



901 Jefferson Street – Latrobe, Pa 15650
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**Greater Latrobe Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2025**

The monthly meeting of the Greater Latrobe Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at the Unity Township Municipal Building.

Mr. Long called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Roll Call:

Present:

Mr. Ed Poponick	Mr. Eric Bartels	Mrs. Patricia D. Fenton
Mr. Tom Long	Mr. Joseph Koluder	Mrs. Bobbi Harr
Mr. John Urban	Mr. Bruce Jones	Mr. Will Redinger

Also in attendance:

Mr. Craig Shevchik	Mrs. Dawn Vavick	Mrs. Cindy Smith
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Absent:

N/A

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Koluder made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second, Mrs. Fenton. (Vote 8-0)

Executive Session:

N/A

Public Comment:

N/A

Bills and Communications (for approval and / or action):

The Commissioners reviewed the expenditures.

A motion was made to accept the prepaid bills by Mr. Bartels, Second, Mr. Poponick. (Vote 8-0)

A motion was made to accept the unpaid bills by Mr. Jones. Second, Mr. Bartels. (Vote 8-0)

Report of the Committees:

Personnel: (Mr. Long, Mrs. Fenton, Mr. Redinger)

Mr. Shevchik scheduled staff evaluations for 12/4 and 12/9 for all full time staff.

Finance: (Mr. Urban, Mr. Koluder, Mr. Bartels)

The Commission reviewed the monthly financial reports. Mr. Koluder stated everything is moving ahead very positively. It has been a very good year.

The High Five Fundraiser was very successful. Mr. Poponick presented the Commission with over \$12,000.00 in donations from the High Five "Fun"Raiser mailing. He stated donations continue to come in, and he will forward them to us. The Supervisors will mail out thank you notes to all donors. The High Five "Fun"Raiser will be an annual event.

Mr. Shevchik and Mr. Long met with Ms. Linda Boxx of the McKenna Foundation. A Community Support donation of \$40,000.00 was granted. Mr. Long and Mr. Shevchik extended an invitation to all commission members to attend the meeting next year.

Mr. Shevchik, Mr. Koluder, and Mrs. Smith drafted the 2026 Budget. The Finance Committee met to review the proposed budget in great detail. Mr. Koluder thanked Mrs. Smith and Mr. Shevchik for their hard work. The Commission should be prepared to pass the budget at the December meeting. Please direct any questions to Mr. Shevchik prior to the December meeting.

Facilities/Programs: (Mr. Jones, Mr. Poponick, Mrs. Harr)

The Pages, Parks, and Paints Cash Bash was a great success. The Art Center, the Adams Memorial Library and Parks & Recreation each received \$5400.00 from the event. Thank you to all who attended, bought tickets, donated, and volunteered at the event.

The wayfinding signs have been installed throughout Legion Keener. The project is completed and the signs look great!

The basketball programs are in full swing. The numbers look good for all sessions. (Little Hoopsters, Bantam, Girls In House and Travel)

The Grove City Bus Trip on November 12th was poorly attended. The trip slated for December 10th to the Cathedral of Learning and Nationality Rooms has been cancelled due to lack of registration.

Mr. Lester Sutton, Jim Okonak, and Mr. Shevchik met to discuss the Pickleball/Tennis Court renovations. The Sutton Foundation will donate \$150,000.00 towards the project. Another \$200,000.00 must be secured to move forward with the development. Mr. Shevchik stated the courts will be milled down four inches and rebuild the base. This will eliminate cracking. The courts will house six Pickleball courts, two tennis courts, and the practice wall.

There was a water line leak at the maintenance building. Mr. Jones assisted with the problem. Bowman Plumbing came and fixed the broken pipe.

The maintenance staff is continuing leaf removal in Legion Keener Park.

Mr. Shevchik, Mr. Jim Okonak, and Mr. Scott Grandgeorge are working on a lease for the Legion Baseball Field. It will be a similar arrangement to the LLL agreement.

E-Bikes and E-Scooters are a problem on the LK Path and Lincoln Trail. Mr. Shevchik is meeting with the City Safety Committee to discuss rules and enforceability of said rules. He has received several calls and letters regarding this problem. He noted recent articles in the Tribune Review regarding other communities with similar problems with the E-Bikes and E-Scooters. (Arnold, Murrys ville, Jeannette) State

The Latrobe Memorial Stadium is getting track upgrades. Unfortunately, this coincides with the 31st Annual Turkey Trot. The race course and or packet pick up and registration areas made need modified. Mr. Shevchik asked if Commissioners could please volunteer for this event if possible. There are currently 920 pre-registered racers.

Report of the Director:

Mr. Shevchik distributed a Funding Sources pie chart to the commission. A large percentage of finances come via the Foundations. We need to decrease the amount we depend upon the foundations for support.

Terms for Mr. Jones, Mrs. Harr, and Mr. Urban expire on 12/31/25. If they have not already done so, they must send letters of interest to their respective boards for reappointment.

Reports are being sent to the City of Latrobe and Greater Latrobe School District.

Mrs. Fenton made a motion to adjourn at 5:55 PM. Second, Mr. Bartels.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 4:30 PM at the LATROBE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
ON Thursday, December 18, 2025.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn M Varick

Dawn M. Vavick

Program/Aquatics Director

Approved by Mr. Thomas Long – 12/18/25