

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

TAPING OF MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Additions, corrections, and approval of the minutes as prepared for the October 10, 2023, RAC meeting.

SPECIAL REQUEST

None

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Safety and Rules – Continue discussion about revisions to the current Township park rules.

- After Hours Use - Township park rules need to be updated to reflect occasional after dusk use.
- Barto Community Park Parking Lot Lighting – This is currently being addressed by the Township BOS and Manager.
- Previously discussed changes to the current Township park rules:
 - Add the use of any vaping devices (tobacco, CBD or flavored) to list of tobacco/”other” products not allowed to be used in any Township parks or open spaces.
 - Add that the use of drones is not allowed in any Township parks or open spaces.
 - Remove the allow use of hitting golf balls in any Township parks or open spaces by special permission from the Township.
 - Add biking as a permissible use in the Township parks or open spaces. Will be dependent on specific park / open space / trail. Needs to include reference to e-bikes and limits.

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- Add dogs are permissible in the Township parks and open spaces. Must be always on leash and under control of the owner. Must pick up waste and deposit in appropriate waste receptacle.
- Add it is illegal to cut, trim or damage any type of vegetation in the Township parks and open spaces.
- Add it is illegal to setoff or use any type of fireworks in the Township parks and open spaces.
- Possible camping allowed at Hoffmansville Road open space? Water source available, no electric. Would require very specific rules and regulations.

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
 - Concert Events, Amateur Hour (Student Bands)

Open Space – Review and approval of draft letter from RAC to Township BOS requesting an opportunity to review and provide recommendations regarding subdivision and land development plans’ open space / fee-in-lieu requirements, to the Township Planning Committee and BOS.

Washington Township Parks, Recreation Areas, and Open Space Ordinance – Open discussion on recommendations for revisions to the ordinance.

Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan – Review and approve draft letter from RAC to Township BOS recommending moving forward with a Township wide comprehensive parks development plan.

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SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW

- Camp Camino – No open space provided.
- Kate’s Place, and Reserve at Barto – Unclear if there is a potential for open space.
- 1606 Main Street – Minor Plan, no open space required.
- Beverly Melcher and Stauffer Road – Minor Plans, no open space required.
- Edison Walk – Major Plan, open space satisfied.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Update committee member’s contact information.
- Update Township Website with correct committee members.
- Possibly develop a RAC specific Facebook page.
- Procedures to communicate with Township Planning Committee and BOS.
- Township Recreational Budget should be reviewed by the RAC and allow RAC to provide recommendations to the Township BOS.
- Hoffmansville open space – Native PA prairie grasses (<https://extension.psu.edu/warm-season-grasses-and-wildlife>)

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next RAC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion and second to adjourn.