

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

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:

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

Recreation Board members present: *Matthew Bernard, Jaclyn Svetcov, Jason Krier, Wes Schlauch, Neeraj Sharma, Gwen McCurdy, and April Navarra.* Also present: *Recreation Supervisor Emily Crosby-Piszczek, Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis, and community member Deb Soltis.*

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Chairman Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:07 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 Matthew to approve the March 2024 minutes, Jason seconded, all approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

- Summer Camp Registration for residents opened on March 4th. We currently have 372 campers registered out of 375 (3 spots remaining).
- Summer Camp Interviews just wrapped up today, 4/18, for a total of 15 remaining staff members and 15 new staff members.
- Various Spring programs have started up again including Mighty Kicks Soccer, Healthy Kids Running Series, and Senior Chair Strength and Mobility.
- Upcoming Township events include: Earth Day Beautification Project on 4/20/24 (looking for volunteers), Youth Fishing Derby on 5/4/24, Paws in the Park (WL Chamber Event), ArtsQuest Concerts on the Grange on 5/10/24-5/11/24, Spring Luck of the Draw Pickleball Tournament on 5/11/24, Children's Bike Rodeo with Valley Preferred Cycling Center on 5/11/24, Movie in the Park: Migration on 6/7/24, ArtsQuest Concert on the Grange on 7/12/24-7/13/24, and Grub at the Grange Food Truck Festival on 7/27/24.
- Bunny Hop Survey Update: 28 people completed the survey with the use of an incentive.
- **General Update:** Staff will finish completing a DCED grant to help offset the costs of constructing a perimeter walking trail around the phased-out section of Grange Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Russett Park Playground:** A survey was conducted on Facebook to get a public vote on the two color choice options for the new Russett Park playground. Option A (Blue, Green, and Purple) was the winning choice with 78.5% of the vote while Option B (Green, Brown) received 21.5%.

Neeraj made a motion to approve the Option A (Blue, Green, Purple) playground choice for Russett Park playground. April seconded. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

-Incorporating Action Items: Emily suggested incorporating action items after each meeting for various members to perform between monthly meetings. The main areas she needs help with are networking, social media, and volunteer time. Emily will do a test run next month.

-By Law Change: Board Member Booth Requirement:

Matthew and Emily suggested the addition to the by law to make it mandatory for board members to man a UMT booth at least once per calendar year.

Matthew made a motion to add a by law that all board members must volunteer at an Upper Macungie booth once per calendar year, during any Upper Macungie township event, for any duration that member has time for. All were in favor.

-Role Change: Monthly Agenda Responsibility: The Chairperson will take on the role of creating the monthly agenda with Emily, our Recreation Supervisor, instead of the Secretary. No member had an objection.

-Rec Board Agenda- Add Public Comment to the Front of the Meeting:

Matthew made a motion to add an extra "Public Comment" to the front of the agenda with all changes being put in writing. All were in favor.

-Monthly Meeting in the Park: The Rec board chose to have May at Ricky Ridge Park, the June meeting at Lone Lane Park, and the July meeting at Breinigsville Park.

-Annual Rec Board Social Gathering: The board agreed that a yearly social/team-building gathering would be a nice way to increase communication and productivity among members..

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR: none

ADJOURNMENT -

-Matt made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 pm, Neeraj seconded, all agreed.

-Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 16th, 2024, at 7:00PM at the Township building.

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

