,500
Motioned by Venecz, second by Roberts	Motion carries
*Hammond Central High School – Football Team	\$3,500
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Alexander	Motion carries
*Hammond Central High School – Varsity Baseball Team	\$3,500
Motioned by Salinas, second by Szany	Motion carries
*Hammond Community Theatre	\$4,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Alexander	Motion carries
*Hammond Community Watch	\$10,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Salinas, abstained by Venecz	Motion carries
*Hammond Education Foundation	\$10,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Salinas, abstained by Alexander	Motion carries
*Hammond Hermits AA	\$5,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*Hammond Hispanic Community Committee	\$3,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Hammond Indiana Hurricanes, INC	\$5,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*Hammond Mohawks Athletic & Conservation Club Inc.	\$3,500
Motioned by Szany, second by Alexander	Motion carries
*Hammond Morton High School – Girls Basketball Program	\$3,500
Motioned by Roberts, second by Szany	Motion carries
*Hammond Morton High School – Basketball Program	\$3,500
Motioned by Alexander, second by Roberts	Motion carries
*Hammond Morton High School – Boys Golf Program	\$3,500
Motioned by Farrell, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Hammond Morton High School – Boys Track Program	\$3,500
Motioned by Edwards, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Hammond Morton High School – Girls Track Program	\$3,500
Motioned by Venecz, second by Farrell	Motion carries
*Hammond Morton High School- Football Program	\$3,500
Motioned by Alexander, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Hammond Optimist Youth Sports	\$5,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Edwards	Motion carries

# **GAMING ADVISORY BOARD**

## **MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2025 cont.**

### APPLICATION GRANT AWARDS cont.

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>RECEIVED \$</u>
*Hammond Parks Foundation	\$5,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Hammond Public Library Foundation	\$1,500
Motioned by Alexander, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Hammond Reads, Inc	\$10,000
Motioned by Szany, second by Roberts	Motion carries
*Hammond RedHawks Youth Football and Cheer Program	\$5,000
Motioned by Farrell, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*Haven House	\$10,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*Hessville Community & Commerce	\$15,000
Motioned by Venecz, second by Szany, abstained by Salinas	Motion carries
*Hessville Little League	\$5,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Roberts	Motion carries
*Hope Center of NWI	\$5,000
Motioned by Venecz, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*InnerMission	\$5,000
Motioned by Venecz, second by Szany	Motion carries
*Knights Travel Corporation	\$4,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Lake County Fire Chiefs Assoc.	\$5,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*Lakeshore Cal Ripken Babe Ruth	\$5,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Mental Health America of Northwest Indiana, Inc	\$10,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*Montessori Children's Schoolhouse	\$5,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Mt. Zion Dr. A.R. Burns Pleasant View Plaza	\$5,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Szany	Motion carries
*New Hope Baptist Church Community College Day	\$2,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Dabertin	Motion carries
*New Hope Too Community Center	\$5,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*NWI Rugby Club	\$5,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*NWI Symphony Society	\$5,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Edwards	Motion carries
*Optimist Club of Hammond	\$5,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Szany	Motion carries

# **GAMING ADVISORY BOARD**

## **MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2025 cont.**

### APPLICATION GRANT AWARDS cont.

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>RECEIVED \$</u>
*Prom Genie	\$10,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Roberts	Motion carries
*Pulaski Park Neighborhood Assoc	\$15,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Szany, abstained from Farrell	Motion carries
*Regional Health Systems	\$4,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Szany	Motion carries
*Rotary Club of Hammond	\$3,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*Saint Casimir School	\$5,000
Motioned by Farrell, second by Szany	Motion carries
*School City of Hammond – Health Services	\$1,000
Motioned by Venecz, second by Szany	Motion carries
*School City of Hammond Robotics	\$20,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Alexander	Motion carries
*Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Szany	Motion carries
*South Shore Arts Inc	\$5,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*St. John African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church	\$5,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Salinas	Motion carries
*St. John Bosco	\$5,000
Motioned by Venecz, second by Edwards, abstained by Salinas	Motion carries
*St. Mary Byzantine Church	\$5,000
Motioned by Dabertin, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*The Gatehouse Hammond	\$5,000
Motioned by Czulno, second by Alexander	Motion carries
*Towle Performing Arts Co	\$20,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Venecz	Motion carries
*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church	\$2,000
Motioned by Szany, second by Roberts, abstained by Venecz	Motion carries
*United Citizens Association, Inc	\$7,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Alexander, abstained by Dabertin	Motion carries
*We Care from The Heart Social Services	\$5,000
Motioned by Alexander, second by Czulno	Motion carries
*Whiting- Hammond Knights of Columbus	\$5,000
Motioned by Szany, second by Salinas, abstained by Dabertin	Motion carries
*Whiting – Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce	\$10,000
Motioned by Edwards, second by Czulno, abstained by Dabertin	Motion carries
*Whiting – Robertsdale Historical Society	\$2,500
Motioned by Czulno, second by Farrell, abstained by Dabertin	Motion carries

**GAMING ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2025 cont.**

APPLICATION GRANT AWARDS cont.

APPLICANT	RECEIVED \$
*World's Fastest Triathlon (Leon's Triathlon)	\$10,000
Motioned by Salinas, second by Szany	Motion carries

Chairman /President Scott Miller – So that concludes all of the organizations that did receive money. I am going to now entertain a single motion for the organizations that unfortunately we were not able to provide funding to this year. Before I do that, I'm just going to side for a second for anyone watching this, that just a few years back this committee had over \$2.5 Million dollars to help fund many different groups, and this year the grand total was \$427,100 that we were able to bless organizations with. So, we have roughly twenty percent of the funding that we had a few years ago. So, we did have to prioritize organizations that in some cases they don't have significant other income streams. Some of the organizations you're going to hear their name, you might say why isn't the city supporting them? Cause we know they're not going to hurt badly if we don't support them. There's other organizations on here, however, we didn't want to be their only income stream where the entire organization only exists based off Hammond gaming dollars. We also looked that some of the organizations that applied, they maybe, they don't reside in Hammond or their entire board doesn't reside in Hammond and only a portion of their operation benefits Hammond residents. We also looked at organizations that are brand new to the city and we want to be responsible with our dollars and make sure that they stick around in the city before we're funding their organization. We also even had some for- profit organizations apply this year. This program is not meant to supply the needs of for- profit organizations it's meant for non- profits in our community that our serving our Hammond residents so that said I'm going to entertain a motion that following organizations will not be receiving funding for the 2025 year. These organizations are: The Boys & Girls Club of Greater NWI, Freedom Center Indiana Inc, Genius Guild, Goodwill LEADS, Inc. Hammond Excel Center High School, Hammond family YMCA, Hope Angels Fund, Jewels – The Women's Ministry That Sparkles For Jesus, Living Water Missionary Baptist Church , Love Set Free Inc, Meals On Wheels of NWI, Northgate Church, Purdue University Northwest College of Engineering & Technology , Silverstray Social, Sk8 America Fitness & Educational Development Corporation, South Shore Toy Project, TCA Health Inc, The GO Church Chicago, The Welcome Network, Trios Little Tots, True World Evangelistic Outreach Ministries, TURNT Youth Organization, United Way, Forest Heights Community Garden.

Councilman Salinas, supported by Dabertin, moved to approve all motions made. AYES: ALL

PUBLIC EXPRESSION (Including ZOOM Viewers)  
None

Chairman /President Scott Miller- Just a little bit of housekeeping, we had scheduled 2 more meetings that we will not need since we have concluded the business of this committee, or this commission for the 2025 year. I would like to thank personally as Chair of the committee, Councilwoman Katrina Alexander, Laurie Czulno, Tom Dabertin, Brandon Dorsey, Andrea Edwards, Melissa Farrell, Kym Roberts, Councilman Al Salinas III, Sharon Szany, and Councilwoman Janet Venecz for their

**GAMING ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2025 cont.**

Chairman /President Scott Miller cont- participation and support on this committee. At this time, unless there's any further comments from any other board members?


Tom Dabertin- I would just like to extend on behalf of the committee, a thanks to you. You've done a great job leading us this year. This is one of the most efficient years I've been involved with, so thank you very much for your leadership.

Chairman /President Scott Miller- Thank you very much, Mr. Dabertin.

Katrina Alexander, supported by Scott Miller, moved to dismiss.

AYES: ALL

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Miller, President  
Gaming Advisory Board

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Golec, Hammond City Clerk

Time: 5:32 pm

cb