

President

Tonya Brown, CPRP, CPSI, AFO

Director of Parks and Recreation
Mechanicsburg Area School District

Education and Training:

NRPA Revenue Management School
Parks, Recreation and Leisure Studies, 2007 - 2008
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Masters, Public Administration, 2001 - 2004
Messiah College
BS, Community Recreation, 1982 - 1986
Activities and Societies: Messiah Women's Basketball Team
Mechanicsburg Area High School
High School, General, 1979 - 1982

Experience:

Director of Parks and Recreation at Mechanicsburg Area School District
1998 - Present (18 years)

Coach for Basketball and Field Hockey at Mechanicsburg Area School District
January 1986 - Present (30 years 8 months)

Assistant Recreation Director at Mechanicsburg Area School District
January 1989 - 1998 (9 years)

Honors, Certification:

Presidential Citation from PRPS President, March 2012 and 2011
For outstanding service to the professionals and society of the PA Recreation and Parks Society.

PRPS Awards
Playground Safety Award in 2009, and many excellence in programming (2001, 2002, 2009, 2017)

Resolution from the Upper Allen Township Commissioners and Mechanicsburg Borough (2007 and 2003)

Thomas I Hines Scholarship (2007)

NRPA Young Professional Fellowship Award National Recreation and Park Association October 2003

Professional accomplishments, organizations:

25 years of professional experience in public community recreation at Mechanicsburg Area School District. Certified Parks and Recreational Professional, Certified Playground Safety Inspector, and Certified Aquatics Facility Operation. Over 15+ years of working experience in PA Recreation and Parks Society. Works cooperatively with the communities and the school district that forms a Joint Agreement for recreational services.

PRPS:

PRPS Board of Directors 2003-2010, PRPS Community Branch 2002-2008, PRPS Registration Committee 2000-2012, 2019 Annual PRPS Conference Co-Chair 2013

Hobbies and other interests:

Coaching, skiing, hiking, chilling at our family cabin around a fire.

Platform Statement:

As President, I will ensure you that I will represent the society in a professional manner. I will demonstrate character, teamwork, positive communication, and responsibilities for the mission and vision that have been strategically developed by our current leaders. I will continue to embrace our history, while navigating us thru the future for the betterment of those who are in the profession and those who are yet to embrace this career path.

I will listen to our membership and be respondent to their needs, concerns, suggestions, and comments. I thank you in advance for your vote of confidence, and look forward to working with you in the future.

President

David F. Hutner

Program Manager
Cranberry Township Parks and Recreation

Education and Training:

USAF 1984-1988, Bachelor of Science, Parks and Recreation (Slippery Rock University '92) Master of Science, Resource Management (Slippery Rock University, 2008), NRPA Directors School (inaugural 2009 class)

Experience:

- Seabrook Island Resort (Director of Recreation, 1993-1997)
- Amelia Island Plantation (Director of Recreation, 1997-1998)
- Butler County Parks and Recreation (Aquatic/Program Director 1998-2014)
- Cranberry Township Parks and Recreation (Program Manager, 2014-Present)
- Butler County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member
- Slippery Rock Area School Board Director (2010 – 2013)
- Slippery Rock Civic Association Board of Directors
- Fernandina Beach Board of Directors (at-large) YMCA, 1997
- Slippery Rock Area Parks and Recreation Commission Board of Directors
- Butler County Safety Committee (2000 – 2014)
- Cranberry Township Safety Committee
- Cranberry Township Green Team committee
- Butler County Community College, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (2002- Present)
- Butler County Chapter American Red Cross Board of Directors (2001-2004)
- Conference session presenter (RCRA, PRPS multiple times for multiple topics),
- Development Team member for RCRA Intern Site Approval

Honors, Certification:

- Certified Pool Operator Instructor
- American Red Cross Instructor Trainer: Safety Training for Swim Team Coaches, First Aid and Safety (all levels) CPR Training (all levels) Water Safety Instructor, Lifeguard Training, Babysitting Training. (there are only a handful of Instructor Trainers in Western PA)
- PRPS Presidential Citation (multiple years)
- Slippery Rock University Young Alumni Award (2011)
- PRPS Awards: Publication Award, Excellence in Programming (multiple), 2002 recipient of the Outstanding New Professional Award
- NRPA Director School (inaugural class graduate)

Professional accomplishments, organizations:

Member of PRPS, NRPA, RCRA (Resort and Commercial Recreation Association), NSPF (National Swimming Pool Foundation), NDPA (National Drowning Prevention Alliance), OPRA (Ohio Parks and Recreation Association), NSPF (National Swimming Pool Foundation)

PRPS:

PRPS offices and committees: Aquatic Branch President, District 1 President, Conference Co-chair, Student Involvement Chair, conference committees (served on all in one capacity or another), Assisted in rewriting/updating the Swimming Pool Management certification course in PA

Hobbies and other interests:

Grandchildren, motorcycling, sports (Steelers, Penguins, Pirates!), traveling, fishing, hunting, Scrabble, Words with Friends, taking long walks in the rain, and drinking pina colodas.

Platform Statement:

There are many facets that define the Parks and Recreation profession. The Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society is representative of each facet equally, and assists each of us in advancing professionally, and personally, through professional development opportunities, legislative efforts, specialized institutions, workshops and certifications, and programs designed to assist the members in advancing and positioning Parks and Recreation as an essential and valuable commodity to the people we serve.

If bestowed the honor of being your president, I will welcome the opportunity to serve the membership as it has served me and continue to find ways to provide those opportunities for all. My focus will be on the members that comprise the Society, and our diverse needs, and our direction will be guided by the needs of our members. I will strive to carry out my duties in a manner that enhances our profession and our members.

Secretary

Chalet Harris

Parks & Recreation Director
Dover Township

Education and Training:

B.S. York College

Experience:

I have been working for Dover Township for almost four years. I ran Renaissance Foundation for the Performing Arts, Inc. for 15 years. We had in an indoor percussion program for high school and college kids from the Susquehanna Valley. I am a marching tech with Susquehannock High School Marching Band. I am also a classically trained soprano and have performed in Europe and Russia. I have also been a travel agent, a preschool teacher and my favorite job – stay-at-home-mom.

Honors, Certification:

CPSI

Professional accomplishments, organizations:

NRPA, member

PRPS:

PRPS D2 Treasurer; Social Committee Hershey Conference 2017

Hobbies and other interests:

Family, MUSIC, traveling, photography, reading, gardening, sarcasm

Secretary

Jason Lang

Director of Parks and Recreation
East Goshen Township

Education and Training:

Master of Science in Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation Leadership Concentration
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

* Graduate Assistant, taught undergraduate classes

* Recreation Leadership and Intramural Sports Practicum, JMU Recreation

* James Madison University Graduate Student Orientation Panel Member

* Marilyn Crawford Scholarship Recipient

* First Place Write On! Writing Contest, "Analysis of Sportsmanship in Youth Sport Leagues"

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Minors in English and History
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Experience:

Twelve years of full time professional parks and recreation experience and another four part time years. Relevant experiences include everything from taking out the garbage to presenting to elected officials. I had a circuitous route to parks and recreation, serving first in the US Army for four years. Some of my recent successes have included:

- * Authoring \$5.5M in successful federal, state and local grants for trail, playground and passive park projects since 2015
- * Utilizing SOPARC tool to quantify park usage and communicate \$4.4M in associated health care savings
- * Strategic planning including PROS, EGT Park Master Plan and Paoli Pike Trail Feasibility updates since 2014
- * Project lead for municipal-wide sustainability assessment; certified Gold-level
- * Assisting NRPA & Dept. of Veteran's Affairs with CPRP/E inclusion as Post 9/11 GI Bill eligible
- * Creating Mid-Atlantic Camp Dance in 2015; became NRPA's National Summer Camp Dance in 2018
- * Coordinating multi-municipal Bicentennial Celebration – NRPA Park Champion Finalist – one of four nationally

Honors, Certification:

- * Certified Parks and Recreation Executive, NRPA
- * Certified Baseball, Football, Hockey & Volleyball Coach, NYSCA
- * Primary Leadership Course Graduate, Physical Training Award, Numerous Post-Deployment Medals, US Army

Professional accomplishments, organizations:

- * Presentations: Leadership, Programming, Partnerships, Opioids - Various state & regional conferences
- * Peer to Peer Program, Mentor - NRPA-AAPRA
- * 2017 PA Governor's Award – best municipal health & wellness initiative
- * 2017 PRPS/GOOD Award winner for contributions to GOOD Campaign
- * 22 in 22 and Liv Live Concerts awarded PRPS Excellence in Programming Awards, 2017

PRPS:

- * 2018 & 2019 Annual Conference, Program Committee Co-Chair
- * Opioid Task Force, Chair
- * 2018 DCNR-PRPS Leadership Summit, Committee Member/H & W Team Lead
- * Awards and Recognition Committee, Member
- * Government Affairs Committee, Member

Hobbies and other interests:

I enjoy playing in my backyard with my three kids, Ava, Isla and Marcus. We all have matching hiking packs and can routinely be seen on a trail somewhere in the Lehigh Valley. When not busy with the kiddos, I play adult baseball on weekends in a 40+ league.

Platform Statement:

In discussing why I am running for Secretary, I would first like to acknowledge that the PRPS membership cannot go wrong with any of the candidates. I know both Becky and Chalet, and they each would admirably fulfill the position duties. I really love our profession. As I am sure many agree, we are in the enviable position of creating memory filled moments for the people of Pennsylvania. Of all municipal government functions, parks and recreation can magically change a geographic hodgepodge of houses into an interconnected community of homes. That said, Pennsylvania's government structure fragments parks and recreation, making PRPS and associated leadership that much more vital in increasing relevance, improving funding and advocated shared benefits. Essentially, we are a wheel that only rolls if all three hundred spokes are working! I have served in a number of PRPS leadership capacities. My recent experience on the Leadership Summit Committee and Health and Wellness topic was really enjoyable, and I found it challenging and exciting to bring together one hundred voices to conclusion – I liked helping to form the wheel. Specific to the 2019-2023 PRPS Strategic Plan, my experience dovetails nicely into many of the action items, most notably the PA Park Champion concept, Public Education Programs, and Mentorship Program. In terms of personality traits, I am unafraid of the unknown. I don't always say "yes" in the end, but I always start with a "maybe". I embrace change and look forward to helping to shape what we can all be in the future.

Thanks for your consideration!

Secretary

Becky Richards

Recreation Program Supervisor
Berks County Parks and Recreation Department

Experience:

Girl Scout Volunteer and Leader (many years)
PTO Volunteer, Book Fair Chair and President (many years)
Civil Air Patrol, Senior Member (4 years)
Library Board member (4 years)

Honors, Certification:

Member since 2005, LERN Certified Program Planner

Professional accomplishments, organizations:

Conference Speaker, Outdoor Recreation and Publicity
GOPA Speaker, Outdoor Recreation partnerships & program ideas

PRPS:

Conference Publicity Chair, 2009
Conference Exhibit Hall Committee, 2012
Conference Program Chair, 2015
Community Branch Representative 2007-17; President-Elect 2015-17; President 2017-19

Hobbies and other interests:

Outdoor Recreation, Reading, Gardening

Treasurer

Todd Roth

Aquatics Supervisor
Centre Region Parks & Recreation

Education and Training:

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, PSU

Experience:

20+ years in aquatics management

Honors, Certification:

CPRP, CPO

PRPS:

Regular speaker at PRPS Conference, Aquatics Branch President (serving on PRPS Board the last two years)

Hobbies and other interests:

Coaching Water Polo
Spartan Racing