

# Parks and Recreation Board

## April 9, 2026

### Meeting Minutes

#### ATTENDANCE:

Codie Culley, Chairman  
Kolten Gouse, Vice Chairman  
Karen Hubbard, Secretary  
Norm Seitz, Board Member  
Diane Shellenhamer, Board Liaison

#### CALL TO ORDER AT 5:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public were present to provide comments.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

##### Approval of the meeting minutes for March 12, 2026

Motion by Norm Seitz to approve the meeting minutes for March 12, 2026. Seconded by Vice Chair Gouse. Motion carried unanimously.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Discussion of sponsoring a Youth Earth Day activity

Board Liaison, Diane Shellenhamer introduced the topic, noting that Earth Day falls on April 22nd and suggested coordinating with Newberry Elementary School to plant a tree in recognition of both Earth Day and Arbor Day, which occurs two days later on April 25th. The Board acknowledged that with only 13 days remaining, the timeframe was challenging for organizing an event this year.

The discussion shifted to involving York Haven Elementary School, which is located next to Shelley Park. Norm Seitz volunteered to reach out to the school to explore possibilities for a tree planting activity, potentially on Friday, April 25th for Arbor Day rather than the Wednesday Earth Day date. The Board noted that involving

all three township schools - Newberry, York Haven, and Red Mill - in a coordinated event would be ideal for future years.

The consensus was that while this year's event would be modest due to time constraints, it could serve as a foundation for a larger, more coordinated effort involving all township schools in subsequent years. The Board emphasized the educational value of such events for children and the opportunity to explain the role of Parks and Recreation in the community.

## Discussion of potential disc golf course at Shelley's park

Jay Bowser from Freefall Creative, Emily Murtoff from Brick Chick Masonry and Brian Koch presented their proposal for installing a disc golf course at Shelley Park. They had recently completed a 9-hole course at New Cumberland Borough Park and offered their expertise for Newberry Township.

The presenters explained that disc golf is a rapidly growing, low-maintenance sport that attracts diverse age groups and can bring significant foot traffic to parks. They noted that their New Cumberland course, installed on approximately 7 acres, successfully accommodated 9 holes while working around existing park features. With Shelley Park's 34 acres, they estimated an 18-hole course would be feasible.

Cost estimates ranged from \$30,000 to \$40,000 for an 18-hole course, including quality baskets and concrete tee pads. However, the presenters emphasized that local business sponsorships could significantly offset costs, with sponsors receiving logo placement on course elements for specified periods. They suggested that 18 sponsors contributing approximately \$2,000 each could cover the entire project cost.

The installation timeline was estimated at 2-3 weeks for the actual construction, though this was based on weekend work by volunteers. Professional installation could be completed more rapidly.

Board members expressed enthusiasm for the project, noting its potential to increase park usage, attract tournaments, and provide recreational opportunities for all ages with minimal ongoing maintenance costs. The presenters agreed to visit Shelley Park to assess the site and provide a detailed proposal for the next meeting, including itemized costs and potential course layouts that would work around existing baseball fields and other park amenities.

## Discussion and updates on the soccer fields at Shelley's park

The Board reported that communication with soccer organizations has been limited due to the current season being underway. Research continues into the feasibility of accommodating soccer fields at Shelley Park, with consideration being given to scheduling practice sessions on days when baseball fields are not in use.

The discussion included exploring whether the same field configurations could accommodate lacrosse and field hockey, which use similar field dimensions but different goals and field markings. The Board noted that organizations would be responsible for providing their own nets and field marking.

There is demonstrated demand for additional soccer field availability in the area, and the Board sees potential revenue opportunities for the Township through field rental fees. However, any soccer field development would need to be carefully coordinated with existing baseball field usage to avoid scheduling conflicts.

## Announcements on Shelley Park clean up day – if any

The Board scheduled a volunteer cleanup day at Shelley Park for Sunday, April 19th from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The event will focus on general maintenance tasks including leaf cleanup and picnic table board replacement.

A planning meeting was set for Wednesday, April 15th from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Shelley Park to assess needs and create a materials list. The Board discussed creating a flyer to publicize the volunteer opportunity to Township residents, with Diane Shellenhamer volunteering to design the promotional material.

The cleanup will be open to all residents and will include tools and water provided by the Township. The Board confirmed that several members would be present to coordinate the volunteer efforts.

## Discuss April 25th– Arbor Day

This discussion was integrated with the earlier Earth Day conversation. The Board agreed that Norm Seitz would contact York Haven Elementary School to explore organizing a tree planting event for Arbor Day on

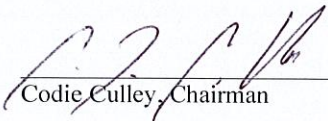
April 25th. The Board viewed this as potentially more practical than an Earth Day event due to the Friday scheduling and slightly longer planning window.

The concept would involve planting a tree with elementary students while educating them about environmental stewardship and the role of Parks and Recreation in the community. This smaller-scale event could serve as a pilot for expanded programming involving all three Township schools in future years.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Chairman Culley to adjourn. Seconded by Karen Hubbard. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Codie Culley, Chairman

