

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND  
RECREATION BOARD Monthly Meeting  
Minutes September 21st, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, September 21st, 2023, at the UMT meeting room.

Recreation Board members present: *Matthew Bernard, Jaclyn Svetcov, Wes Schlauch, Neeraj Sharma, Jason Krier, and Jim Soltis*. Also present: *Recreation Manager Mike Kukitz*. Other members of the public in attendance: *Deb Soltis*

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

Chairman Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. He asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: none**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

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

**STAFF REPORTS:**

- Luck of the Draw Pickleball Tournament was a huge success and was sold out. Plans are in the works to have two tournaments next year, one in spring and one in the fall.
- Movie in the Park and Fire Department Appreciation Night was rescheduled due to weather. Attendance was light.
- There are 16 vendors to date for the Barktoberfest event.
- There are 23 vendors to date for the Trick or Treat Trail event.
- Fall outdoor and indoor programming is finalized.
- A position has been offered to a candidate to fill the Parks and Rec Specialist position with a potential start date of 10/16.
- 20 BareRoot trees were received from a Grant and more were given through LVCD and the Keystone 10 Million Trees program. Overall, we will be able to plant more than 100 trees in Grange Park this year.
- A new Fall UMT Newsletter should be arriving at homes by October 1st.
- A new 2024 Special Event Application will be coming soon.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Pickleball Courts in Grange Park:** There are problems with court sharing at the Pickleball courts at Grange Park during peak times due to the popularity of the sport. Suggestions were provided including: paddleboard racks, more signage, etc, to alleviate this issue during peak times. A

general consensus was made to install paddleboard racks at the Grange Park pickleball courts as well as increase awareness regarding pickleball etiquette. Racks were purchased and will be donated by a community member.

2. **Church Street Park Review:** This park is not owned by UMT, but is leased and maintained by UMT. It is a small park of only a few acres. It contains a few fields for soccer, a basketball court, a volleyball court, and a pavilion. If any improvements are to be made it would be a better parking area. Some board members are curious to find out more information about Church Street and the lease due to the cost of leasing the park.
3. **Lone Lane Park:** Signage is showing wear but new signs are being discussed for UMT parks. There is a well-maintained and utilized walking trail that outlines the park. Many areas of open-space and soccer nets are available. The trail through the woods is very well maintained and utilized. Baseball fields in nice shape. The playground was installed around 2005 and is holding up very well and has some unique features. There are two volleyball courts on macadam with a basketball court as well. Some new nets are needed. Lone Lane has the largest pavilion in the township and is rented out very regularly. Better wording instead of "Keep off fields" on signage is a suggestion so as not to deter families.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR:** Jason brought up the idea of having an ice hockey area installed in one of the parks during the winter due to the lack of facilities in the area for ice hockey. He suggested looking into the Bethlehem municipal outdoor rink for ideas. The township's focus at the current time is on the new community center but this idea can be revisited in the future.

## **ADJOURNMENT -**

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

-Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 19th, 2023, at 7:59 PM at the Township building.

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