

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Monthly Meeting Minutes
January 2017**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on January 26, 2017 at the Upper Macungie Township building. The following Recreation Board members were present: Dave Kentner; Stephanie Rauch-Mannino; and Karla Trumbauer. Also present at the meeting: Parks Team Leader, Jim Soltis; Recreation and Events Coordinator, Lynn Pigliacampi; Jason Schweyer from Keystone Consulting Engineers; and resident(s) Jennifer Szukics, Brett Spengler. April Navarra and Andrea Russell arrived later in the meeting.

Dave called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. He asked all present to join him/her in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Minutes from the previous month's meeting were not approved due to not enough board members in attendance. December minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gale Fritsche, Tour de Tush – Bike Race for Colon Cancer Awareness. These races have raised \$60k over the last 2 years. Funds go to increasing awareness, primarily in the Allentown area, and have been used for a conference for med students in the Lehigh Valley. This year's event includes a 10mi, 30mi, 62mi. Volunteers from fire companies will close roads, direct traffic. Last year had 220 participants; first year was 160. Olympus is major sponsor. Races will be leaving and finishing at Grange Park; will have lower 2 pavilions reserved. The park will need to be cleared for the event – Saturday June 10. This was already approved by Board of Supervisors.

Cadet Troop 636 – For silver award, would like to make a butterfly garden at Rt 100 park. The troop will plan on bringing a proposal to next month's meeting, or whenever they feel they are ready. Lynn suggested bringing a sample picture, which Jim will take back to Supervisors. Target timeframe is spring to get project started. Lynn suggested a week's notice to allow the board to review proposal.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

Election of Recreation Board Chairperson – Dave Kentner was re-nominated

Election of Recreation Board Vice-Chairperson – April Navarro was re-nominated

Andrea Russell motioned for Dave to remain as Chairperson, Karla Trumbauer seconded – unanimously voted “yes”

Election of Recreation Board Secretary – Karla Trumbauer volunteered as interim; Jennifer Szukics (new board applicant) was nominated by Dave Kentner; vote deferred until next meeting

RECREATION BOARD APPLICANTS – Vote deferred until next month; members will review applicants. Applicants will be invited to the next meeting.

REPORTS

Community Programs Scheduled

Adult Volleyball

This program continues until March 2017 at Fogelsville Elementary School's gym on Tuesdays from 8:00 – 10:00 PM. The program is running well and is still very successful. A new person is needed to help run volleyball for spring/summer. Lynn said Rich knows of some people that may be interested and will reach out. Dave said that he could help coordinate the next indoor session since it's at the same timeframe as basketball.

Adult Basketball

This program ended November 10, 2016. It was held at Jaindl Elementary School's gym on Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. It will begin again on March 30 and run until June 8 at Jaindl from 6:30-8:30pm. The program is running well.

Holiday Show

This event was held on December 2, 2016 at Independent Park from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. 75 people attended, Revenue after costs - \$85; \$65 in concessions.

Kids' Noon Year's Eve

This event was held on December 31, 2016 at Independent Park from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Had a very large turnout! Ran out of giveaways. Need to determine when/where to have it again. New Year's Eve Dec. 31, 2017 is a Sunday. Saturday the day before might be a good option and would keep it the same day and time as this year. Station 25 volunteered to let us hold it there instead of Independent Park. May be a good option for larger space, easier cleanup. DJ was great, very nice and easy to work with. Face painter was very good, very fast; got through all the kids. Will talk about date and location at a later time. We spent all the donations and funds allocated to this.

Comedy Show

This event was held on January 13, 2017 at Independent Park, beginning at 7:00 PM. There were approx. 22 people in attendance; everyone in attendance seemed to really enjoy it. \$20 in concessions. Received \$340 from Wisecrackers.

Hippity Hoppity Show

This event will be held on March 3 at Independent Park, beginning at 6:00 PM. Already have 10 registrants. Will increase advertising in the coming weeks.

Pennsylvania German class

This program will be held from April 24 to June 5 at Independent Park on Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

Tennis

This program for children and adults will be held in spring 2017 at Blue Barn and Ricky Parks. Program will run from May 8 – Sept 14, with 3 sessions. There will be multiple classes for all ages and abilities, days and times TBD. Lynn informed Brian he'll be doing an 80/20 split – 20% will come back to township for court maintenance.

5K

Need additional discussion around if/when we will continue this.

Movies in the Park

Events will be held June 9 at Lone Lane Park; July 7 at Breinigsville Park; and August 4 at Grange Road Park. Pre-movie activities start each night at 7:00 PM. Looking to do generally family friendly movies – one geared toward older kids, younger kids, families. In recent years, the “teen” movie has been at Grange. Pete’s Dragon is definite, Zootopia was suggested, Moana was suggested from the public. Lynn asked that everyone review the movies in the link she sent and come up with suggestions.

Junior Golf

This program will be held in summer 2017 at Independent Park, from June 19-July12 and July 19-Aug 12. Classes will be Mon/Wed 9am-12pm. We have a new administrative contact for Embrace Your Dreams. They will get the registration form and pricing together.

Disc Golf

Lynn asked if we would like to structure anything around this. Nothing is planned at this time.

Barktoberfest

This event will be held on October 7 (rain date October 8) at Upper Macungie Park from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Andrea suggested getting the same DJ from Kids Noon Years for this. There was discussion that we may not need a DJ if there is someone to emcee and if we have a playlist of songs. Dave said we have sound equipment. This will be discussed further

Kids' Noon Year's Eve

Because of the success, this event will repeat on December 31, 2017 at a location and time to be determined.

Proposed/New

Volleyball tournament – No discussion

Kite Day

The Recreation Board proposes to hold this event in spring or fall 2017 at either Grange or Independent Park. Date and time TBD. Board approved Katie to pursue with Pocono Kite to select a site. More will be determined once the expert says one of our two site suggestions will work.

Pickleball Opening Day

The Recreation Board proposes to hold this event in April at Blue Barn Park. Preferred date is April 23 (Sunday), time TBD, due to newsletter timing. Brett agreed due to Easter being the week before. Format would be round robin with court and partner switching. This is a good way to incorporate new members. Lynn will see if there's a pickleball related vendor that can provide coupons. Brett has a code that if people use it, money gets donated back to the club. Expect there will be light concessions offered. Courts are done at Blue Barn, Ricky Park courts will be finished later. Brett has email list and Facebook group to keep people involved. Lynn will include Facebook group in communications.

Splash Park Opening Day

The Recreation Board proposes to hold this event in June at Grange Road Park. Date and time TBD (Feb meeting). The opening goal was to be memorial day weekend, but in case there are construction delays, we may want a June date. Jason said we will have a better idea next month after the bids are awarded as to when the splash park will be complete.

Disc Golf

Additional discussion needed

Lego Program

Need a firm proposal to organize this. April has a large amount of Legos. Would be once a week/month for kids to get together and build with Legos. We could potentially use the meeting room at Independent Park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Small games of chance license – No discussion

NEW BUSINESS

Updates from Lynn

2 Park Usage Requests – Lynn will send for review via email.

Newsletter – Goal is to have delivered to people by early-mid-April. Expect to include Community Center survey and article in addition to the usual recreation information. Will have more detail next month.

Park Grants - Lynn has been asked to take on working on the grants for parks going forward.

Upper Macungie Township website redesign – Lynn is working with website company SearchworXX to redesign site. No hard deadline to complete because it is a large project and she does not want to rush it. It will include a visual overhaul, more direct navigation, more mobile friendly. Lynn is organizing the navigation and explaining the desired look.

Recreation software update – It is being used internally. Lynn and Sheri are using it for rental reservations. Lynn is entering program, park and rental facility data. She has sent them the language for the welcome, confirmation pages and emails. More information needs to be added still. It is not live yet, working out the best way to take online registrations and applications without requiring an online payment since that will not be an option yet. Online and Credit Card payment is long term goal for rentals.

New “Friends” members – Need people from the rec board to become members of “Friends of UMT Recreation.” Jim Adams was a member and he has retired. Need one more person. Mainly needed to sign checks for spending for events. Made up of 5 people. Could potentially tie Friends meetings with this board meeting.

Recycling events at Grange – was on the agenda to complete the date selection which has now been done. Dave K. requested June 17 and 24. Lynn confirmed these are the dates.

OTHER BUSINESS

Independent Park Community Center rental update- January 2017 - 5 bookings - **\$2,845.00**

Upper Macungie Township Recreation fund balance **\$1,669,897.59**

Friends of Upper Macungie Parks and Recreation, Inc. fund balance **\$26,645.48**

Park and Grant updates (Jason)- Working on permitting for Grange Park. Working on permitting for pedestrian bridge in Bville park west/east and eventually Harvest Fields development. Dave asked if Jason could look into expanding the baseball field at Grange. Want to make sure the grant didn't restrict future modifications. FYI Jason has since confirmed SPYA is allowed to expand the field without violating any part of the grant.

Splash Park updates – Got bids for splash park. This is a specialized market, so there weren't a lot of bidders. Only got one bid, staff is reviewing, and will be on the agenda for next BOS meeting. DC&R needs to give final approval because of grant. Plan is to start construction in

March, or depending on when approval is granted, potentially next month. Construction is scheduled to be complete in mid-May. There are multiple options for bid – just the splash park, or also including fencing/sidewalks. The township needs to decide if they're going to do the installation of the fence/sidewalks themselves.

Community Center updates – Additional information is currently being gathered, research is ongoing. Would like to have everything ready to go public at the March Supervisor meeting so survey can be sent out in the Newsletter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 9:03PM by April and seconded by Andrea to adjourn the meeting, and all were in agreement. Next month's meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Township building.

Dave Kentner, Chairman

UMT Parks and Recreation Board