

CARLISLE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

The Carlisle Parks and Recreation Board met on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Stuart Community Center.

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

Marv Salsman was absent.

Parks & Recreation Director, Andrea Crouse and Recreation Assistant, Kara Landis attended.

Borough Council Liaison Jackie Roos did not attend.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2025 MINUTES

Minutes from September 4, 2025, meeting were approved.

Stevens/Bratton

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This year's Carlisle Halloween Parade will take place on Wednesday, October 22, 2025. The parade will follow a new route this year due to milling and paving South Hanover Street from High Street to Lindsey Lane. The new parade route will start at Biddle Mission Park, proceed along E. North Street, turn left onto North Hanover Street, then turn right at the Square onto East High Street, and end at West Street. The parade will disband at South and North West Streets.

Anne Monko has created a pool survey for 2025 season pass holders, which is now available on the Engage Carlisle website. A printed version is available at Borough Hall, Bosler Library and the Stuart Community Center. So far, 47 people have responded to the 16-question survey. Anne will use the feedback to develop improvements for the 2026 pool season.

At the February 1, 2024, Parks and Recreation Board meeting, Curtis Stevens introduced the idea of a "Chat Bench." That idea is now becoming a reality. Director Crouse has been working with Scout Addison Haller, a sophomore at Carlisle High School. Addison will install a Chat Bench at LeTort Park along the stream over Columbus Day weekend as part of her Eagle Scout project.

Addison has partnered with Domestic Violence Services for this project, and the bench will be painted purple to raise awareness. A wayside sign will also be placed next to the bench, providing information about the LeTort stream and local birdlife.

Borough Council approved the design and installation of the Biddle Mission Park forested riparian buffer as part of the Borough's stormwater master plan and pollutant reduction plan under the Borough's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) NPDES permit.

The riparian buffer at Biddle Mission Park is now complete. MS4 Coordinator Rebecca Lauver who will host a training session for park maintainers and seasonal mowing staff on proper mowing and weeding techniques in the in riparian buffer area.

Signs will be installed to educate the public on the purpose of the riparian buffer, which is to expand and enhance the forested riparian buffer for improved function to reduce nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment discharge to the stream. The sign helps to identify which plants are intentional and which are weeds.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Bob Scheimlein asked Jennifer Love about plans for America's 250th anniversary in 2026. She stated that, as part of the 2026 America250 celebrations, the Liberty Trees and Liberty Bells initiative is underway. More information can be found at America250PA.com

Trick or Treat will be held October 31, 2025, in the Borough.

There will be no meeting on December 4, 2025, as it coincides with the Holiday Parade.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

The Shade Tree Committee and the Climate Action Committee met jointly in September. They discussed possible updates to the shade tree ordinance and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The committees will continue their discussions at another joint meeting on October 15, 2025, at the Stuart Community Center at 5:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Oakman/Love