

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 9, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mark Bedle called the Washington Township Parks & Recreation Parks (PRB) Meeting to order at 6:00 PM, at the Washington Township Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

The following PRB members were present: Tara Christman, Dwayne Henne, Dave Laxx, Fangyuan Ge and Mark Bedle. Board of Supervisor Rommie Long was present at the meeting. Four residents were present at the meeting. Absent Members: None

TAPING OF MEETING

It was noted that the PRB Secretary is keeping a handwritten record of the meeting. Bill Piersol, 481 Weinsteiger Road, Bechtelsville, PA, 19505, was taping the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tara Christman requested one correction to the draft November 11, 2025, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Tara Christman and seconded by Dave Laxx to approve the draft meeting minutes (with noted corrections) for the November 11, 2025, PRB meeting.

Ayes – Dave Laxx, Tara Christman, Dwayne Henne & Mark Bedle
Nays - None
Abstentions – Fangyuan Ge

SPECIAL REQUEST

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Regional Trail Meeting – Tara Christman informed the PRB that during the meeting the Berks County Regional Development Authority stated that they had a railroad easement up to Mill Street in Bechtelsville. She also stated that the PRB should review the Berks County Regional Plan, and that Natural Lands is looking to expand available open space in the region.

EVENT STATUS

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- 2026 Event Planning & Schedule – Mark Bedle stated some of the events that the PRB should consider holding in 2026, including the Easter egg hunt / craft fair, plant sale, farmers markets (maybe), 250 anniversary / ice cream party, fall festival / craft fair. A resident mentioned about having a food truck event. It was also discussed about holding a winter bon fire at the BCP, possibly with the boy scouts. Mark Bedle stated that he would run that by the BOS during their next meeting.

SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW

- 1606 Main Street Recreation Revised Plan Review – Mark Bedle discussed the differences between what the developer and the township engineers estimated the recreational facilities would cost. It was discussed that the developer should pay a fee in-lieu to cover the cost difference. Tara Christman requested that the PRB confirm that those fee in-lieu could be used at the WTP. Mark Bedle stated that he would check with the township solicitor about appropriate uses of the fee in-lieu from this development. If it is appropriate to use the fees at the WTP, Mark Bedle will prepare a draft recommendation letter for PRB review.

RECREATION FUND & GRANTS

- 2026 Recreation Budget – Not discussed
- 2026 Spring Grant Projects – The Yeck Family Foundation Grant was discussed with possible projects including a water service at WTP or a water fountain at either WTP or BCP. Mark Bedle stated that he would check on costs to install a water service at the WTP.
- Current Grant Status – The current grant status spreadsheet was provided to the members. Tara Christman stated that costs associated with preparation of the grant applications should be tracked and that she is aware of some costs that currently are not shown on the spreadsheet.

OLD BUSINESS

- Colebrookdale Rail-to-Trail – Briefly discussed above.
- Edison Walk Trail Easement – Tabled until resolution of the sewer relocation.
- Aqua PA Trail Easement – Mark Bedle stated that this is moving forward.
- Padre Pio Trail Easement – Mark Bedle stated that he had a meeting with Padre Pio on November 12, 2025, and that they seem amendable to granting the trail easement. They suggested moving the trail easement to the perimeter of the property as well as trash receptacles, video surveillance, and some lighting along the developed area of the property. Mark Bedle stated that he needed to discuss the revised trail easement's location with the township engineer.

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- SALDO Revisions – Tara Christman raised concerns and asked to seek clarification on whether certain compensated roles, when combined with voting and representation authority, may present a potential conflict of interest or governance concern under our recreation ordinance. It was suggested that Tara Christman address her concerns with and seek clarification from the BOS. It was also decided that the PRB would review the draft SALDO review letter at the January 2026 meeting.
- BCP – Barto Trail Replacement – Tabled
- BCP - Barto Reserve/Aqua PA Trail Easement - Tabled
- BCP - Kiosk Replacement Project – Will occur in 2026
- BCP – Meadowbrook Connector Trail Project- Will occur in 2026
- BCP – Master Plan Project – Mark Bedle stated that CVE submitted two additional proposals for this project. It was decided that the PRB would review those proposal at the January 2026 meeting.
- WTP - Niantic Road Pedestrian Improvement Project - Tabled
- WTP - Wetlands Study - Tabled
- WTP – Master Plan Project - Tabled
- Current Social Pages' Status and Advertisements - Tabled

BOS REPORTS & RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

- Draft December 18, 2025, Parks & Recreation Board Report – The draft report was not included in the agenda packet. Mark Bedle stated that he would email the draft report to the members for their review and comments.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 2025 Parks & Recreation Annual Report
- PARRC Return on Investment 2025 Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Supervisors workshop meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm. and the next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 7:00 pm. It was noted that the BOS workshop meeting on December 11, 2025, was cancelled.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING

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The next PRB Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 7:00 pm. Tara Christman raised a concern that the publish dates for the PRB meetings might have stated 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm. Mark Bedle stated that he would follow up with the Township Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dave Henne and seconded by Dave Laxx to adjourn the December 9, 2025, PRB meeting at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark D. Bedle
PRB Secretary