

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP  
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 9, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 P.M.**

**REORGANIZATION MEETING CONVENES**

**NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRPERSON**

- 1) The meeting was opened to nominations for Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Dave Laxx to nominate Mark Bedle as Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee for 2024, The motion was seconded by Dwayne Henne. **All Ayes**
- 2) Mark Bedle made a motion to close the nominations.

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

**NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

- 1) The meeting was opened to nominations for Vice-Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Mark Bedle to nominate Dave Laxx as Vice-Chairperson of the Recreation Advisory Committee for 2024, The motion was seconded by Dwayne Henne. **All Ayes**
- 2) Mark Bedle made a motion to close the nominations.

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

**NOMINATIONS FOR SECRETARY**

- 1) The meeting was opened to nominations for Secretary of the Recreation Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Dwayne Henne to nominate Mark Bedle as Secretary of the Recreation Advisory Committee for 2024, The motion was second by Dave Laxx. **All Ayes**
- 2) After all nominations are in, a motion is needed to close the nominations. Mark Bedle made a motion to close the nominations.

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

**The meeting was turned over to the newly elected Chairperson, Mark Bedle.**

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**ACTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED AT REORGANIZATION MEETING**

- 1) A motion was made by Dave Laxx 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. The motion was seconded by Dwayne Henne. **All Ayes**

**REGULAR MEETING CONVENES**

**ROLL CALL**

The following RAC members were present: Dwayne Henne, Mark Bedle, and Dave Laxx. RAC Member Tara Christman was absent. Also, present was Board of Supervisor Romney Long. No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**TAPING OF MEETING**

It was noted that no one was taping the meeting this evening. The meeting was documented by the RAC Secretary.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

All members present approved the Draft December 12, 2023, RAC Meeting Minutes.

**SPECIAL REQUEST**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan**

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

**Official Map**

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- A discussion took place on logistic and development of an Official Map for the Township. Additional discussions took place regarding an alternative(s) to an Official Map.
- It was agreed upon by all members of the RAC to have the Secretary draft a letter to the Township BOS introducing the concept of the Official Map and requesting feedback / direction from the BOS.

**SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW**

- Chairperson Mark Bedle indicated that he would look further into potential open space requirements for the proposed developments named Kate's Place, Reserve at Barto and 1606 Main Street.

**RECREATION FUND**

- The Recreation Fund 2024 budget was discussed, along with the statuses of current grants and pending grant applications. There are currently 3 grant applications, with all being associated with Washington Township Park improvements (Approved parking lot fencing and ADA improvements grant, Pending Niantic Road crosswalk and Niantic Road signal grants). It is anticipated that the Township will be applying for a grant in 2024 to move forward with the master plans for all three township parks.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

- Chairperson Mark Bedle documented the committee member's contact information.
- Chairperson Mark Bedle will schedule a meeting with the BARDS and Bechtelsville Recreation Organization (6:30pm). Will follow-up with RAC members with proposed dates.

**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

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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 investigated potential nearby parks with “Middle Creek” and followed up with the BOS, indicating that there are none.

**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**

A motion was made by Dave Laxx and seconded by Mark Bedle to adjourn the January 9, 2024, RAC meeting at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark D. Bedle  
RAC Chairperson