

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.
Draft MINUTES**

1. Call to Order (*E. Baiada*)

Adrienne Smythe	Chair
Brian Sokel	Vice Chair
Lee Abberley	Member
Christina Kerper	Member
Robert McGrath	Member
Nick Matteo	Friends of Hillcrest Pond Representative
Neil DiFranco	School District School Board Representative
Charles Wattley	School District Representative
Grace D'Amico	Student Representative
Kedar Moore	Student Representative
Susanna Ratsavong	Commissioner Liaison, Ward 2

2. Approval of Minutes from October (*All*)

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee unanimously approved the October minutes.

3. Administrative Report (*E. Baiada*)

Mrs. Baiada announced that she has accepted a new position as an Operations Specialist for the RecDesk recreation management provider that is used by the Township and most municipal recreation departments. The new opportunity is being made to spend more time with her family. Mrs. Baiada indicated that her last day in the office will be on November 12 and thanked her fellow staff members for their support and assistance.

4. Recreation Report (*E. Baiada*)

Throughout the month of October, Springfield Township offered various programs, including Martial Arts, Yoga, Ladies Night Welcome Mat creations, Meditation Hikes, STEM LEGOs, Adult Pickleball, Zumba, Chess, Mad Science STEM, Jump Start Sports Track, Adult Mosaics, Jump Start Basketball, and After School Golf. Additionally, the Springfield Township Fall Youth Soccer League will conclude on November 2. During the month of October, a total of 603 individuals participated in recreational programming.

The indoor Winter Recreation Basketball League will begin on December 6. Registration will remain open through the start of the program. Late fees begin on November 21, 2025.

5. Park Report (*E. Baiada*)

- **Bysher Park:** No Update.
- **Connor James McKelvie Community Park:** No Update.
- **Henry R. Chiaramonte Park:** No Update.
- **James A. Cisco Park:** New parking rails installed by Public Works.
- **James R. Fulginiti Park:** No Update.
- **Laurel Beech Park:** No Update.
- **Marlow Field:** No Update.
- **Mermaid Park:** 10 Green Giants planted along OPUS side of park.
- **Sandy Run Park:** Fishing access closes first Friday in December.
- **Veterans Park:** No Update.
- **Wyndhill Park:** No Update.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center A:** No Update.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center B:** No Update.
- **Walnut Avenue Master Site Plan Committee:** Preferred Design Decision
- **Recreation Center Advisory Committee:** No Update.

6. Old Business (*All*)

Land Use Agreement – hold renewal process until new LL Boards are elected.

7. New Business (All)

Springfield Township Skateboard Association Proposal: Springfield Township Skateboard Association will present the following requests:

1. The Springfield Township Skateboard Association requests the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners formally dedicate the current playground area at Laurel Beech Park for the future development of an inclusive, all-wheels park designed for scooters, bikes, and skateboards.
2. The Springfield Township Skateboard Association requests the Board of Commissioners prioritize the inclusion of skateable facilities and features in all future parkland development projects.

After the presentation, several residents raise concerns regarding the following items:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| - Safety | - Location |
| - Security | - Destination for city residents |
| - Noise | - Increased traffic |
| - Water runoff | - Lights |
| - Police presence | - Property value implications |
| - Restrooms | - Illegal activities after hours |

Overall, feedback surrounding the addition of a skatepark was positive, however, the location selection was met with opposition. Neighbors suggested the Committee consider alternative locations.

After discussion, public comment and review, the PRAC voted to table the vote until the December or January meeting (contingent on quorum).

8. General Public Comment (All)

None.

9. School District Report (N. DiFranco)

The Middle School addition project is anticipated to finish earlier than expected.

10. Commissioners' Report (S. Ratsavong)

Commissioner Ratsavong and Christine Kerper partnered to complete a Park-by-Park analysis document that can assist with driving future projects.

11. Call for Adjournment (E. Baiada)

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 6:30 pm