



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No: 31221

RESOLUTION

R22 - 2026

Introduced by the Administration on February 18, 2026

Authorities, Boards, Commissions Appointments

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

City Council does hereby give advice and consent to the following appointment to the Board of Parks and Recreation submitted to this Council by Mayor Matt Tuerk.

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Michael Drabenstott

Term Expiration: 2/19/2031

Jeremy Binder	X	
Ce-Ce Gerlach	X	
Cynthia Y. Mota	X	
Cristian Pungo	X	
Natalie Santos	X	
Santo Napoli, President	X	
TOTAL	7	0

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That the above copy of Resolution No. 31221 was adopted by the City Council of Allentown on the 18th day of February, 2026, and is on file in the City Clerk's Office.



City Clerk



MATT TUERK
MAYOR

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown PA 18101

OFFICE • 610.437.7546 EMAIL • Matt.Tuerk@allentownpa.gov

TO: Michael Hanlon
City Clerk

FROM: Matt Tuerk
Mayor 

DATE: February 9, 2026

SUBJECT: Authorities, Boards, Commissions Appointments

Mayor Tuerk has approved the following appointments for City Council's consideration.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Authority/Board/Commission</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
Michael Comick	Board of Parks and Recreation	2/19/2031
David Snyder	Board of Parks and Recreation	2/19/2031
Nancy Wilt	Board of Parks and Recreation	2/19/2031
Michael Drabenstott	Board of Parks and Recreation	2/19/2031

Comick, Snyder and Wilt will be reappointed for an additional term. Drabenstott is a qualified candidate who will be replacing the position held by Becki Kiss, whose term has expired.

Address: 2346 W Allen St.

Michael Drabenstott

A 35-year resident of the City of Allentown, Michael is president of Drabenstott Communications Group, a marketing and PR consultancy focusing on closely held businesses and not-for-profit organizations. His current clients include The Allentown Parknership and the Harry C. Trexler Trust.

Michael believes strongly in the importance of trails as critical components of the Lehigh Valley's transportation, healthcare, recreational and social infrastructure. He was board chair of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor for four years and was closely involved with the ongoing development and construction of the D&L Trail from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol. He continues to support the D&L NHC from a fundraising and community relations standpoint with a focus on connecting the D&L Trail through the Lehigh Valley gap. Michael was also involved with the initial planning and introduction of The Link Trail Network.

He also was an active member of the City of Allentown's "Connecting our Communities" committee overseeing the planning and build-out of the city's trail network and bicycling facilities.

Michael has enjoyed leadership roles at several civic and not-for-profit organizations including board positions with Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (executive committee), St. Luke's University Health Network – Allentown (former chair), Muhlenberg College Board of Associates (currently on executive committee), Renew Lehigh Valley (past chairman) and the West End Alliance, which is dedicated to the continued revitalization of Allentown's West End Theatre District (founding board member). He is also a co-host of "The Inside Dish" and "Active Lehigh Valley," monthly radio shows and podcasts from WDIY-FM.

Michael is very involved in the local running community. He is the founder and 16-year race director of the West End St. Patrick's 5k, which draws nearly 1,000 racers to the city every March. He was the founding race director of St. Luke's D&L RaceFest in 2023, which brought the Lehigh Valley's only marathon to downtown Allentown for its start and attracted nearly 2,000 runners for the full,

half and relay in 2025. He has been a core volunteer for the St. Luke's Half Marathon since 2002.

He is a graduate of Bowling Green State University with a B.A. in journalism. His passions include running, hiking, bicycling, reading non-fiction, cooking, crossword puzzles and homebrewing. He is married with two grown children.