

KEY PERSON INTERVIEWEES

Mike Miller
TWIST Softball
724-705-5313

Mark Murphy
WYB
724-228-9461

Ray Brennen
Washington Youth Soccer
724-225-6116

Kenny Paterson
Washington Park Intermediate School
724-223-5156

Bill Dukett
Athletic Director, W&J
724-223-6080

Michelle Cisciro
Highland Ridge Elm Street Manager
724-344-2857

Charlotte Davidson
Frontier History Center
724-225-6740

Chuck Taylor
Chartiers/Houston Tennis
724-745-9068

Patty Thompson
Park Theatre
724-225-0140

Pam Kilgore
Title I Liason for School
724-678-3823

John Campbell
School Board Member
724-470-8195

Dr. Jennifer Harding
W&J College
724-263-5611

Dan Brown
WYB
724-344-5390

Mary Jo Podgurski
Teen Outreach
724-222-2311

Frank Rotonda
Washington HS Principal
724-223-5085

Abe Key
Pony Baseball President
724-225-1060

Heather Orstein
Coldwell Banker Real Estate
412-596-5669

Interviewed by Rich Cleveland – information from interviews included in Key Person Summary

Mary Beth Garrett
Summer Playground Program
412-271-7788

Dan Petrola
Brownson House
724-222-1440

Daniel & Kathleen Kleinman
TRIPIL Services
724-223-5115

Bob Griffin
Dunn Avenue Resident
724-350-4419

KEY PERSON INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Municipality Represented	Washington	2
	East Washington	5
	South Strabane	3
	Canton	1
	Hickory	1
	Cecil	1
	Unknown	8

1. What makes your community a good place to live?

Safe	
Lots of History	2
Diversity	2
W&J	2
Walkability	
Neighborhood feel	
Charm	
Houses & streets	
Helpful people	4
Strong community	
Special people	
Variety of things to do	
Closeness	
Hospital	
School system	2
Baseball league	
Good area	
Born & raised here	2
Farmers market	
Park system	
Small town atmosphere	
Many things in community	
Work the park does	
Brownson House	
Vernon C. Neal Complex	
Location	
Family focused	
Nice culture	

2. Have you or your family used the community parks or participated in any of the community programs? Yes 13 No 2

a. If yes, what facilities have you used?

Swimming Pool	6
Softball Fields	4
Pavilions	7
Ice Skating	2
Playground	3
Fort	
Trail	3
Main pavilion	2
Vernon C. Neal	
Baseball	5
Tennis	2
Brownson House	
Vernon C. Neal	2

b. If yes, what programs did you participate in?

Dances	
Reenactment	
Farmers Market	
Mingo Park Programs	2
Most programs	
Softball	2
Baseball	4
Soccer	2
Fireworks	2
Tennis lessons	
Playground	2
Company picnic	
Theatre	
Tennis	
Basketball	
Flag football	
Win – Drug & Alcohol Program	

c. If you haven't used the facilities or participated in the programs, why not?

Kids older
No reason too
Recently moved here
No free time

3. What age groups appear to be best recreationally served? Least served?

BEST

Youth 10
 None
 Teens

LEAST

Teens 4
 Senior's 6
 Low income families
 Adults 2
 Not sure
 All

Every age served in a different way

4. What future recreation activities would you like to see initiated?

- Skate Boarding
- Riding bikes
- Teen programs 2
- Basketball
- Safe open spaces
- Get kids active
- Activities for kids like Mingo Park – aquatics day, summer camps, nature programs
- Promote all types of programs better
- Whiskey Rebellion Festival
- Yoga in parks& similar type activities
- Mommy & Me program
- Cooking classes – LeMoyne Center
- Garden classes
- Adult education
- Educational things through school district
- Job training programs
- Open in evenings
- Upgrade
- Physical activities
- Soccer
- Any activities
- Nature camps – school age & teens
- Accessible swim lessons
- Senior programs
- More things in evening at courts
- Playground games
- Dances 2
- Swim party

Battle of the Bands
Crafts
Have teens involved
Ask teens what they want

5. What future recreation facilities would you like to expanded or developed?

Skate Board Park	2
Ice Skating Area	4
Trail for Bikes	
Trails	4
Connecting trails	
Public access to fields	
Crosswalks	
Improve playgrounds	
Gardens/public green space	
Basketball Courts	5
Safe open spaces	
Pool update	3
Wellness center	
Transportation	2
Improve park & fields	
Put in gym behind pool	
Bocce courts	
Horseshoe pits	
Accessible restrooms	
Easy bike riding trail	
Repair road system	
Maintain & update pool facilities	
Gym	
Hockey	
Easy access	
Location	
Soccer field complex	
Any improvement	
Improve playgrounds	
Upgrade	
Theatre	
Improve courts	
Large recreation space	
Teen center	

6. In your opinion, what key issues are hampering the development of parks and recreation opportunities in your community?

People don't care	
People don't consider the kids needs	
Topography	
Financial/Money	13
Attitude	
Working together	
Volunteers	
Transportation to park	2
Location	
Park is a baseball complex	
Want control of park	
Need a Recreation Board	
Geared more towards baseball	
Everybody on same page	
Upkeep	
No governmental incentive for success	

7. Do you feel that partnerships are vital in today's economy to help reduce the financial burden in providing quality recreation programs?

Yes	5
Sure	2
Absolutely	6
Too much duplication of efforts	
Without a doubt	
People in community will back	
Team effort	

8. What groups, organizations, etc. do you think should partner together to expand recreational opportunities in the Washington and East Washington Borough?

Not Sure	
Safe Routes to School	
Slots Money/Casinos	2
Foundations	
Main Street Programs	
W&J	4
National Trust for Historic Preservation	
Range Resources	2
City	
Elm Street	
LeMoyne Center	
Churches	3
Teen Outreach	
Community Action	2
School District	6

Lions club	
Rotary	
Municipalities	5
City Council	2
Hospital	2
Parks & Recreation	
Community Leaders	
Businesses	3
Project representatives	
NAACP	
Washington Soccer	
Gas Companies	
Coal companies	
Like groups work together	
Corporations	
County	
Sports organizations	
LeMoyne Center	

9. Can you recommend any specific ways in which these groups could partner with each other?

Financial/Money	8
Meetings with progress	
Get together – not working separate	4
Leadership	
Donate supplies	
Volunteers	
Shared facilities	
Planning	
Scheduling	

10. Can you suggest any potential ways your organization could partner Washington and East Washington Borough to enhance recreational opportunities for the residents of the area through the provision of both recreation programs and facilities?

Programs at frontier history area
 Speakers
 Musical program
 Service Activities
 Internships
 Work with businesses
 Encourage walking & biking
 Currently Writing a Walking Tour – Presidential Washington
 No
 Get involved with farming

Surveys
 Improve appearance
 Pocket Parks
 Community Garden
 Tree planting
 Make HS focal point after school – large number of kids on free lunch
 Can't get along at city – nothing gets done
 TWIST Council would love to brainstorm
 Utilize fields
 Get young families/permanent families
 Make attractive
 Help construct soccer fields
 Pay to use fields
 Trail improvements
 Love too – theatre group
 Love too – teen outreach
 Very talented
 Fundraiser
 Running tennis program
 Do some combined things
 Hold event in park
 Have something from city – pool pass/access to pavilion

11. Where do you see your community being in the area of parks and recreation in the next five to ten years?

No idea
 Maintain & expand
 Not a lot of difference
 Hope to have more parks
 Transportation issue
 Green space
 Same or worse
 Backwards with money
 Status quo
 No difference 2
 Hope updated trail more user friendly 2
 Hope more bike friendly 2
 A little behind
 Maintain existing
 Need full time park director organizing things
 Recreation must continue- it plays an important role in community
 Recreation must continue – it improves the economy
 Must improve
 Facility for teens
 Need to put money into facilities – fix playgrounds
 Have provisions to take care of kids

12. Do you feel that the current maintenance of the park is adequate?

Ok
Yes – replace & upgrade
Not sure 2
Do good with what they have 2
No 4
Way below/under staffed
Yes, with what they have
No, can't maintain what they have
Astounded with budget problems
Could do better
No complaint

13. Comments/ Recommendations/Suggestions

Interested in attending meetings
Some people spread thin – not enough volunteers
Kids have nowhere to go in the evenings or on weekends
Nothing for kids to do
Transportation
Summer playground program doesn't use parks anymore due to budget cuts – use
Brownson House & Lincoln Heights
Brownson house looking for 3 gym basketball area & weight training facility – locations
Washington Park, other city sites or in municipalities
Wireless internet in park
Better signage 2
Park needs Advisory Board
City should advise the Mayors Commission for handicap on the park plan
Find a place for two soccer fields and will help
Need land for subdivision – houses dilapidated
Need attractive housing
Should be used more
Politian's have to get along
School & other use fields
Advertise park – Mt. Bike, Running, bird watching
Designate part of tax dollars
Need grant to improve main pavilion
Redo kitchens in Main pavilion & Stone pavilion
Need repairs & maintenance
Need one school district
Need one government
Improve fields
Include all communities – regional partnership