

CARLISLE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

The Carlisle Parks and Recreation Board met on Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Stuart Community Center.

The following board members were present: Chairman Bob Schmidlein, Curtis Stevens, Whitney Baker, Eric Oakman and Christopher Bratton. Marv Salsman and Jennifer Love were absent.

Parks & Recreation Director, Andrea Crouse and Recreation Assistant, Kara Landis attended. Borough Council Liaison Jackie Roos did not attend.

Douglas Cubbison from the Sons of American Revolution attended.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Schmidlein at 7:04 pm.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2025 MINUTES

Minutes from August 7, 2025, meeting were approved.

Stevens/Baker

PUBLIC COMMENT

Douglas Cubbison, from the Sons of American Revolution, a military historian and museum curator at the Army Heritage and Education Center (AHEC) attended to seek approval for installing two historical signs at Biddle Mission Park to commemorate the Carlisle Entrenched Camp Forbes Road ,1758. Although Carlisle played a critical role in supply and logistics for the 1758 Forbes campaign, supporting forts such as Fort Duquesne, Fort Loudoun, and Fort Bedford, there is currently no historical recognition of this in the area. The proposed roadside sign would resemble a traditional historical marker, while the second interpretive panel would include detailed historical context and photographs, similar to a wayside educational marker. Mr. Cubbison said the Sons of American Revolution would provide funds to cover all costs of the signs and their installation.

Curtis Stevens feels this is a significant event in American history and should be recognized within the Borough. He also believes historical signage would be appropriate. Bob Schmidlein suggested involving the East Side Neighbors group. Director Crouse suggested involving Historic Carlisle, Inc.

Whitney Baker made a motion to agree to the signs depending on location selection. Eric Oakman seconded the motion.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Upgrades at Heberlig Palmer Park began on September 2, 2025. Crews have removed the old playground equipment and leveled the ground. Installation of the new play equipment is scheduled to begin the week of September 8, with project completion, barring any unforeseen weather or project disturbances, this fall.

The last day of the 2025 Carlisle Community Pool season was September 1, 2025. Total attendance for the season was 19,125, slightly below last year's total of 19,692. Pool Manager Anne Monko successfully trained all three Assistant Pool Managers to become Registered Pesticide Technicians through the PA Department of Agriculture. She created a training program with a combination of online lessons created through nearpod, and in person training sessions at the pool. This training will now take place annually.

Progress also continues at Fairground Avenue Linear Park regarding the security cameras for the Skate Spot and Lot D. Electrical equipment has been installed, and we are awaiting installation from PPL and the security camera company. A License Agreement with Carlisle Senior Housing Associates is needed to install a wireless point-to-point radio network at 1 West Penn senior housing to install wireless equipment on their roof to carry security data from the cameras on the Fairground Avenue Linear Park to the Borough's camera network at the Carlisle Police Station.

NEW BUSINESS

Eric Oakman expressed concern about park maintenance, citing Lindner Park as an example. He noted that the sidewalk around the playground was unusable due to overgrown bushes, and the swing area was overtaken by 4-foot-high thistles. Staff will contact Parks Maintenance about Lindner Park.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

The Shade Tree Committee and the Climate Action Committee will jointly meet to discuss shade trees and sidewalks on September 17, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Oakman/Baker

The next Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be held on October 2, 2025. If any members are unable to attend, please contact Director Andrea Crouse.