

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Monthly Meeting
December 19, 2013**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on December 19, 2013 at the Municipal Building. All Recreation Board members were present: Rich Kiser, Andrea Russell, Jim Adams, Dave Kentner, Sean Gill, April Navarra & Linda Gorr. Also present at the meeting were UMT Board of Supervisor Ed Earley, UMT Recreation and Events Coordinator Valerie Brosky, Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis, Dean Haas from Keystone Engineering Consulting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm 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 November minutes were reviewed and no corrections were noted. A motion was made by Sean Gill and seconded by Andrea Russell and all were in favor of approving the November meeting minutes.

Community Programs Scheduled

Game night – January 24th at Independent Community Center. Free event, no registration needed. All are invited to come out for games and small refreshments.

Fall/Winter volleyball – Tuesday nights through March 2014. 24-38 participants each week and this continues to be a well-attended program.

Tree Care – scheduled for March 4th. Free course but registration needed.

Night with Laurie Moore – Approved by the Board of Supervisors and scheduled for May 2nd and November 13th. Admission will be \$10 to cover an increase in program cost.

Family Fishing – Scheduled for June 7th at Apple Ponds.

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. Working on arranging a Skype with Ben Stiller before the showing of the 1st movie. The Active Learning Center is interested in participating and we will contact them early next year.

National Night out – UMTPD would like the recreation board to have a table at their August 5th NNO.

Barktoberfest – scheduled for October 11th.

5K/1K Run/Walk for Parks – scheduled for November 2nd.

Night with Laurie Moore – scheduled for November 13th.

Proposed/New Programs

Pet CPR/First Aide Class – rescheduled for Sunday, May 18th, 2014 at Independent Park from 9-12:30pm.

Magic Show with Magic Mike – Decided to explore a Jingle Bell Holiday Show with Giggle Magic December 5th instead. We can have a Santa present for pictures. Sean suggested having Parkland Elementary Chorale participate and could lead a sing along.

Geocaching – Have not heard from Jennifer Trumbore. Asked Chuck Thomas to reach out to her to try and schedule this well-received event.

Golf – John Andrews took another position and will not be joining UMT this year. Dean Haas suggested Rick Kline and will contact him to see if he is interested in resuming our junior golf.

Tennis – George Henry schedule a May 6th to June 5th Spring Tennis Clinic and agreed to do a summer clinic as well with the schedule to be determined at a later date.

Other programs under consideration are Basketball, Bird Watching, Folk Festival, Penn State Extension Programs, Pro Martial Arts Bullying class, Boot Camp in the Park, Full Circle Training, Ceramics, Interior Design, Zumba– Tabled.

Old Business

LAXapalooza Request – Kevin O’Neill, representing LAXapalooza, addressed the Recreation Board to request that he be allowed to obtain permits for Grange Park on June 14th/15th to run a youth lacrosse tournament. More information is to be obtained.

Iron Pigs Men’s Hardball Request - Samuel Saylor, representing his 35+ men’s baseball team, has suggested we contact business’s for their help in getting more fields in UMT as opposed to applying for grants. He needs a field for Sunday nights and was given Red Deslatte’s number for availability.

Upper Macungie Park Dog Park Completion/Status – Total of private donations are \$1900. Jim raised the thermometer to \$2,000. No word on the grant and the donation box will be kept at the park until the spring.

Grange Park; Memorial Walkway/Wall and Flagpole – Sean Gill will go to Jim Thorpe and look at the Keystone Memorial. He will also speak to Wentz and Carl Scmoyer III about engraving prices. Jim Soltis said we have a flagpole in storage ready for Grange park.

Independent Park Community Center – No construction update. 64 to date. We had 44 rentals in 2013 with repeat customers.

Program Instructors, usage, fees, payments –The subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 9th at 6:30pm. It will be held at Independent Park Community Center. Linda Gorr, Jim Adams, Jim Soltis, April Navarra, Andrea Russell, Rich Kiser and Valerie Brosky will attend the Independent Contractor Agreement subcommittee meeting.

Open Space Development – A Needs Assessment survey will be given to the youth associations to provide information on the growth of youth participation in various sports. Once the survey is completed we can move forward with a green grass plan for 3-4 years in advance. Jim Soltis mentioned that parking grants and permits will need to be in place also and take time as well. Dean can look into cost estimates once the survey is completed.

New Business

Park and Grant Updates – The Act 13 grant for the Fogelsville dam and a waterline for Breinigsville Park were received, however, the Act 13 grant for the ballfields and the DCNR grant for the Splash Park were denied. We applied for the splash park the last two years and not sure what direction we should take in the future. Dean Haas will ask the director their opinion.

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

Recreation Board Update – 4 applications were reviewed for 2 open positions. Rich Kiser will contact them to attend the January 30th meeting and speak 2-3 minutes on why they want to become involved with UMT recreation. The board would like to make a recommendation at that time to submit to the Board of Supervisors.

2014 Recreation Board Meeting Dates – due to the holidays, the board is requesting that the Board of Supervisors approve two date changes for 2014; November 20th & December 18th.

A motion was made by Dave Kentner, seconded by Linda Gorr, and all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. Next month's meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Township Building.

Rich Kiser
Chairperson
UMT Parks and Recreation Board