

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The following RAC members were present: Dwayne Henne, Mark Bedle, and Dave Laxx. Tara Christman was absent, Also, present was Township Manager Sue Brian and 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 February 20, 2024, RAC Meeting Minutes.

SPECIAL REQUEST

None

ACTION ITEMS

Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan

- Final Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan. Copies were provided to RAC and BOS members present.
- Plan & schedule to move forward with goals and recommendations. It was discussed and agreed to finish current recommendations with BOS (Rule & Regulations and Easements) prior to moving forward with parks & Recreation Board formation recommendation letter. Hold until May 2024 BOS meeting. Official Map will be a long-term discussion with BOS and Chairperson Mark Bedle sent Official Map information to Township Solicitor following the February 2024 BOS meeting.

Washington Township Parks & Recreation Logo

- Boyertown High School Logo Contest. – Will discuss with Tara Christman at next meeting.

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Washington Township Summer 2024 Newsletter

- Review draft articles. Chairperson Mark Bedle gave an overview of the process and what articles are being submitted to the publisher. Sue Brown requested bamboo be added to the invasive species article. It was also suggested to add a date to the front page of the newsletter. There was a brief discussion on businesses in and around the Township that may be interested in advertising in the newsletter. Mark Bedle will forward the list to the publisher.

SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW

- Sun Vest Solar, LLC – Accepted for review by the Planning Commission during their April 4, 2024, meeting. There was a discussion on how and when to provide any comments to the BOS and PC about the Sun Vest project. Ultimately, it was decided that Chairperson Mark Bedle will provide the one comment about the proposed seed mix during the June PC meeting, for which he serves as a member.

RECREATION FUND & GRANTS

- Current Grant Status. Chairperson Mark Bedle stated that he needs to discuss the grants with former Township Manager Rich Sichler and Tricia McCloskey at PARCC to make sure we spend funds in accordance with grant conditions. It was agreed upon by the RAC members to send a thank you letter to the Yeck Family Foundation. Chairperson Mark Bedle said he would draft and send one to Township Manger to mail out.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Volunteer Update. Chairperson Mark Bedle indicated that an article will be included in the upcoming newsletter.
- BARDS and Bechtelsville REC Meeting. Chairperson Mark Bedle is still working on getting the meeting scheduled. It was mentioned that maybe attending one of their meetings would make it easier to schedule the meeting.
- Chairperson Mark Bedle informed the RAC that Kutztown University is very interested in assisting the Township with the wetlands study. It would occur during the 24/25 school season. BOS member Romney asked what the purpose of the study and Chairperson Mark Bedle explained that there are most likely wetlands located at our parks and preserve and they should be defined before any trail work begins.

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BOS RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

- Draft Parks & Recreation Board formation recommendation letter to BOS. A discussion took place on schedule of submitting the letter. It was agreed upon by all RAC members to hold the board formation recommendation letter until the May 2024 BOS meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next RAC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dwayne Henne and seconded by Dave Laxx to adjourn the April 9, 2024, RAC meeting at 7:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark D. Bedle
RAC Chairperson