

CARLISLE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

The Carlisle Parks and Recreation Board met Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 7:00 pm at the Stuart Community Center.

The following Board Members were present: Chairman Bob Schmidlein, Curtis Stevens, Whitney Baker, Eric Oakman, Marv Salsman, and Jennifer Love. Christopher Bratton did not attend.

Parks & Recreation Director, Andrea Crouse, Recreation Assistant, Kara Landis, and Jackie Roos, Borough Council Liaison also attended. Keith Brenneman, attended as Borough of Carlisle Solicitor.

Scott Shewell, President and CEO of Safe Harbour, Inc. attended.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES

Minutes from the March 5, 2026, Parks and Recreation Board meeting were approved.
Stevens/Love

SHADE TREE COMMISSION HEARING

Solicitor Brenneman stated the purpose of the Shade Tree Commission Hearing was to discuss the unpermitted removal of two street trees located at 132 N. Pitt Street and 134 N. Pitt Street.

Director Crouse said Shade Tree Committee member, Kelsey Mummert reported the removals at the November 2025 Shade Tree Committee meeting.

Mr. Shewell said he hired BSM to remove a tree at 134 N. Pitt Street; however, when BSM arrived, they mistakenly cut down the tree at 132 N. Pitt Street, which belonged to Shannon Underwood, in addition to the unpermitted tree at 134 N. Pitt Street.

Mr. Shewell said the issue of the tree at 134 N. Pitt Street was brought to his attention by a tenant who reported the tree branches were pulling the PPL lines away from the rental home.

Mr. Shewell said he met with the estimator from BSM Landscaping and was provided with a quote that he signed and was told that they would handle all Borough permits.

A motion was made to separate the two addresses and continue the discussion focusing only on 134 N. Pitt Street for the remainder of the evening's discussion. Baker/Stevens

All members in attendance voted in favor of the motion (6-0).

A motion was made to give Safe Harbour the option to either replant a tree and incur no fine, or choose not to replant, fill in the tree well, and pay the fine. Oakman/Baker

All members in attendance voted in favor of the motion (6-0).

Director Crouse will send a letter outlining these options to Mr. Shewell.

Mr. Shewell stated that he would prefer not to replant. Bob Schmedlin and Suzanne Hartley recommended replanting, with Ms. Hartley emphasizing the importance of selecting the “right tree for the right place.”

Mr. Shewell indicated that he would be open to further discussion with the Shade Tree Committee regarding tree planting and would like their recommendations for an appropriate replacement tree.

The issue of 132 N. Pitt Street will be addressed as a separate matter and will need further clarification from the Borough Manager.

The Shade Tree Commission Hearing ended at 7:55PM

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The Comprehensive Recreation Park Open and Space plan will have its first steering committee in April 2026.

Curtis Stevens praised Director Crouse for the Excellence in Parks and Recreation Award her and her staff received at the March 2026 Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society conference. The award was in recognition for the Carlisle Skate Spot mural.

NEW BUSINESS

Aron Rook has contacted Director Crouse about doing another mural in the Borough. Director Crouse suggested a mural at the Carlisle Community Pool pavilion. Ms. Rook is collaborating with a Boiling Springs Girl Scout on this project, and sketches will be provided at a later date.

The May 2026 meeting won’t be held. The next meeting will be held June 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Stevens/Salsman