

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
WALNUT AVENUE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025 AT 5:30 P.M.
DRAFT MINUTES

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

Lee Abberley	Member
Christine Hesser	Member
Amy Jacoby	Member
Nick Matteo	Member
Robert McGrath	Member
Adrienne Smythe	Member

2. Old Business (*All*)

3. New Business (*All*)

- Review Final Draft Design Presented by Port Architecture and Urbanism, LLC (*May 7, 2025*)
 - o [Presentation Linked Here](#)
- Review Sport Club Letter (*May 2025*)
- Review Resident Feedback (*May 2025*)

The Committee took time to discuss the draft design proposed by PORT during the May 7 public meeting. The concept design currently includes a play area, multi-use hard court, walking trail, pollinator meadow, community gathering area, and open field that could accommodate athletic use. The Committee will review and prepare a recommendation for Board of Commissioners. The recommendation made by the Steering Committee may include one or more of the following options:

- o Approval of the plan as presented
- o Modifications to certain elements
- o Phased implementation
- o Relocation of amenities within the park
- o Intended usage by community groups

The Committee's recommendation may also address concerns about athletics by specifying whether the property should be designated for athletic use.

Overall, discussions indicated that the community does not favor the multi-use hard court and would prefer to see a sensory area for children in its place.

4. General Public Comment (*All*)

Various neighbors were in attendance and voiced concerns regarding the following items:

- o Traffic
- o Insufficient parking
- o Privacy
- o Height of potential elevated terrain
- o Proximity to rear property lines
- o Possibility of foregoing a fence along the property boundary
- o Connectivity to Oreland Mill and downtown Oreland

Concerns were also voiced about the off-street parking for neighbors currently using the gravel driveway to park personal vehicles.

5. Commissioners' Report (*S. Ratsavong*)

No report.

6. Call for Adjournment (*E. Baiada*)

- Next meeting: Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 5:30 pm