

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
Monthly Meeting  
April 24, 2014**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on April 24, 2014 at the Municipal Building. The following Recreation Board members were present: David Kentner, Sean Gill, Andrea Russell & Katie Shade. Board members not in attendance: Rich Kiser, Jocelyn Pattishall, Linda Gorr, and Jim Adams. April Navarra arrived near the end of the meeting. Also present at the meeting was UMT Board of Supervisor Jim Brunell, Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis, Ed Earley, Ryan Heffelfinger and Jeff Vitelli.

The March minutes could not be approved because of a lack of a quorum and we proceeded as a working session.

Public Comments – None

**Community Programs Scheduled**

Tree Care – Class was canceled due to lack of registrations.

Night with Laurie Moore – Rescheduled to June 4<sup>th</sup> 7- 8:30pm at Independent Park. - 12 signed up.

Tennis – May 6<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> Spring Clinic - 19 sign ups.

Pet CPR/First Aide Class – Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at Independent Park from 9-12:30pm. 2 sign ups. Recreation Board will discuss whether to continue program due to low turnout and cheaper priced options.

Adult Pickup Basketball – Ryan Heffelfinger wants to start an adult Basketball program running from May 22 through the end of September from 6:00pm to dusk. Brian Kreske would also co-operate this program. They would gather emails through [UMTBasketball@gmail.com](mailto:UMTBasketball@gmail.com) and update participants of cancellations. Liability issues were addressed for Basketball and Volleyball. Further discussion is needed regarding obtaining insurance or having participants sign waivers. Ryan is aware that they need a Recreation Board motion and BOS approval to proceed with program.

Pick-up Volleyball – Rich Kiser is securing a lockbox for equipment for a summer program running from June 1 through August 31.

Family Fishing – Two programs this year; June 7<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Apple Ponds. Registrations will be on Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission website this year. A link is provided on our website for easy enrollment. The June 7<sup>th</sup> class is full with 40 participants. Andy will bring an assistant to assist him with a larger group.

Movies in the Park – June 13<sup>th</sup> at Lone Lane Park, July 11<sup>th</sup> at Breinigsville Park and August 8<sup>th</sup> at Grange Park. The Secret Life of Walter Mitty, Walking With Dinosaurs and Diaries of a Wimpy Kid (all rated PG) will be the 2014 movies. Jim Soltis hopes to get our 2<sup>nd</sup> movie in 3D and glasses can be purchased 20 for \$4.75. Sponsorship letters were mailed and \$3450 was received to date.

Geocaching - July 19<sup>th</sup> at Upper Macungie Park 11am-2pm. The Geocache Code is on both the flyer and websites.

National Night out – August 5<sup>th</sup> at Lone Lane Park. This event is organized by Upper Macungie Township Police Department. The Recreation Board will have a table at this event.

Barktoberfest – Scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup> 11am-3pm at Upper Macungie Park. \$1660 was received to date in sponsorships.

5K/1K Run/Walk for Parks – November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Lone Lane Park. The race logo has been revised and added to the documents. Chuck still needs to double check information before releasing. Jeff V. needs letterhead forms for donations.

Recreation Board Recognition Dinner – Rescheduled for Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at Independent Park. Valerie is maintaining a list of names and invitation cards will be designed and mailed at the appropriate time. Board members are encouraged to forward names of people who assist them in programs. Valerie will be asked to structure a invite/acceptance letter.

Hunter Trapper – Scheduled for November 8, 2014 at Independent Park. 60 out of 65 seats remaining.

Night with Laurie Moore – Scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Jingle Bells Holiday Show – Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 at Independent Park.

### **Proposed/New Programs**

Native Plants – Tim Latz of Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry wants to conduct a Native Plants course at Independent Park on Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30pm. The Recreation Board will vote whether or not to keep this program at the next meeting.

Women's Tennis – Susan Phillips has been meeting other woman at Blue Barn to finish a program started at West End Racquetball Club. They will meet through the end of May and she expressed no desire to start up a women's tennis program.

### **Previously Proposed-Under Construction**

Beginning birding, Folk Festival, Golf, Penn State Extension Programs, Boot Camp in the Park – Full Circle Training, Interior Design, Show Shoveling for seniors, Zumba– Tabled.

### **Old Business**

Upper Macungie Park Dog Park Completion/Status – \$1947 was collected from donations. . Jim Soltis has purchased the water fountain. No word on the status of the grant.

Grange Park; Memorial Walkway/Wall and Flagpole – Sean Gill was trying to keep the cost down for the project, but will check on different colors and shape of stones.

Independent Park Community Center – 3 additional reservations last month with 4 more on hold. We received the design information to complete the heating system and fire stops and are compiling the plans and specifications for the interior improvements which should be ready to go out for bid in May. We also are preparing plans and specifications to complete

the storm sewer and water quality system and additional parking which could also go out for bid in May.

Program Instructors, usage, fees, payments – No updates. The Solicitor was contacted in an effort to finalize the contracts.

### **New Business**

Recreation Board Secretary – tabled

Special Events Committee/Forms - tabled

Park and Grant Updates –The Township received over 60 form letters of support and over 5,000! likes and comments on the web site supporting the projects. The four grant applications were submitted by the deadlines and these projects can also be submitted for an Act 13 Grants. Thanks for everyone’s response! A synopsis of these grants: 1. Grange Road Park Splash Park. 2. Grange Road Park parking lot and roadway expansions and storm water management to support additional athletic fields. 3. Breinigsville Park West Ball fields parking lots and storm water management. 4. Breinigsville Pathways – walking trails and pedestrian roadway crossings to connect developments and parks. Also submitted separate grant under Penn DOT program for pedestrian crossing at Lenape and Grange Road

Current grant projects – **Fogelsville Dam and Haasen Creek Restoration** (Grants awarded for a total of \$168,000. Permitted bid and under construction and should be completed by June 2014. Will take some time to grow and stabilize but could be a potential area for future passive park and trails. **Schaefer Run Riparian Buffer** – Grant awarded for \$40,000. Bid and planting underway – 15 Locust trees planted along Trexler Road and trees and wetland and vernal pool planting tomorrow. **Breinigsville Park Public Water Service** – Grant awarded and plans and specifications under review by LCA. **Schaefer Run Buffer** – \$8,000 Grant awarded this spring for trees that will be in the new Breinigsville West Park – Project to be priced and planted this fall. **Gateway Pines Detention Basin** conversion to natural pond – \$ 8,000 grant awarded – project to be priced and planted this fall. **Grange Road Park** – Continuing water and sewer service extensions and new restroom in playground area and storm water basins for the SPYA building and parking lot. This project is funded by recreation funds and no grant was received for this work. **Tree Vitalization Grant** – additional trees granted in Grange Road Park and Breinigsville Park West

Planning – Looking to grade and seed future Athletic Fields extension to the west of Grange Park baseball field (this spring or fall). Additional parking and outfield use for T-ball is also in the planning for Breinigsville Park.

Public Comment – None

Next month's meeting is scheduled for May 29, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Township Building. A special thank-you to Deb Soltis for taking the notes at this meeting!

Sean Gill  
Secretary  
UMT Parks and Recreation Board