

Sue Landes, CPRE, MPA

President/Community Recreation Planner



Education

Master of Public Administration

Pennsylvania State University
1992

Bachelor of Science,
Recreation and Parks

Pennsylvania State University
1979

Certification

Certified Park and Recreation Executive

National Recreation and Park Association

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Sue Landes is the president of Recreation and Parks Solutions, a planning firm dedicated exclusively to community recreation, parks, greenways and trails, and open space consulting. During her 40-year career, she has gained extensive multi-municipal experience, working with elected officials and municipal leaders in regions throughout Pennsylvania. As the former Executive Director of the Lancaster Recreation Commission, she managed the operation of an award-winning community recreation agency serving a multi-cultural city/township population of 75,000 with a focus on social equity and health. Under her leadership, the agency became an essential service provider, offering youth and adult sports, family special events, before and after school care, summer day camps, aquatics programming, early childhood education, infant and pre-K child care, and senior center programming, while becoming financially sound and decreasing reliance on tax dollars.

RELEVANT SKILLS LIST

- Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plans
- Park Operation and Management Plans
- Community Needs Assessments
- Community Center Feasibility Studies
- Parks and Recreation Agency Formation
- Recreation Programming Plans
- Intergovernmental/School District Cooperation
- Revenue Development and Financing
- Employee Recruitment and Hiring
- Parks and Recreation Board Development and Training
- Grant Writing

APPOINTMENTS/PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Citizen Advisory Council
- Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (PRPS) Urban Parks and Recreation Alliance Member
- State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Technical Advisory Committee
- DCNR Peer Consultant
- DCNR/PRPS RecTAP Creator and Consultant
- PRPS Dig It Blog Team Member
- PRPS Past President, Secretary, State Conference Chair, Branch and District Officer
- National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Council of Affiliate Presidents Member
- NRPA Mid-Atlantic Regional Council Member

CERTIFICATIONS/TRAINING

- University of Wisconsin Certificate of Excellence in Non-Profit Leadership and Management
- University of Georgia/NRPA Executive Development School
- North Carolina State University/NRPA Revenue Sources Management School
- American Sport Education Program Sport Director
- Fundamentals of Coaching
- First Aid, Supervision, Safety and CPR
- NRPA Marketing School
- Governor's Conference on Recreation and Parks
- PRPS and NRPA Annual Conferences



Making Communities Better Places to Live, Work and Play

Sue Landes, CPRE, MPA

President/Community Recreation Planner

Awards

YWCA of Lancaster Women
of Achievement Award
2018

Penn State Recreation, Parks
and Tourism Management
Outstanding Alumni Award
2015

Central Penn Business Journal
Non-Profit Innovation Award
2013

PRPS Fred M. Coombs Honor
Award
2001

NRPA Kudos Marketing
Award
1998

PRPS Distinguished Member
Award
1992

Publications

Recreation and Parks Board
Handbook
2014

Financing Municipal
Recreation and Parks
2012

Hiring Municipal Recreation
and Parks Staff
2009

Municipal Recreation
Programming
2008

Multi-Municipal Cooperation
for Recreation and Parks
2006

Community Recreation and
Parks
2004

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Reading Recreation Commission, Reading, PA

DCNR peer consultant for the formation of a new intergovernmental recreation commission serving a large urban community. The project included working with Reading City Council and Reading School Board to facilitate important decisions on responsibilities, funding, representation, in-kind services, staffing, programming, park and recreation facility operation, and maintenance. The existing city government recreation bureau was disbanded when the new agency was created. Assistance was provided to recruit and hire an executive director to lead the new recreation commission.

City of Johnstown Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan, Johnstown, PA

Lead recreation planner for a comprehensive recreation, park and open space plan for a financially-distressed city under an Act 47 recovery plan. Work included extensive public participation through a series of neighborhood meetings and focus groups. An inventory and analysis was prepared for the city's parks and recreation mission, park areas and recreation facilities, recreation programs, administration, personnel, finances and maintenance. The result was a detailed action plan with specific recommendations including implementation dates, potential costs, potential funding sources, and responsible parties.

Unionville Community Park, Unionville, PA

Lead recreation planner for a master site development plan for an undeveloped 21-acre parcel in the middle of the community. The long-term vision was to develop this site as a community park serving all ages and abilities. Through key person interviews, on-line citizen surveys, focus group meetings and study committee meetings, the recreational needs of the community were analyzed to design a park that would meet these needs well into the future. Work included the creation of a park operation and management plan, with the annual costs of operating and maintaining the park and its facilities, based on the proposed development.

Ridley Township Community Recreation Center, Folsom, PA

Lead recreation planner for a DCNR-funded feasibility study for a proposed community recreation center for a township of 32,000 residents. Work included determining community support, preparing a market analysis with service area, inventory of competing facilities, potential programming, and demand analysis; and determining the financial costs and options to design, build, operate and maintain the facility.

Pottstown Area Regional Recreation Committee, Pottstown, PA

Lead recreation planner to create a regional recreation coordinator position funded by DCNR and the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation, with assistance from the Schuylkill River Greenway Association and eight municipalities. The position's focus was to provide support, grant writing and technical services for regional parks, recreation, greenways, trails and open space efforts among the eight municipalities. Assistance was provided to recruit and hire the regional recreation coordinator.

