

**BUTLER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY COMMISSION
JUNE 17TH, 2025**

ATTENDANCE:

Lisa Campbell, Rotary AM
Denton Zeronas, Slippery Rock Borough
Commissioner, **Leslie Osche**, Rotary PM
Dave Blair, Cranberry Township
Dustin Drew, Moraine, and McConnell's Mills
Brian Perry, Adam's Township
Jennifer Rottman, Eau Claire
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
Bridget Preston, Butler County Parks and Recreation, Intern
Tom Knights, Butler Township

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm. There was a quorum present. President of the Park Advisory Board, Lisa Campbell, conducted the meeting by asking if anyone would motion for the approval of the May 20th, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion by Brian Perry, second By Dustin Drew. Motion carried.

REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Jennifer Rottman – Ms. Rottman reported that Eau Claire will have a community yard sale on July 7th. She also reported that Eau Claire's Community Day will take place on August 23rd.

Tom Knights – Mr. Knight reported the construction of Butler Township's new field is not yet underway. Contracts to be completed next Thursday with construction to follow. He reported fields have been used for various sports such as rugby, flag football, soccer, and lacrosse, as well as youth camps.

Commissioner Osche – Commissioner Osche had nothing to report.

Dave Blair – Mr. Blair reported Cranberry Township is preparing for their upcoming Community Days. He also reported camp is off to a great start, hosting approximately 200 campers. Mr. Blair also discussed waterpark challenges with the weather. Mr. Blair also discussed meeting with a pool consultant to discuss the future of the pool.

Brian Perry – Mr. Perry reported Adam's Township splashpad is open and busy, with as many as 200 people during their busy hours. Mr. Perry reported they have a strong staff with many returners from previous seasons. He reported private rentals have doubled from last year. Mr. Perry reported a painting project with Sheilds Paving began last week. Mr. Perry reported the park will be hosting a Christmas in July event at the end of July, which will mimic the event hosted in December. Plans for Adam's Township car show is underway, as they are currently looking for a family or individual in need to be a beneficiary for the event.

Denton Zeronas – Mr. Zeronas reported Summer Play Safe is underway, hosting 15-20 kids last week, with 25-30 scheduled for this week. He also reported adventure camps are underway. Mr. Zeronas reported they are getting ready for their Fourth of July event, with vendors and fireworks on Main Street in Slippery Rock. They have raised over \$9000 for fireworks, as well as having 3 bands lined up for entertainment.

Dustin Drew – Mr. Drew reported construction for improvements at Moraine is still underway. The marinas are currently open, although there are not flushing facilities. Mr. Drew reported the parks are currently fully staffed and have many programs underway. Mr. Drew reported the state legislation is to begin working on a project at McConnell's Mills, essentially creating a park within a park.

Lisa Campbell- Ms. Campbell had nothing to report.

THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR –

Mr. Welliver introduced Bridget Preston, Butler County Parks and Recreation's intern for the summer. Ms. Preston shared her presentation on the grants for Butler County Parks from 2016 to the present, which included graphs and spreadsheets. Ms. Preston also reported on the items the grants were used for as well as how our park impacts other communities.

OLD BUSINESS - Mr. Welliver thanked Butler Township Police who caught 2 females who had scaled the fence and were swimming in the pool after hours. 2 chairs were reported to be broken in the incident. The females are being charged for trespassing as well as charged for the broken chairs.

Mr. Welliver reported Alameda playground repairs continue. One slide has been replaced, and we are waiting on delivery for the other parts required to complete the remainder of the repairs needed.

Mr. Welliver reported the DCNR Grant for Marion Township playground is ready to close, as is the project on Connoquenessing playground. He reported the project at Father Marinaro Park is in the bidding phase, and Harmony playground is waiting for sidewalk installation. Mr. Welliver reported Jefferson township's Sebco Pool project is in the bidding phase.

Mr. Welliver reported Penn Township's Harcrest Park is in development and Emily Brittan is placing an order for fall installation of playground equipment.

NEW BUSINESS

Braden MacBeth- Mr. MacBeth shared his program report.

Mr. MacBeth shared that seasonal sports including softball, disc golf, softball, and volleyball are in full swing.

He reported camp is off to a great start, with 65-80 children enrolled each week. Mr. MacBeth reported Safe Sitter will pick back up at the end of the summer.

Mr. MacBeth reported on other programs taking place this summer, including Fitness in the Park at the Carousel Shelter on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Drum Circle on Wednesdays.

Mr. MacBeth reported on the delay of the pool opening. The pool was originally slated to open on May 31st, but the opening was postponed until June 2nd due to rain and unseasonable cool temperatures. Mr. MacBeth reported on Moonlight swims scheduled this summer, with DJs and Karaoke. Mr. MacBeth also reported that Mars Scuba will be hosting a "Try it" events and certifications at the pool over the summer.

CAPITAL ITEMS

Mr. Welliver reported that the park is exploring options to replace water fountains at the dog park.

Mr. Welliver reported that they would like to upgrade the waterslides at the pool in the future, as well as lane lines and reels. Options are being explored.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04PM, motion by Dustin Drew, second by Brian Perry. There will be no meeting in July. The next meeting will be held on August 19th.

Respectively Submitted,

Colleen Rhodes