

KINGS CONTRIVANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026
THIS WAS A HYBRID MEETING

APPROVED: April 15, 2026

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Barbara Seely, Board Chair. Board members Vivian Feen, Madeleine Borowski, Fred Niziol, Carol Huegel, and Melissa Hogle were present; KC Columbia Council Rep Wes Fuhrman was absent. Also present were Village Manager Beverley Meyers, Covenant Advisor Aileen McNamara, Howard County Strategic Outreach Coordinator Vikki Garcia, District Aide from Councilwoman Rigby's office, Paige Goldscher, CA Capital Improvement's Jason Heath and Timothy Prigg, and residents Paul Rader, Erin Cox, Desiree Conway, and Lorraine Kelly.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND BOARD MINUTES

Fred made a motion, seconded by Melissa, to approve the agenda for March 18, 2026, with the removal of Council Representative's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Fred made a motion, seconded by Vivian, to approve the minutes from the board meeting held on February 18, 2026. Melissa and Carol abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

RESIDENT SPEAK OUT

Erin Cox asked about the Spring Water Path bridge at KC11. It has been removed and is a mess with mud and gravel. Jason Heath, from CA, noted that the bridge removal is permanent, and a contractor will improve the area once the weather is more cooperative.

CA PLAY AREA – CLUSTER POLICY REPLACEMENT

Jason and Timothy explained that CA adopted a cluster policy last April for tot lot (play area) replacement to diversify the tot lots to include activities for 2–12-year-olds and to expand seating. He presented the play area cluster plan for five play areas in Huntington. KC6 failed its annual inspection with the merry go round, leaving it out of compliance. This led to the replacement of the cluster play areas. The West Window play area will become appropriate for 2–12-year-olds. The Many Flowers Lane and Indigo Court play areas will be geared toward older age groups when it is time for replacement.

The presentation can be viewed at: <https://villageofkc.org/village-news>.

The changes will be advertised in the Crown Prints for a 30-day public feedback window.

The KC Board will vote on the proposed plan at the May 6 board meeting.

CA UPDATE – JASON HEATH

Jason gave an update on Columbia Association's recent and upcoming projects and events.

- Weather was a big issue in February. Carol thanked CA for doing a good job clearing ice and snow.
- Salt will only work at temps above 20 degrees; CA uses a brine machine like the county. This creates 30% less salt in rivers.
- The bandshell at the Lakefront is still under construction
- Dredging continues at Lake Kitt.
- CA is conducting a survey, "Pathway Forward." CA would like to know about your experience on Columbia's pathways system and ideas for its future.
- The bridge at Lake Elkhorn has been replaced.

DONATION TO CINDY LARUE SOFTBALL

Melissa was concerned that it will set a precedence if we donate to organizations outside of our village; Carol agreed. No motion was made.

DRAFT BUDGET FY2027

Bev reviewed the draft budget for FY2027, The Board discussed rising utility rates in relationship to the draft budget. *Melissa made a motion, seconded by Fred, to approve the FY2027 Draft Budget. The motion passed unanimously.*

Bev presented new rental rates. After discussion, *Melissa made a motion, seconded by Fred, to approve the increase in rental rates for Amherst House, effective May 1, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.*

CAPITAL PURCHASE - LAPTOP

After discussion, *Fred made a motion, seconded by Melissa, to approve the capital expense of \$2160, plus tax, for a new laptop (includes a 5-year service warranty). The motion passed unanimously.*

BOARD MEMBER SPEAK OUT

Carol wanted to know the correspondence process following the Board's vote at the February 4 board meeting, i.e. a letter to CA from the Board requesting additional funds. In this case, Bev drafted a letter and emailed it to the KC Board for review with a 48-hour response time. Carol would like to review the process as she is concerned that final drafts of letters from the Board are not voted on.

Fred expressed concern that Wes, the CA Rep, has not been attending meetings. Barb will attempt to contact him again.

Melissa requested the board agree to exclude a picnic table in the proposed play area plan near Keepsake Way (KC 08). Other board members disagreed.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Wes was not in attendance.

CHAIR'S REPORT

None.

MANAGER'S REPORT

See attached.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:05p.m., a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverley Meyers
Village Manager