

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Monthly Meeting
February 27, 2014**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on February 27, 2014 at the Municipal Building. The following Recreation Board members were present: Rich Kiser, Sean Gill, David Kentner, Jim Adams, April Navarra and Andrea Russell. Board members not in attendance: Linda Gorr. Also present at the meeting were Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis, Recreation and Events Coordinator Valerie Brosky and Dean Haas from Keystone Engineering Consulting. In addition, the applicants for the Recreation Board's vacancy seats; Ed Earley and Katie Shade were present as well as Jennifer Trumbore to speak about Geocaching & Justin Arnold on behalf of Legacy Christian Church.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by UMT Recreation Chairperson Rich Kiser at which time all present were asked to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

The January minutes were reviewed and no corrections were noted. A motion was made by Andrea Russell, seconded by Jim Adams and all were in favor of approving the January meeting minutes.

Community Programs Scheduled

Fall/Winter Volleyball – Tuesday nights through the end of March. A record 30 people came out to play last week and needed to be rotated so they could all play. Rich Kiser is looking to secure a lockbox so that a summer program can be continued.

Night with Laurie Moore – May 2nd 7-8:30pm at Independent Park. 2 signed up.

Tennis – May 6th to June 5th Spring Clinic - 5 sign ups.

Pet CPR/First Aide Class – Sunday, May 18th at Independent Park from 9-12:30pm. 1 sign up.

Family Fishing – Two programs this year; June 7th and August 23rd at Apple Ponds. Registrations will be on Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission website this year. A link is provided on our website for easy enrollment.

Movies in the Park – June 13th at Lone Lane Park, July 11th at Breinigsville Park and August 8th at Grange Park. The Secret Life of Walter Mitty, Walking With Dinosaurs and Diaries of a Wimpy Kid (all rated PG) will be the 2014 movies. Sponsorship letters were mailed and \$400 was received to date.

National Night out – August 5th at Lone Lane Park. This event is organized by Upper Macungie Township Police Department.

Barktoberfest – Scheduled for October 11th 11am-3pm at Upper Macungie Park. \$560 was received to date in sponsorships.

5K/1K Run/Walk for Parks – November 2nd at Lone Lane Park. The committee will meet in the next several weeks and design a new logo. Justin Arnold has volunteered to be the Chairperson for this event.

Recreation Board Recognition Dinner – Scheduled for November 6th at Independent Park. We will keep a list of all volunteers throughout the year to send invitations to.

Night with Laurie Moore – Scheduled for November 13th.

Proposed/New Programs

Tree Care – Rescheduled to Thursday, April 17th.

Hunter Trapper – Scheduled for November 8, 2014 at Independent Park.

Jingle Bells Holiday Show – Giggle Magic will perform a holiday show at Independent Park on Friday, December 5th from 6-8. It is geared toward families with small children. Santa Claus will be present from 7-8pm for the public to take their own pictures. The cost is \$5 per person.

Previously Proposed-Under Construction

Basketball, Beginning Birding, Folk Festival, Golf, Penn State Extension Programs, Boot Camp in the Park, Full Circle Training, Ceramics, Interior Design, Zumba– Tabled.

Old Business

Upper Macungie Park Dog Park Completion/Status – No updates

Grange Park; Memorial Walkway/Wall and Flagpole – Sean Gill visited many sites and plans on starting a committee

Independent Park Community Center – 6 additional reservations last month with many repeat reservations.

Program Instructors, usage, fees, payments –The township Solicitor is still reviewing the proposed revisions.

Open Space Development – KCE provided the compilation from the needs assessment survey done by the youth associations. The survey results show the need for additional athletic fields (see attachment) which could be provided at Grange Road Park and at the lands behind the VFW which have not been developed. Dean recommended separate meetings with the BVETS and public works and SPYA and public works to review the plans.

New Business

Park and Grant Updates – The Independent park is scheduled for completion of the water quality spray irrigation basin and a few additional parking spaces for the lower level. The plans are being prepared for the basement improvements so the work could be put out for

bid. Public works did not get as much time to work on the building as hoped this winter due to the amount of snow plowing.

Dean had called Lorne Possinger, DCNR Natural Resource Program Supervisor, regarding grant programs this year. He encouraged resubmission of the splash park application which was made the last two years as well as other projects for athletic fields and supporting parking and restrooms. These projects and the splash park were recommended to be submitted for the DCNR grants due April 16th and the Act 13 Grants may be reissued and would be due around June this year.

KCE will work with Jim and the youth associations to get letters of support forms out as soon as possible so that they may be returned at the March Recreation meeting

Snow Shoveling for Seniors – Sean Gill suggested implementing a program through our local Boy Scouts to shovel snow for seniors. This program is under consideration.

Recreation Board Open Positions – We received 4 applications for our 2 vacancies. Due to the bylaws, the board must be kept at 9 members. The Recreation Board entered into an executive session to vote on the 4 applicants for the 2 open Recreation Board positions. Votes were tallied and are numbered in order of most votes; 1. Ed Earley, 2. Katie Shade, 3. Jocelyn Pattishall and 4. Nagie Latefa. The recreation board recommends Ed Earley and Katie Shade for the vacancies.

Public Comment

Jennifer Trumbore attended the meeting and discussed plans for a future Geocaching event. We decided to hold the event on Saturday, July 19th from 11-2 with more discussion on event details to follow. A GC code linking the Geocaching website will be put on township flyers at a future date. A suggestion was made to make a recreation banner and is under consideration.

Justin Arnold, representing Legacy Christian Church has asked us to help advertise their Arise event. They have partnered with VAST (Valley Against sex Trafficking) to raise money and awareness against human trafficking through an Art and Music festival to be held at the church from 6-11pm on March 21st. The board was in favor of supporting this event.

A motion was made by April Navarra, seconded by Jim Adams, and all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. Next month's meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Township Building.

Sean Gill
Secretary
UMT Parks and Recreation Board