

CARLISLE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

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

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

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

Jennifer Love left the meeting at 7:35pm.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF JUNE 2025 MINUTES

Minutes from June 5, 2025, meeting were approved.

Stevens/Oakman

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carlisle Parks and Recreation is pleased to welcome Garth Ericson as our new Recreation and Community Center Manager. He officially joined the team on July 21, 2025. Garth comes to us from York, PA, with a strong background in Parks and Recreation. His previous experience includes serving as Parks and Recreation Director at Manchester Township, PA for seven years. He has also worked with Robert Morris University, The Lowell School, and the Tyrone Area YMCA. Garth has hit the ground running and is already doing an excellent job.

The Skate Spot mural project began on July 7 and was completed on July 29, 2025. The mural is now open to the public. Nearly 200 community members participated in painting the mural, with residents of all ages and backgrounds contributing to the project. The bowl area will continue to allow graffiti, maintaining it as a space for creative expression. To keep the space fresh, the bowl will be repainted once or twice a year to make room for new artwork. The project received media coverage, with both Fox 43 News and The Sentinel featuring segments and articles about the mural. A sign will soon be installed to recognize and thank all the sponsors who supported this community-driven project.

National Night Out was August 5, 2025, at the Carlisle Expo Center. Carlisle Parks and Recreation held a Bike Rodeo at the event. Over 40 participants navigated a six-station obstacle course. After they completed the course, they received bicycle themed prizes. Another Bike Rodeo will be held November 8, 2025, at the Carlisle Pump Track in conjunction with the Cumberland Youth Cycling Development.

NEW BUSINESS

The Carlisle Area Pickleball Association has expressed interest in moving forward with the installation of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) at the Letort Park pickleball courts. They have submitted a video in support of this initiative and would like Letort Park to serve as a pilot location, with the goal of expanding AED installations to other parks in the future. During the discussion, Marv Salsman inquired about which additional parks would be included in the broader AED program. In response, Director Crouse asked the Parks & Recreation Board to compile a list of high-traffic recreation areas they believe should be prioritized for potential AED placement.

Whitney Baker made a motion to approve the installation of the AED at Letort Park. Jennifer Love seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved.

2025 Fall program registration is now open. Brochures were mailed to 612 households and emailed electronically to 3600 people. Several new programs are being offered such as Forest Bathing, Writing to Heal and Barre classes.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

The Shade Tree Committee and the Sustainable Community and Economic Planning Department will jointly meet to discuss the current Shade Tree Ordinance on September 17, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Stevens/Salzman

The next Parks & Recreation Board meeting will be held on September 4, 2025. If any members are unable to attend, please contact Director Andrea Crouse.