

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND  
RECREATION BOARD Monthly Meeting  
Minutes August 17th, 2023**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, August 17th, 2023, at the UMT meeting room.

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

Other members of the public in attendance: *Deb Soltis*

Chairman Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM. He asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT -none**

**REPORTS:**

● **Staff Reports**

- After school-program in the works for high schoolers: 3 v 3 co-ed basketball program.
- VZAP Trail and Walkability Study: looking for potential grant funding.
- Working with Wildlands Conservancy to plant native plants to create a Breinigsville Park buffer.
- Parks and Recreation Board Bylaws Ordinance: approved at 8/3/23 BOS meeting.
- New trash and recycling cans received in Grange Park.
- Grange Park Wayfinding Signage installed.

● **Other news**

- Program and Event flyers were distributed to the Fitness Plaza on Route 100.
- Program and Event flyer submitted to Parkland High School Football Booster Club.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**-Blue Barn/ Apple Park Review:**

Apple Park: Very well-maintained, beautiful park which includes two ponds and athletic fields. Entryway sign missing from second entryway into park. Tennis court needs updating.

Blue Barn Park: Smaller park which includes a basketball court and three tennis courts. The courts could use a bit of updating.

**-Park Entry Signage:** Some examples were shared for some new signage for Upper Macungie Parks. A combination of stone and wood was suggested for a unique and rustic look but multiple different examples were shown. Mike would like the rec board's thoughts on the design features. Jim suggested incorporating boulders from Grange Park around the various entryway signs. Overall, the board was leaning towards the first two examples which featured a stone pillar with a hanging etched wood sign off the side which included the park name. The goal is to have something low maintenance but attractive.

**-Fall/ Winter Programming:**

- New low impact aerobics class and indoor yoga
- Volleyball will be back at Veterans for adults
- Wildlands Spooky Hike is almost sold out
- Trick or Treat Trail event in the works for Lone Lane Park
- Mad Science Camp during school holidays at the UMT building
- Noon-Year's Eve has outgrown the fire hall and will be moving outdoors at Grange Park
- Indoor Zumba will be a new program at Veterans Elementary
- Mighty Kicks is a popular program which will have an indoor offering this year
- Winter Festival is in the works; UMT is looking to create a unique and fun family event
- Self-defense program with Leading Edge Martial Arts
- Hunter/Trapper Class offering

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT -**

-Neeraj commented that the Pickleball Courts are crowded and that people are not being respectful about sharing the court and allowing other people waiting to start a game. He suggested a paddle rack to keep track of the player's turns. Mike is looking to do more signage to encourage rule following etiquette. Jim and Jason suggested numbered hooks.

**ADJOURNMENT -**

-Matt made a motion to adjourn at 8:12 pm, April seconded, all agreed.

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

Matthew Bernard- Chair  
April Navarra- Vice-Chair  
UMT Parks and Recreation Board