

01/07/2026

Westgrove P.A.C.K. Board meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm by Jennifer French. Board members in attendance: Jeff Pandin, Shawn Bloom, Steve Zielenski, Jennifer French, William Voss, & Rich Abelson, Pei Wan, and Liz Yap. Ryan Anthony gave his regards for missing the meeting.

Financials (Jeff): As of 01/07/25

- Burke & Herbert Checking = 19,729.64
- PayPal = 10,725.26
- Venmo = 2,705.56
- Held in Trust: \$1,603.50
- Total= \$33,160.46

Operations (Shawn):

Mastenbrook Grant was awarded in December 2025 by the County for the Westgrove ADA upgrades to the North Field.

- **The P.A.C.K. is ready to send a check to the County** for the P.A.C.K.'s portion of the ADA North field project. The P.A.C.K. will also be using the money (\$\$3,634.45) from the "Friends of the P.A.C.K." fund that the County has on hande.
- **The P.A.C.K. will investigate additional funds in 2026 for a shelter for the North end**, similar to the South end shelter. The P.A.C.K. is hoping to apply for another Mastenbrook Grant to fund half of the shelter, use a focused fundraiser for 25% and treasury funds for the remainder.
- Part of the scope for the ADA North end project was an addition of a human water fountain to be added to the park. The P.A.C.K. is interested in getting pricing privately for the fountain, then applying for another Mastenbrook Grant. Steve to reach out to PG County for pricing/contractor in use at Southern Area Dog Park at Riverview Park.
- **The P.A.C.K. is working on a grass test spot** to see what type of grass will grow successfully in the park. The P.A.C.K. will plant a test strip in the Spring 2026. A motion was made to fund money for seed, Liz approved, Jennifer seconded spending \$300 to \$400 for grass seed (PT 767 Dog Park Eco-Lawn Mix with Microclover®).
- **Fairfax Country Trees program**, the P.A.C.K. will re-apply in the Spring 2026 when the website reopens.
- **Shawn is working on new topsoil to fill in a few new "dig" holes**. The North end of the park has a few craters.

Communications (Liz):

- Liz is looking to engage with some of the younger park goers to get them more involved with the P.A.C.K..
- Liz is working on a “Ask the Board” questions forum.
- Pei is working on the History of the P.A.C.K. - format like a Q&A Podcast and written format were some ideas on a delivery method. Liz and Pei working on details for later in the Spring 2026.

New business (Everyone)

Board discussion on cameras at the park as a safety item for “bite and run” attacks.

- Discussion centered around the Legal liability, who “owns” and “monitors” the camera.
- P.A.C.K. Board members will seek advice from an attorney on the camera.
- The P.A.C.K. believes this is a county issue, the Board would like to take this to County and Supervisor Stork. P.A.C.K. believes this is a safety issue for park users. Rich and Jeff will talk with Supervisor Stork in the near future.

Discussion on a Speed hump and new signage:

- The P.A.C.K. plans to take this up with the county to see if we can add some new speed limit signage and possibly a speedhump to the park’s entrance in an effort to get drivers to slow down.

The P.A.C.K. is still looking for a Communication Chair

- (replacement of Liz who is serving as interim). Steve is willing to take Liz’s position in the Fall of 2026. The P.A.C.K. will then need to look for a replacement for Steve in the Fall 2026.

Hot Dog Friday sponsors:

- Each board member has homework to find a business for sponsors for HDF. Discussion for the next few meetings in anticipation of HDF start date.

The P.A.C.K.’s Post Office Box issues:

- USPS has closed our box and we are trying to get it reopened. Rich to go to Huntington PO and get this sorted out.

Upcoming meetings:

- Feb 11, 2026 – 7pm ZOOM
- March 18, 2026 - 7pm (in person?)
- April 15, 2026 – 7pm
- General meeting: April 19 2026 – 3pm (the RecCenter?)

Jennifer French adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.