

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND  
RECREATION BOARD Monthly Meeting  
Minutes August 15th, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, August 15th, 2024, at the UMT meeting room.

Recreation Board members present: *Matthew Bernard, Jaclyn Svetcov, Jason Krier, Wes Schlauch, Gwen McCurdy, and April Navarra*. Also present: *Recreation Supervisor Emily Crosby-Piszczek, Recreation Manager Ryan Griffiths, Peter Simone, and Rob L. from Simone Collins firm*.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

Chairman Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 April 2024 minutes, Jason seconded, all approved.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

- Welcome to the new Recreation Manager Ryan Griffiths. He comes with a great deal of experience and enthusiasm and we are happy to have him.
- Spring/Summer program event report:** Summer Playground Camp just wrapped up with great success and feedback. The Food Truck Festival had 9 food trucks and attendance of about 1,000 community members.
- Community Lifestyle Center Update:** Planning has been approved and a groundbreaking is scheduled for this Fall. This amazing facility will be for all ages and lifestyles to enjoy and will include programs and activities from young to old.
- Fall/Winter Program and Event Announcements:** Movie in the Park: Kung Fu Panda 4 on 9/13/24, Blood Drive on 9/14/24 with Miller Keystone at the UMT building, Barktoberfest on 10/5/24 at Route 100 Park, Trunk-or-Treat/Movie in the Park at Lone Lane Park on 10/18/24.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- By Law Change Feedback:** This by law change has been addressed and closed for discussion.
- Ch 16 Parks and Recreation: Ordinance Change Recommendations**  
Clarification and strengthening of the ordinance laws need to be addressed in the Ch 16 Parks and Recreation documents. This is something that will be addressed over the next few months.

(continue below)

**-Volunteers in the Park (VIP) Rejuvenation**

Volunteers are needed to supplement and enhance UMT events and programs. This upcoming project will result in opportunities made available for any members of the community to come out to help.

**-Sponsorships/Newsletter Advertising Push-2025**

Advertising opportunities need to be further developed to help offset the cost of the various projects and programs of UMT, including the new Community Lifestyle Center.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**-Comprehensive Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Presentation (Simone Collins)**

Representatives from Simone Collins gave an introductory presentation on some of their initial data during the planning phase of their future growth plan for UMT. This planning phase will continue throughout the year and will include public meetings and digital information. Their focus will look at open space preservation, recreation facilities/programs, zoning, natural resources, cultural heritage, park enhancement, and accessibility. A public opinion survey is currently open and has received about 350 responses so far. The survey is available on the UMT website, UMT social media, and at community events through May 13th, 2025.

**-Various Park Concerns**

Lone Lane tree cutting and Grange Park basketball courts have needed attention and will be addressed by the township.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR: none**

**ADJOURNMENT -**

-Matt made a motion to adjourn at 8:14 pm, Wes seconded, all agreed.

-Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 19th, 2024, at 7:00PM at the Township building.

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