

Newberry Township Parks and Recreation Board Monthly Meeting January 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER AT 5:00 PM

The meeting was called to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA AMENDMENT

Motion made by Chairman Culley to amend the January 8, 2026, Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda to add the Election of Chair and Election of Vice Chair, seconded by Vice Chair Gouse. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board

Manager Schwartz temporarily took over to preside over the election of Chair. Board Member Seitz nominated Codie Culley for Chairman. With no other nominations presented, a vote was taken.

Motion made by Board Member Seitz to elect Codie Culley as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Board, seconded by Vice Chair Gouse. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board

Kolten Gouse was nominated for Vice Chair by Norm Seitz. With no other nominations presented, a vote was taken.

Motion made by Board Member Seitz to elect Kolten Gouse as Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board, seconded by Chairman Culley. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by Chairman Culley to approve the meeting minutes for November 18, 2025, seconded by Vice Chair Gouse. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss detail updates of the 5K race for 2026 presented by Board Member Rittle

Chairman Culley reported that the 5K race planning would be put on hold for a while due to other projects the Board is trying to accomplish. No formal action was required.

Discussion on the year end park evaluation

Chairman Culley and Board Member Seitz reported they had conducted end-of-year park evaluations and compiled a list of maintenance needs at all township parks. Items identified included new mulch requirements, pothole filling, bench painting, trash removal, and log removal. The maintenance items were categorized into those that could be addressed through highway department work, community service days, and items requiring outside contractors.

Vice Chair Gouse suggested scheduling dedicated days for the Board to visit each park and create a comprehensive list of maintenance and funding needs, particularly focusing on lighting requirements. He also recommended organizing volunteer cleanup days to prepare the parks for spring.

Chairman Culley agreed with these suggestions and noted he would add scheduling community service days to next month's agenda. He also mentioned that he would obtain quotes for items requiring outside contractors, such as additional benches, dog stations, and lighting, in time for the February or March meetings.

Discussion of unfinished business and follow-up on action items that require completion

Chairman Culley introduced Karen Hubbard as a new Board Member with previous experience assisting with upgrades to local facilities.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of the 2025 Open Space Improvements (Marcellus Shale) Grant award of \$20,000 for improvements to Terry Dolan Park, including a review of eligible projects, funding requirements, timelines and the next steps for implementation

Chairman Culley announced that in mid-December, the township was awarded two Grants for Terry Dolan Park: an \$11,000 Grant approved by the York County Commissioners and an additional \$9,000 from the York County Community Foundations' Sustainable Energy Fund.

Chairman Culley noted these Grants would help address the lack of lighting at Terry Dolan Park, which has contributed to vandalism issues. Vice Chair Gouse inquired about the bidding process for implementing these improvements, and Manager Schwartz explained that different bidding thresholds would apply depending on the total project cost.

Manager Schwartz also mentioned that the township has another unused Grant of \$40,000 for Terry Dolan Park. He suggested the Board consider combining these Grants to tackle larger improvements, though the pool renovation would cost approximately \$300,000. Manager Schwartz recommended the Board consider smaller projects such as paving, handicapped parking spots, ADA-compliant sidewalks, and ADA-compliant picnic tables.

The Board discussed a proposed plan for Terry Dolan Park, which included additional parking, pickleball courts, refinishing the basketball area, sidewalks with curbing, resurfacing of the park's entry lane and existing parking area, and a rain garden.

Board Member Seitz raised concerns about the current park entrance configuration, which requires a three-point turn when entering from a certain direction. The Board discussed potentially widening the entrance or

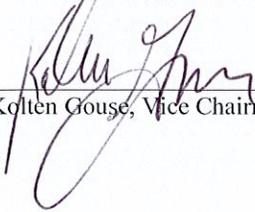
consulting with Engineer Bill Rudy (the plan designer) about possible modifications. Manager Schwartz noted that since Cly Road is a state road, any entrance changes might require state approval.

Chairman Culley indicated he would email Engineer Bill Rudy to inquire about the entrance design and add discussion items to the next meeting's agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Chairman Culley to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member Seitz. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Kaiten Gouse, Vice Chairman

