

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 11, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mark Bedle called the Washington Township Parks & Recreation Parks (PRB) Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, at the Washington Township Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

The following PRB members were present: Dwayne Henne, Dave Laxx, Susan Hu, Tara Christman, and Mark Bedle. Absent PRB Members: None Board of Supervisors Romnie Long and Matt McClusky were present at the meeting. Two members of the public were also in attendance

TAPING OF MEETING

It was noted that the PRB Secretary is keeping a handwritten record of the meeting. Tara Christman (Barto, PA), Bill Piersol (Bechtelsville, PA) and Barbara Dunn (Barto, PA) were also noted taping the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dwayne Henne and seconded by Tara Christman to approve the draft meeting minutes for the May 12, 2026, PRB meeting.

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

A motion was made by Dave Laxx and seconded by Susan Hu to approve the draft meeting minutes for the July 14, 2026, PRB meeting.

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

SPECIAL REQUEST

None

NEW BUSINESS

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BCP – Illegal Dumping. Mark Bedle discussed the ongoing issue with grass clipping/yard waste being dumped at the Sugar Maple Drive trail entrance to the BCP. Tara Christman mentioned that maybe the landscaper for the Meadowbrook townhouses is dumping the grass cuttings. Mark Bedle stated that he will reach out to the HOA to investigate. Mark Bedle will also recommend to the BOS that the weeds be cut down along Sugar Maple Drive to make the no dumping signs more visible.

EVENT STATUS

- 2026 Event Planning & Schedule
 - Summer Fun Day / 250 Anniversary Celebration Event - Event was a big hit with approximately 160 people in attendance (water slide was very popular).
 - Fall Festival Event – Will occur on October 4th from 1PM to 8PM at the Barto Community Park. At the July BOS meeting, the \$5,000 2026 Fall Festival budget was approved, and vendors have been rescheduled. The festival time was extended to 8pm to have the bon fire.
 - Bingo Event – October 18th from 1pm to 3pm – Mark Bedle has collected several prizes (\$75 Longacre basket, 2 x \$25 Walmart gift cards, and \$10, \$20, \$30 Longacre gift cards. Mark also stated that he will ask Wendy's for mums. Mark Bedle presented an estimate budget of \$200. Budget to include cost of cards, soda, chips. Bingo card price will be \$0.25 each. Leftover money at end of night to be given as prize. Susan volunteered to collect more prizes from local businesses, make cupcakes and assist Mark. Note, Spring Valley village bingo is first and third Wednesday of month. A motion was made by Dwayne Henne and seconded by Dave Laxx to recommend to the BOS a \$200 bingo event budget.

Ayes – Dave Laxx, Dwayne Henne, Tara Christman, Susan Hu & Mark Bedle

Nays - None

Abstentions – None

- 2027 Proposed Events
 - Arts in the Park – Mark Bedle discussed the possibility of holding this event in 2027. PRB members agreed to try and hold this event next year.
 - Other future events discussed included, community yard sale, potentially in collaboration with other community yard sales given many people enjoy yard sale shopping days. Community Christmas ornament making event, and holiday card making event. PRB members will think

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of additional types of events to have in 2027 and will discuss at next meeting.

SUBDIVISION AND OPEN SPACE REVIEW

A discussion took place regarding recreational facilities at the 1606 Main Street development. Mark Bedle stated that the developer is now indicating that they are unable to get access to install the sidewalk at 1600 Main Street. The PRB feels that it very important for the development to be tied into the Bally sidewalk network. Tara Christman raised concerns about the level of effort the developer has put into getting permission to install the sidewalk. Mark Bedle will follow-up with Susan Brown regarding reaching out to the property owner to discuss the sidewalk. Mark Bedle stated that a possible trail could extend from the 1606 Main Street property to 9th Street in Bally (which might already have a storm water easement). It was noted that because Bally may hold the storm sewer easement, it might make things difficult to negotiate a trail easement overlay.

RECREATION FUND & GRANTS

- Grant Budgets – Mark Bedle presented a detailed summary of the current parks & recreation projects and associated grants & budgets.
- Current Grant Status – The current grant status spreadsheet was provided to the PRB members.
- Draft 2027 Recreation Budget – Mark Bedle presented and gave a brief overview of the draft 2027 PRB budget. Mark Bedle asked the other members of the PRB to take some time and review the draft budget and come prepared to the September meeting to discuss potential projects for 2027. Mark Bedle discussed possible recommending the installation of bird houses in the parks and a free program the game commission offers to install chimney swift / purple martin houses in the township.

OLD BUSINESS

Most of the below project were discussed in detail, earlier in the meeting to update new PRB member Susan Hu.

- Colebrookdale Rail-to-Trail – Discussed previously.
- Edison Walk Trail Easement - Tabled
- BCP - Barto Reserve/Aqua PA Trail Easement – No Update
- BCP - Kiosk Replacement Project – Mark Bedle stated that the scout is still working on this project.

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- BCP – Barto Trail Replacement – Mark Bedle stated that the BOS approved the plan to apply for the PRCF grant to cover the project costs.
- BCP – Meadowbrook Connector Trail Project – Mark Bedle stated that this project will be completed in the fall 2026.
- BCP – Master Plan Project – Mark Bedle stated that the next study committee / public meeting will take place on August 18th at 7:00pm.
- WTP – Playground Replacement Project – No Action
- WTP - Niantic Road Pedestrian Improvement Project – Mark Bedle stated that LTL is still obtaining the necessary PADOT permits to complete this project.
- WTP - Wetlands Study – No Action
- WTP – Master Plan Project – Discussed Study Committee and the need for additional members for this project. Tara Christman mentioned that Ben Mesamore might be interested.
- Current Social Pages' Status and Advertisements – No Action

BOS REPORTS & RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

- Draft August 27, 2026, Parks & Recreation Board Report. Mark Bedle stated that the report will be revised with the recommendation to conduct a bingo event in October 2026. A motion was made by Susan Hu and seconded by Dave Laxx to approve the draft report with the noted revision.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Barto Community Park Master Plan Study Committee & Public Participation meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Board of Supervisors workshop meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Board of Supervisors regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

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The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

The next Environmental Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next PRB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Susan Hu and seconded by Dave Laxx to adjourn the August 11, 2026, PRB meeting at 8:15 pm. All members agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Bedle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being more prominent.

Mark D. Bedle
PRB Secretary