

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND
RECREATION BOARD Monthly Meeting
Minutes January 18th, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, January 18th, 2024, at the UMT meeting room.

Recreation Board members present: *Matthew Bernard, Jaclyn Svetcov, Neeraj Sharma, Jason Krier, April Navarra, and Gwen McCurdy*. Also present: *Recreation Manager Mike Kukitz, Recreation Supervisor Emily Crosby-Piszczek*

Jackie made a motion to appoint Matthew Bernard as temporary Chairman. Gwen seconded. All approved.

Matthew made a motion to appoint Jaclyn Svetcov as temporary Secretary. Jason seconded. All approved.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Chairman Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:03 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

NOMINATIONS:

Jaclyn made a motion to nominate Matthew Bernard as Chairman for the year 2024. April seconded, all approved.

Matthew made a motion to nominate April Navarra as Vice Chairman for the year 2024. Jason seconded, all approved.

Matthew made a motion to nominate Jaclyn Svetcov as Secretary for the year 2024. April seconded, all approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

A motion was made by Matthew to approve the November 2023 minutes, all approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

–see New Business

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2023 Year in Review:

- a. Township Community Programs totaled 60 which is a 76% increase
- b. Township Community Events totaled 11 which is a 38% increase
- c. Special Event Applications and Field Requests totaled 71 approved which is a 69% increase
- d. Marketing has increased and includes: Bi-Annual Newsletter, RecDesk Online Portal, and social media posts on Facebook and Instagram.
- e. Pavilion rentals have increased by 114%
- f. Sports Clinics and Program income increased by 69%.
- g. The Summer Playground program brought in \$68,525 which is a 114% increase.
- h. Splash Park revenue was \$26,340 (0.7% decrease).

2. 2024 Spring/Summer Program and Event Review:

- a. NEW programs include: Salsa dancing in the park, adult co-ed soccer, youth fishing derby, two pickleball tournaments (Spring/Fall), dog-training in the park, cooking class, as well as a food truck festival and a sports equipment swap. There will also be new camps including a coding and robotics camp and upgraded playground camp (see below).
- b. Summer playground camp will be expanded to 3 locations at Jaindl, Fogelsville, and Veterans due to popularity. Prices will increase to accommodate better staffing as well as more art/sports supplies and field trips. The cost totals to about \$50 a week per child.
- c. There will be a variety of live music in the parks occurring about 5 times a year.
- d. Many community favorites will be back including: yoga, volleyball, Healthy Kids running, Mighty Kicks soccer, Bunny Hop, senior classes, tennis classes, Movies in the Park, and Noon-Years Eve.
- e. New ideas are always welcome!

3. 2024 Capital Projects Review:

- a. Parks and Recreation Master Plan to assess the future recreation goals in Upper Macungie Township.
- b. Parks and Recreation Brochure Design will be updated soon. Overall the board sees a value in having a printed brochure and likes many aspects of the current design but feel the word count needs to decrease. A QR code would be handy on the brochure as well.
- c. Grange Park field improvements will be moving forward.
- d. Russett Road Park playground installation- Mike will have some more info soon and installation is planned for Spring of 2025.
- e. Hassan Trail signage is in rough shape but will be updated.
- f. Disc Golf Course signage needs to be updated due to fading/dicoloration.
- g. Park EntryWay Signs will be updated over the next few years. Various designs were presented to the board and Mike is looking into which parks are a priority.
- h. Dog Park equipment installation is being assessed to see if some play equipment can be added to one of the dog parks for some fun obstacles, etc.
- i. Publication Racks installed in various park locations to offer the township printed newsletter for taking.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR: none

ADJOURNMENT -

-Matt made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 pm, Neeraj seconded, all agreed.

-Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 21st, 2024, at 7:00PM at the Township building.

Matthew Bernard- Chair

April Navarra- Vice-Chair

Jaelyn Svetcov- Secretary

UMT Parks and Recreation Board