

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
JANUARY 9, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 P.M.

REORGANIZATION MEETING CONVENES

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRPERSON

- 1) The meeting is open to nominations for Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee. Motion to nominate _____ as Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee for 2024. *You may have as many nominations as you wish.*
- 2) After all nominations are in, a motion is needed to close the nominations.

**_____ IS DECLARED CHAIRPERSON OF THE RECREATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2024.**

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIRPERSON

- 3) The meeting is open to nominations for Vice-Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee. Motion to nominate _____ as Vice-Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee for 2024. *You may have as many nominations as you wish.*
- 4) After all nominations are in, a motion is needed to close the nominations.

**_____ IS DECLARED VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2024.**

NOMINATIONS FOR SECRETARY

- 5) The meeting is open to nominations for Secretary of the Recreation Advisory Committee. Motion to nominate _____ as Secretary of the Recreation Advisory Committee for 2024. *You may have as many nominations as you wish.*
- 6) After all nominations are in, a motion is needed to close the nominations.

**_____ IS DECLARED SECRETARY OF THE RECREATION
ADVOSORY COMMITTEE FOR 2024.**

ACTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED AT REORGANIZATION MEETING

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- 1) A motion is needed to affirm that the Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes are the official report from the Recreation Advisory Committee to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

REGULAR MEETING CONVENES

ROLL CALL

TAPING OF MEETING

The Chairperson asks if anyone is taping the meeting this evening, other than the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) Secretary. The RAC Secretary is keeping a handwritten record of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Additions, corrections, and approval of the minutes as prepared for the December 12, 2023, RAC meeting.

SPECIAL REQUEST

None

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Potential Activities and Events – Open discussion on events and activities the Township may potentially offer at the Township parks.

- Previously discussed potential activities and events:
 - Farmers Market – Barto Community Park – Monthly, Spring – Fall, Longacres, 2 farms north of Bally, Winer’s, Wendy’s Flowers, Crow Hill Farms, Flower Farm, Sweets Café, Boyertown Farmer’s Market – Thursdays.
 - Easter Egg Hunt – Barto Community Park - Easter
 - Bingo – SSM Community Room – Monthly, Weekends Afternoon – Possibly jointly with Bally Senior Center.
 - Car Show – Not recommended.
 - Seed / Plant Swap – Barto Community Park - Spring
 - Community Yard Sale – Barto Community Park - Spring
 - Craft Fair – Barto Community Park & SSM Community Room – Fall, crafts only, possible bands
 - Sidewalk Art Contest – 9-12 prizes

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- Concert Events, Amateur Hour (Student Bands)
- Yoga in the Park – Barto Community Park
- Bomb Fire – Barto Community Park

Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan

- The Chairperson sent the revisions, suggested improvements and priorities moving forward to YSM. YSM responded indicating that they will try to get us a revised draft document two weeks prior to our February 2024 meeting.

Official Map - Open discussions on logistic and development of an Official Map for the Township.

- Recommendation Letter to BOS?
- Community acceptance?
- Official Map or simple “Recreational Land Guidance Map”?

SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW

- Kate’s Place – Major Plan, unclear open space (settlement agreement).
- Reserve at Barto – Major Plan, unclear open space (settlement agreement).
- 1606 Main Street – Major Plan, unclear open space (settlement agreement).
- Edison Walk – Major Plan, land swap was approved by the court. Will add an additional 2.53 acres to Barto Community Park.
- Barto Road Re-alignment – Will add an additional 2.50 acres to Barto Community Park.

RECREATION FUND

- Township Recreational Budget for 2024

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Update committee member’s contact information.
- Possibly develop a RAC specific Facebook page.
- Edison Walk open space – Native PA prairie grasses (<https://extension.psu.edu/warm-season-grasses-and-wildlife>)
- Contact made with BARDS and Bechtelsville Org. and both groups are interested in meeting during the 1st quarter 2024. Date?
- Washington Township Tree Fund.
- Trail Easements and Licenses

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BOS RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

Chairperson Mark Bedle and Dave Laxx attended the December 21, 2023, BOS meeting to answer any questions regarding the following RAC recommendation letters:

Subdivision Plan Review Recommendation Letter dated November 14, 2024. The Township BOS agreed with the RAC recommendation. Rich Sichler would provide the RAC with the appropriate sections of future subdivision plans for our review.

Comprehensive Parks Plans Recommendation Letter date November 14, 2024. The Township BOS agreed with our recommendation. Rich Sichler would begin to research grants to cover costs. Solicitor Joan London noted that authorization from the Township BOS would be necessary before moving forward with preparation of the actual plans.

Park and Recreation Rules and Regulations Ordinance Recommendation Letter dated December 12, 2023. The Township BOS agreed to review our recommended revisions. Solicitor Joan London will prepare a draft revised parks and recreation rules and regulations ordinance for review and approval by the BOS.

Park Renaming Recommendation Letter dated December 13, 2023. The Township BOS agreed with the single names for Washington Township Park and Barto Community Park. Supervisor Tom Powanda mentioned that there may be a park in Douglas Township called Middle Creek. Chairperson Mark Bedle offered to investigate that before a final decision is made about the new name.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next RAC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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A motion and second to adjourn.