

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Monthly Meeting
September 25, 2014**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on September 25, 2014 at the township building. It was not held at Independent Park Community Center as it needed to be advertised in the Newspaper. The following Recreation Board members were present: Rich Kiser, April Navarra, Andrea Russell, David Kentner, Sean Gill, Jim Adams & Katie Shade. Board members not in attendance: Linda Gorr and Jocelyn Pattishall. Also present at the meeting was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Jim Brunell and Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by UMT Recreation Vice Chairperson Dave Kentner, at which time all present were asked to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

A motion was made by Sean Gill and seconded by Jim Adams and all were in favor of approving the August meeting minutes.

Public Comments – Gale Fritsch wants to organize a Cancer Bike Benefit from Lone Lane Park into Berks County on June 13, 2015. He anticipates the heaviest concentration of people is between 8-9am and 12-1pm with about 100-200 bikers. Lone Lane will be utilized by our sports organizations and parking will be limited. The Board also recommended checking into utilizing school grounds. Administration asked Keystone to determine capacity and parking at each of the parks in an effort to determine which park would be more suitable for this event.

Melissa Focht discussed an Archery park in the Township. Due to our “no firearms” policy in our parks, a dedicated township property would need to be located (1/2 acre+) and liability would be a major concern. Rich suggested she research other sites and develop a presentation for next month. Sean advised her that she would need to spearhead the project.

Community Programs Scheduled

Review Cardio Tennis – No registrations due to lack of time to advertise.

Review Emergency Preparedness Day – Well attended by the Recreation Board and people were very interested in the Holiday Show. The public made suggestions for our next Movies in the Park and Rich will present the information for future consideration. The public are moving forward with the latest technology and taking pictures of our flyers. Rich also was asked to have a Recreation Table at the Parkland Community Resource Fair on May 2, 2015.

Fall Tennis – Sept 3rd to October 6th – 16 registered which is the greatest fall participation but much smaller than the Spring and Summer’s enrollment of 40 and 30 respectively.

Pickup Volleyball – Volleyball at Fogelsville Elementary School started September 16th and runs through March 31st with the exception of 10/28, 12/9, 12/23 and 12/30. Twenty four people attended the first night and 25 the second. This program has reached its capacity of 4 teams of 6 and winter months also produce more people, so there is no need to advertise this program.

Barktoberfest – Scheduled for October 11th 11am-3pm at Upper Macungie Park. \$3910 was received to date and there are 41 registered vendors. An estimated \$1600 will be raised for the Friends account. Volunteers are still needed and the Recreation Board and their families will help out.

5K/1K Run/Walk for Parks – November 2nd at Lone Lane Park. \$750 in sponsorships were received our presenting sponsors check has not been received. Volunteers will be need to stuff the goody bags on October 29th. Next meeting is October 8th and Andrea feels the event is on tract but still needs sponsors, donations and volunteers.

Recreation Board Recognition Dinner – Wednesday, November 5th at Independent Park at 6pm. Andrea will send the invitation to her 5K volunteers and Chuck will send it to the Cert Team. Rich will request a Friends check for the food (pizza).

Hunter Trapper – November 8th at Independent Park. 22 signed up.

Night with Laurie Moore – November 13th at Independent Park – 30 signed up.

Jingle Bells Holiday Show – Friday, December 5th 6-8 at Independent Park. 5 registered.

Ventriloquist Show – February 27th at Independent Park from 6:30-7:30pm

Boating Course – March 21st 9am-5pm at Independent Park

Community Program Proposed-New

Disc Golf – Tabled

Lego Club – Ads were placed for Lego donations. A container was placed in UMT lobby to collect the new/used Legos. A program will be developed once we have the Legos. A page will also be put on the website.

PA Dutch Classes – Tabled

Interior Design – April attended a class taught by Kay McClane. She suggested starting a Home Decorating Class on Thursdays from 6-8pm at Independent Park for 4 consecutive weeks starting January 15th or February 5th. The cost would be \$56 for 8 hours of instruction and we would collect registrations and 35% percent and the instructor would be paid 65%. All were in favor to recommend to the Board of Supervisors.

Old Business

Twin Ponds Integrated Health Proposal – Tabled by Board of Supervisors due to Liability issues.

Disk Golf – Jim Soltis met with Denny Barr at Upper Macungie Park and passed out a new map of the 18 hole Disk Golf course. The Recreation Board is asking for \$4,000 to purchase the baskets and start the project. We will obtain a signed Liability Waiver from Mr. Barr prior to the start of any work. All were in favor to recommend to the Board of Supervisors.

Grange Park; Memorial Walkway/Wall and Flagpole – Keystone will apply for a grant for this project. No updates available.

Program Instructors, usage, fees, payments – Valerie resubmitted the original contractor forms to Andrew with the Independent Contractors sub-committee notes for re-consideration. No update available.

Pavilion Rates – The Board of Supervisors will review the proposed rate increase at a subsequent BOS meeting.

Community Programs – Advertising and Awareness Opportunities - Tabled

New Business

Laxpalooza – Geoff Carlson was present to discuss having his 5th Annual Laxpalooza lacrosse tournament June 13-14, 2015 at Grange Park. Last year's event went well but there is a need for a second exit from the park. The lacrosse and soccer fields (except U7) are under distress and have been closed since July. The fields may not be utilized next year and will be re-evaluated in the Spring. Jim Brunell asked the Parks department to compost/fertilize as soon as the football season is over and again in the spring. Jim also suggested putting up field closed signs.

Pickleball Courts – We are considering lining two or three courts (Blue Barn & Ricky Parks) for Pickleboard. Tabled.

Monthly Update

Independent Park Community Center – 5 additional reservations since last month. No updates on the basement construction.

UMT Recreation Fund Balance – The balance is \$651,361.69 and Jim Brunell stated that the money is need to match grant requests. He also stated that a large amount will be coming in soon from several new developments. He will ask Dean for an update on these funds.

Park and Grant Updates – No updates available.

Public Comment – Rich asked about the status of the Fishing Pier and the project is currently on hold due to numerous other projects.

Rich also asked to have a monthly Friends balance update.

Jim Brunell presented the Board with an AED that was donated by Shop Rite. This unit will be placed at Grange Park as the highest number of people use this park. Jim stressed that the unit must be kept above 45 degrees.

A motion was made by Katie Shade, seconded by April Navarra and all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Next month's meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2014 at 7:00pm at Independent Park Community Center.

Sean Gill
Secretary
UMT Parks and Recreation Board