

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND
RECREATION BOARD Monthly Meeting
Minutes July 20th, 2023**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, July 20th, 2023, at the UMT meeting room.

Recreation Board members present: *Matthew Bernard, Jaclyn Svetcov, Wes Schlauch, Neeraj Sharma, Gwen McCurdy, Jason Krier, and April Navarra.* Also present: *Recreation Manager Mike Kukitz.*

Other members of the public in attendance: *none*

Chairman Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. He asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Bret Spangler has resigned from the board. Jason Krier has been appointed as a new board member.

A motion was made by April to approve the June 2023 minutes, Matt seconded, all approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT -none

REPORTS:

● **Staff Reports**

- Summer Camp: Has been successful and well-received. Looking forward to expanding it to a third site next year.
- Upper Mac Community Day was on June 24th: This was a first time event and showed moderate success. Thank you to all involved.
- Pickleball Lessons currently running; "Luck of the Draw" Tournament will take place on Sept. 16th.
- Movies in the Park on August 11th at Grange Park.
- Movies in the Park at the Velodrome, for the first time, on September 8th, in coordination with Fire Department Appreciation night.
- Barktoberfest will be held on October 14th at Grange Park.
- Trick or Treat Trail(a new event) planned for October 20th, coordinated with an extra Movies in the Park at Lone Lane.
- Noon-Year's Eve will be held outdoors this year at Grange Park on December 31st, 2023.
- Winter Festival possibly to be held on February 10th at Grange Park.
- Partnering with Parkland School District to coordinate some winter community programs for seniors and kids.

● **Other news**

- Thank you to the Allentown West Rotary Club who donated supplies for a bike service station.
- Grange Park wayfinding signs and dog park signs have been received. New recycling cans were also ordered.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Parks and Recreation Board Bylaws Review:** The updated bylaws were distributed to the rec board last month to be reviewed. April Navarra was concerned with limiting appointments to two consecutive 5 year terms. Neeraj feels that there needs to be a limit because of community and generational changes. Jason suggested a clause that after the ten years, if no volunteers are willing to serve, that the retiring member can be appointed to the board on a yearly basis until other volunteers apply.

- Jason made a motion to add a clause to the bylaws to allow an existing member to continue their position after their double term has expired, in absence of a new member. Matthew seconded. 6 were in favor, 1 opposed.

- Matt made a motion to have the new bylaws submitted to the township for approval. Jason seconded. All were in favor.

- **Ricky Park Assessment:** The park is in very good shape overall and well-used by the surrounding community. Gwen suggested that pickleball lines be painted on the tennis courts for dual usage. Mike feels we are missing some uniformity across the parks when it comes to trash cans, signage, etc.

- Gwen suggested port-a-potties at the parks in the winter as a courtesy to residents using the parks in the winter, since most of the park restrooms are closed and winterized in the off season. Matthew agreed, since some winters have been unseasonably warm, allowing more people to get outside to visit..

- April and Neeraj brought up that the park walking paths should be plowed during the winter so people can still enjoy them. Mike suggested the board choose one park walking area to be kept clear, since it would be a logistical issue with roads getting priority. Different equipment would also be needed to service narrow pathways. .

- Jason suggested having community members paint the trash cans if we choose to have all metal cans.

- Apple Park and Blue Barn will be reviewed for next month's meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT-

- Neeraj is questioning why the pickleball lights are not on at Grange Park and why the restroom is not always open. Mike said that these structures are new and are most likely still being finalized.

ADJOURNMENT

- Matt made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 pm, Jackie seconded, all agreed.

- Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 17th, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Township building.

Matthew Bernard- Chair

April Navarra- Vice-Chair

UMT Parks and Recreation Board