

# MINUTES

## BUTLER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION OCTOBER 15, 2024

### ATTENDANCE:

Vice President, **Lisa Campbell**, Rotary AM  
**Virgil Cousins**, Karns City  
**Dustin Drew**, Moraine State Park  
**Denton Zeronas**, Slippery Rock Borough  
**Brian Perry**, Adam's Township  
**David Blair**, Cranberry Township  
Commissioner, **Leslie Osche**, Rotary PM  
**Perry Latimer**, Butler County Tourism  
**Tom Knights**, Butler Township  
**Chris Ziegler**, Butler Freeport Community Trails President  
**Lance Welliver**, Butler County Parks and Recreation, Director  
**Ashley Helmstaedter**, Butler County Parks and Recreation, Assistant Director  
**Braden MacBeth**, Butler County Parks and Recreation, Program Manager  
**Colleen Rhodes**, Butler County Parks and Recreation, Administrative Assistant

### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:04pm. There was a quorum present. Vice President of the Park Advisory Board, Lisa Campbell, conducted the meeting by asking if anyone would motion for the approval of the August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting minutes.

### MINUTES

The August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Chis Ziegler, second by Dustin Drew. Motion carried.

### REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Virgil Cousins-** Mr. Cousins reported the Karns City Park has been shut down for the winter. The first ever Karns City Community Day had a good turnout. He also reported a monument has been dedicated to veterans outside the borough building, with hopes to be installed by the end of 2024.

**Dustin Drew-** Mr. Drew reported McConnell's Mill Heritage Festival had a great turn out for the first day. He also reported America205PA planted a Liberty Tree in a ceremony that took place at Moraine. A tulip poplar tree was planted outside of the South Shore Park Office at Moraine State Park.

**Denton Zeronas-** Mr. Zeronas reported DCED Grant funded project has been completed after the install of the rubber surface has been installed on the playground at Slippery Rock Park. Octoberfest took place on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> on Main Street. He also stated that the soccer season is approaching, and they are gearing up for Holiday festivities, such as Thanksgiving and Breakfast with Santa.

**Brian Perry-** Mr. Perry reported they hosted a Car Cruise to benefit a local resident in need of a heart transplant, raising \$3600. He also reported their Halloween Parade will take place on 10/19. The park is finishing up fencing and lighting for the pickleball courts. Mr. Perry also reported that they will continue to take donations for hurricane relief until the end of the month.

**David Blair –** Mr. Blair reported that budget season has wrapped up. He also reported that they are re-vamping staff, adding one more program supervisor, and an administrative assistant. Pickleball has earned 1.2 million for Cranberry Parks and Recreation, and they are adding 2 public play courts for free use.

**Commissioner, Leslie Osche-** Ms. Osche reported for the PM Rotary that upgrades have been completed on the pavilion on Christy Ave, the soffit and fascia has been replaced. She also reported the poles in the cultural district have yet to be installed as they are waiting for hardware.

**Perry Latimer-** Ms. Latimer reported it is Sports Conference show season. They are currently bidding on a softball event with Slippery Rock, as well as Pittsburgh Disc Golf and Butler County Bowling Association. There is also a Labor Day girls hockey event in the works, as well as small college rugby in November of 2024. Ms. Latimer also reported that Pittsburgh Power Softball will be hosting a 4<sup>th</sup> of July event in the coming year, which typically receives 140 teams.

**Tom Knights-** Mr. Knights reported that on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Small college rugby will have an all-day Round Robin tournament. Butler township hosted an Oktoberfest event on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The project on the athletic fields is coming along, the lights have been tested and are shadow free. Mr. Knights also reported that on October 30<sup>th</sup>, Preston Park will be hosting a trick-or-treat event. He also reported that there are plans to build new athletic fields in the coming year.

**Chirs Ziegler-** Ms. Ziegler reported the Buffalo Creek half marathon will take place this upcoming Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. She also reported DCNR inspection for the trail extension will be occurring on October 26<sup>th</sup>, with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11am. This extension will increase the length of the trail by 6/10 of a mile.

**Lisa Campbell-** Ms. Campbell reported the AM Rotary donated a new sound system for First Responders Pavilion at Alameda Park. Ms. Campbell reported that a Peace Pole has been installed as well near the Rotary Shelter at Alameda Park.

**Braden MacBeth-** Mr. Macbeth shared his program report. The pool at Alameda is closed for the season. Fitness in the Park has also been wrapped up for the season. Monster mile took place over the weekend with excellent attendance.

### **THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Welliver reported he'd like to thank Butler Township Police for assistance with vandalism at the playground, as well as taking care of individuals attempting to live inside the park.

Mr. Welliver also reported that the pool cover will be installed on 10/19 and 10/20. The Tuff Tornado Run hosted at Alameda Park, attracted 480 participants, as well as new bike races which attracted 250 riders to the park.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The CDBG ADA pedestrian walkway was completed on October 11, stretching 1/3 of a mile. The DCNR has not yet approved the spring submission of the Comp Plan or the Diamond Park project, as well as others in the county.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Upcoming Events

In the coming weeks, Alameda Park will host Haunted Trail, Safe Sitter Classes, Flag Football, Breakfast with Santa, and Santa's Workshop.

#### Jade's Dog Park

Temporary Fencing was discussed for the dog park. It as decided that no temporary fencing will be used at this time. It was also agreed that there will be no change to closures of the dog park, and it will remain open once again this winter.

#### Capital Items

Items for the water park that were ordered in the spring have arrived and will be ready to go for the 2025 season.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12pm. Motion by Virgil Cousins, second by Dustin Drew. All agreed and motion carried. The next meeting will be held on November 19th, 2024.

Respectively Submitted,  
Colleen Rhodes