

CARLISLE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

The Carlisle Parks and Recreation Board met on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 7:00pm at the Stuart Community Center.

The following board members were present: Chairman Bob Schmidlein, Curtis Stevens, Whitney Baker, Eric Oakman, Christopher Bratton, and Jackie Roos.

Marv Salsman attended via telephone. Jennifer Love did not attend.

Parks & Recreation Director, Andrea Crouse, Recreation and Pool Manager, Anne Monko, and Recreation Assistant, Kara Landis attended.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2025 MINUTES

Minutes from October 2, 2025, meeting were approved.

Stevens/Bratton

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Anne Monko, Recreation and Pool Manager, presented the 2025 Carlisle Community Pool Annual Report. The pool was open 80 out of 84 days with an average daily attendance of 239 patrons. The pool had a large seasonal staff including 3 assistant managers, 3 headguards, 19 lifeguards, and 11 pool attendants, all of whom participated in preseason and weekly in-service training. Maintenance during the season included waterslide maintenance, retiling around the perimeter of the tot pool and replacing sand in the filter of the tot pool. Swim lessons, teen nights, pool parties, and food trucks will continue in 2026.

The Engage survey, posted in October 2025 on the Borough website, had a 66 people complete the survey with 75% of respondents satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience at the community pool. Suggestions were made for more food options, a few evening swims throughout the season and music speaker upgrades. Common concerns were rough housing and restroom cleanliness.

Director Crouse gave an update on the Comprehensive Recreation Park and Open Space Plan. Five Request for Proposals (RFP's) were sent out and four consulting firms responded. The Selection Committee is recommending evolveEA based their experience, approach, and their alignment with Carlisle's strategic goals and the scope outlined in the RFP.

Borough Council will vote on the consulting firm at the February 12, 2026, Borough Council Meeting. If approved, evolveEA's work will unfold over a fourteen-month period starting March 2026 and progressing through four stages: listening and learning, analysis and

recommendations, prioritization and finding strategies, and final plan rollout by April 2027. The plan will include a robust public engagement process and will focus on enhancing parks and recreation facilities, improving accessibility for all ages and abilities, evaluating vacant and distressed lands for potential reuse, analyzing program equity, reviewing the recreation Fee in Lieu Ordinance, and developing a Maintenance Management Plan. The plan will cost \$199,977 and will be paid for by a combination of Borough capital funds and a DCNR grant. A Cumberland County Land Partnership grant has been applied for to assist with funding.

Director Crouse reported she is working with a District Supervisor at USDA Wildlife Services to renew the contract for vulture management services for a second year. If Borough Council approves the contract at their February 12 Council meeting, the contract period will run March 10, 2026 – March 9, 2027. The current contract expires March 9, 2026. Through January 28, 2026, the program successfully dispersed 501 black and 15 turkey vultures without killing any birds or destroying nests. The total cost of the program in 2025 was \$6,467.

The Carlisle Area Pickleball Association (CAPA), WellSpan Health, and the Peyton Walker Foundation are working together to fund and install an AED and climate controlled SaveStation cabinet at the pickleball courts at Letort Park. CAPA will contribute \$1000 to Carlisle Borough for an annual AED subscription dues, monthly maintenance costs, AED replacement pads and batteries, and electricity usage fees. This will appear as a consent agenda item on the February 12, 2026, Borough Council meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Roger Spitz, President of the Carlisle Area Sertoma Club, based in Biddle Mission Park, sent a letter of inquiry regarding the installation of two pickleball courts at Biddle Mission Park. Director Crouse will send a letter to Mr. Spitz explaining the Comprehensive Recreation Park and Open Space Plan and invite the Carlisle Area Sertoma Club to participate in the process.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

The Shade Tree Committee has a potential upcoming hearing regarding two trees that were removed without prior approval on N. Pitt Street.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Schmidlein/Oakman