

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS
AND RECREATION BOARD Monthly
Meeting Minutes June 2020**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at the Upper Macungie Township building. Recreation Board members present: Gwen McCurdy, Karla Trumbauer, Matthew Bernard; Andrea Russell, April Navarra, Bret Spangler. Also present: Recreation & Events Coordinator, Lynn Matula; Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis. Katie Shade, Wes Schlauch, Dave Kentner were absent.

Other members of the public in attendance: Jeff Lapp – Friends of Upper Macungie

Chair Bret Spangler called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. He asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Gwen made a motion was made by and seconded Bret by to approve the May meeting minutes. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Friends Update (Jeff Lapp) – Friends will be taking over the banking from the township.

REPORTS

Community Programs Scheduled - Lynn provided updates on programs including those that have been impacted by Covid-19

Proposed/New - See new business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Skate Park/Pump Park discussion – Bret did some research to see the usage of the Bethlehem Township skate park multiple times and to Camp Olympic and didn't see any crowds. Matthew indicated that may be because of Covid, and usually there is a steady crowd at the Bethlehem park. If we want to pursue this, we would then need to pursue a design/estimate as well as funding research. Jim indicated the township wouldn't build it because of the potential liability. All agreed we need to hold off on this until we are well into Green phase to see if there is expanded interest. We can do individual research in the meantime.
- Program/Event Ideas:
 - Community Bonfire – Bret suggested Fall timing and tying it into a Parkland rivalry game – unclear if there is going to be a football season. The fire company suggested August would be the good timing due to dryness and wind in the fall. Bob/Lynn discussed winter being a decent time especially since we don't have much in the Winter. April brought up a winter fun festival. Lynn checked with our insurance rep – there is nothing that prohibits us from doing this and isn't out of the norm for recreation. Bret suggested late October, Saturday night, associated with the school district in some way. Andrea suggested right before Thanksgiving

due to college students coming home, and April suggested a turkey. Potentially ask Jaiindl to help sponsor/brand.

Bret made a motion to hold a bonfire on Nov. 21 at Grange Park in coordination with Turkey Trot/Fun Run and partnering with Parkland school district. April seconded. All approved.

- Car Shows/Bike Night – Matthew sent high-level proposal via email. April spoke with someone associated with Wheels of Time, and they are over-booked and wouldn't be likely to get involved. Bret asked about potentially combining car show/food trucks. Andrea didn't think there would be a lot of interest, as food trucks don't normally do well. Lynn asked about combining drive-in movie with car show and just having a couple food trucks. Prizes could be funded partially through registration fees; could also look for sponsors. Lynn will look into local car groups to see if anyone is interested in partnering and provide guidance on structure. Everyone agreed late spring would be a good time to do this. Would need to coordinate with sport schedules. Also need to consider parks with speed bumps potentially being an issue (Grange doesn't have speed bumps).

Bret motions to approve Upper Macungie Car/Bike Show at Grange park to be coordinated between township and local car club(s) between April and June. Karla seconded. All approved.

- Food Truck Festival – Lynn (based on discussions with Tracy) proposed 3 Fridays (17/24/31) in July (Park and Rec month). Tracy will assign a couple food trucks to each park and potentially look to get live music. The 3rd Friday could potentially be tied in to the drive-in movie. We could then do another 3 Fridays in August (7/14/21) following the same pattern as July with either drive-in movie or distanced movie. April suggested trying to pull in street performers (potentially ask Arts Quest), or other performances/activities.

Bret motioned to approve Food Truck Fridays for dates listed above, with July dates being at Grange and August dates being at Breinigsville. Karla seconded. All approved.

- Virtual and Distance-Friendly programs

- Photo scavenger hunt – going on now, please share! No further discussion needed,
- Cross-promotion for other organizations' virtual events – local resources are on the web site, can be discussed further next meeting.
- Virtual 5k or virtual bike race – potentially use Map My Ride – discuss ideas over email
- Drive-in movie/distance movie – how do we properly space people with different size vehicles? If we are in green, do we even need to do drive-in? Would we need people to pre-register? Or just post that space is limited and will turn away if we reach capacity.
Bret motioned to set the dates for Movies in the Park for 7/31 at Grange and 8/21 at Breinigsville taking measures necessary to adhere to CDC distancing guidelines including possible drive-in option. Andrea seconded. All approved.
- Virtual classes – tabled for next meeting
- One-day market – tabled for next meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

- Revised by-laws – Lynn sent a revision of the Park and Recreation By-laws. No one raised concerns.
Bret motioned to approve amended bylaws. Karla seconded. All approved except for April, who abstained.
- Banner sponsor program – This will be a township program and not a Friends program. Lynn sent the proposed fee schedule in a separate email. Andrea ask what drove the fee ranges – Lynn researched other sponsorship programs for guidance.
Bret motioned to approve the fee schedule for 2021 for sponsorships for banners. Andrea seconded. All approved.
- Yoga in the Park program – Tribe Yoga would like to use Church St Park for special event regular classes but would also like to look to do a partnership with us as well. Church St park is close to her studio. She indicated she could add us as an insured party. The instructor has all appropriate certifications. Lynn mentioned we've been looking to get yoga back in the parks for some time, and this could be a good fit. We could potentially expand this to include seniors in the future and potentially ask friends to fund that portion so we can keep it free for seniors. Due to other pending discussions, this will be tabled to next meeting or voted on via email.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Pavilion Rental Update
 - No reservations for May
- UMT Recreation fund balance – (see spreadsheet) \$1,681,883.01
- Friends of Upper Macungie Parks and Recreation, Inc. fund balance - \$26,856.32. Shade structures have not been taken out of this yet.
- Recreation & Events Coordinator Updates – No additional updates.
- Park Update:
 - Shades at the Splash Park were installed.
 - Aerator at Ricky Park has also been installed.
 - Basketball courts at Grange have been paved, just waiting on lines.
 - Multi-purpose courts are growing.
 - Rare falcon spotted at the quarry by the Game Commission.
- Officer Update – Bret thanked everyone for focus and participation and encouraged people to do research outside of the meeting and bring details associated with ideas to the meeting to maximize use of time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 8:48 pm by Bret and seconded by Karla to adjourn the meeting, and all agreed. Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 7:00 PM at the Township building.

Bret Spangler, Chairperson UMT
Parks and Recreation Board