

CARLISLE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

The Carlisle Parks and Recreation Board met on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Stuart Community Center.

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

Parks & Recreation Director, Andrea Crouse, Borough Council Liaison Jackie Roos, and Recreation Assistant, Kara Landis attended.

Borough resident Jason Turner attended.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Schmidlein at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MAY 2025 MINUTES

Minutes from the May 1, 2025, meeting were approved.

Salsman/Stevens

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On June 18 at 8:30 PM, a special lighting ceremony will be held at Lincoln Cemetery to honor the 51 veterans buried there, most of whom were Black soldiers who served in the Civil War. As part of Hope Station's Juneteenth events, the lighting ceremony symbolizing lasting respect and remembrance. The project was made possible through funding from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

The basketball courts at Memorial Park have recently been resurfaced and repainted. The Summer Basketball League 2025 (youth) will begin at Memorial Park on June 17, 2025. At Heberlig Palmer Park, a new concrete pad has been poured, and new picnic tables will be assembled soon. Additionally, new playground equipment is scheduled to be installed later this summer. A safety recall has been issued on a piece of equipment at Fort Letort. Playworld Play Systems has the Borough of Carlisle on the list to receive a replacement part.

Director Crouse expressed disappointment over the ongoing vandalism at local parks, citing repeated incidents such as tipping over port-a-johns, stealing hand sanitizer from inside the units, pulling water fountains off building walls, and damaging park equipment. Due to these issues, she noted that the port-a-john has been removed from the Skate Spot, as the vandalism and related problems made it unsustainable to keep it there. The Skate Spot is awaiting a power drop from PP&L to install video surveillance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Borough resident, Jason Turner, attended to discuss the Skate Spot mural. As a user of the Skate Spot, he pointed out several factors to consider while installing the mural. He was

concerned about the mural making shadows on the pipe and also about using the correct paint. Command by Benjamin Moore makes a product that will work in this application, it is used in industrial applications.

Jennifer Love made a motion to approve the “waves” design. Marv Salzman seconded the motion. The group was in favor of the design. The park will be closed July 7 through July 29, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion about Fort Letort and whether shade or lighting was more desirable for the playground. The group unanimously agreed that shade is more important and based on the Board input, the recommendation is to prioritize shade improvements.

Marv Salsman requested that the topic of e-bikes be added to this month's agenda. He expressed concern about the lack of clarity regarding what is permitted in borough parks and on trails. Marv believes it's important to clearly define and communicate what is allowed on these properties.

Curtis Stevens provided the DCNR e-bike regulations as a potential model, and Eric Oakman suggested that the borough consider adopting these regulations.

Additionally, Marv Salsman is recommending the installation of signage to help inform and guide cyclists about what is permitted.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

During the Spring 2025 Street Tree Planting, 18 trees were planted at Borough addresses.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Love/Salzman

The next Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be held on August 7, 2025. If any members are unable to attend, please contact Director Andrea Crouse.