

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Monthly Meeting
December 18, 2014**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on December 18, 2014 at Upper Macungie Township Building. The following Recreation Board members were present: Rich Kiser, April Navarra, Andrea Russell, Linda Gorr, Sean Gill, Jim Adams, Katie Shade, and David Kentner. Board members not in attendance: Jocelyn Pattishall. Also present at the meeting was Supervisor Jim Brunell, Keystone Consulting Engineer Dean Haas, Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis and resident Edward Earley.

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.

A motion was made by Linda Gorr and seconded by Jim Adams were in favor of approving the November meeting minutes.

Public Comments: No Comments

Community Programs Scheduled

Jingle Bells Holiday Show – Friday, December 5th 6-8 at Independent Park. Registration fee grossed \$170 and refreshment stand grossed \$77 – Next year possibly give away candy canes and stickers.

Interior Design – January 15th to February 5th Thursdays from 6-8pm at Independent Park. No registrants yet. Will post on face book.

Ventriloquist Show – February 27th at Independent Park from 6:30-7:30pm. 3 registered. Will post on face book.

Indoor pickup basketball – March 19th to June 11th Thursdays from 7-9pm at Jaindl Elementary. Township insurance needs to be provided to school district. A waiver for attendees to be posted on township website.

Hunter/Trapper Course – March 15th at Independent Park 9am-4pm, no registrants at this time.

Boating Course – March 21st 9am-5pm at Independent Park. 1 registered.

Cardio Tennis – April 6th to May 6th at Blue Barn Park, no registrants at this time.

Tennis Clinics - April 6th to May 6th at Ricky Park, no registrants at this time.

Advanced Tennis – April 7th to May 7th at Blue Barn Park, no registrants at this time. Will be posted in spring newsletter

Movies-in-the-Park:

June 19th Lone Lane Park

July 10th Breinigsville Park

August 7th Grange Park

Each showing will cost \$2200 total of \$6600 – Will try to secure a main sponsor to offset cost increase. Will pick movie titles around March.

Hunter/Trapper Course – November 8th at Independent Park 9am-4pm, no registrants at this time.

Night with Laurie Moore – November 12th at Independent Park 7-8:30pm, no registrants at this time.

PROPOSED NEW BUSINESS

Disc Golf – Jim will contact Denny Barr to restructure course and set up a beginner's clinic in May

Lego Club – Jim Adams reports that Lego donations are coming in, but more needed to be able to provide more kids with opportunity to participate. Bin will be replaced at entrance of building after holidays. Post on face book after holidays.

PA Dutch Classes – Linda Gorr is researching a 12 week program which helps teach and understand more about the language. Linda reports that Richard Stout is her only lead at this point and look for other instructors. May have more information after the holidays.

Food vendor fair – Andrea Russell suggested having a food truck night at one of the parks sometime next year. She has connections with food truck owners and will put together an event proposal. Tabled.

Go Get Outdoors PA – (Community Partner) entity that provides programming for the community event.

A community Partner acts as the “host” of the Get Outdoors PA program and is the primary liaison for citizens regarding the partner's Get outdoors PA programming.

Such activities as Target Shooting (bow & arrow), Backpacking, Biking, Bird/Wildlife Viewing, Camping, Rock Climbing, Cross-Country Skiing, Fishing, Geoching, Hiking/Walking, Padding, Nature Photography, Orienteering, Snowshoeing, Wilderness Survival and Hunting.

How does it work:

Select an activity to teach

Identify an audience and program purpose

Apply to be a partner online

Select an instructor

Market and promote

Carry out the program

Evaluate outcome and report on its success

Recreation reviewing information on the program and will revisit at the January meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Grange Park; Memorial Walkway/Wall and Flagpole – Tabled. Next step is for a proposal to be supplied by Keystone. Sean Gill will contact Dean Haas for price and layout.

Program Instructors, usage, fees, payments – No progress. Valerie will email Andrew Schantz regarding the Recreation Board proposal again. On a related note, April Navarra suggested the Board look into a special permit fee for large group events. April, and well as Jim Adams, volunteered to research how other municipalities issue permits for these types of events. April Navarra has nothing to report at this time.

Community Programs – Advertising and Awareness Opportunities – April Navarra volunteered to initially write the wording that will be used to solicit email addresses. The request for email addresses is planned to be in the spring newsletter. The proposal is to send emails twice a month updating upcoming recreation events. April report that other Townships have this on their website and is looking into setting up system for Upper Macungie.

Pickleball Courts – Dave Kentner shared a resident letter that stated 25 people had regularly played pickleball on the one court at Blue Barn Park. Jim Soltis reported that it would cost approximately \$300 per court to put down pickleball lines on the other two courts at the same park. Installing additional lines will be considered for the spring after trying to gauge additional interest in the sport. Discussed painting courts at Ricky and Blue Barn, tabled until next month.

Dog Park at Grange Park – New large off leash area is completed with trash can and waste dispensers. Still need rules sign and picnic tables. Jim Adams will work on having a sign made.

New Business

Park Parking – Grange Park can hold 201 cars and Lone Lane can hold 246. Dean requested to provide the number of parking spots at all other parks. Sean Gill will talk to Dean Haas for a calculation for parking spaces at the parks

Ashmar memorial request – Local Government Award, This award recognizes an elected or appointed individual or group of individuals for outstanding and significant contribution(s) or leadership in support of some facet of the profession. Recreation Board is going to submit an application in Sam Ashmar's honor.

Sabina and Nawelle (Ashmar) contact Rich Kiser and requested that the board recommend renaming Lone Lane Park to Sam Ashmar Park. April Navarra suggested naming the Grange Road dog park after him. Other suggesting was naming Lone Lane Pavilion in his honor. Station 56 will also be doing something to honor him.

Jim Brunell made a recommendation that he has no problem with the suggestion and supports this endeavor.

Jim Adams suggested a committee be put together and come up with a plan.

Monthly Update

Independent Park Community Center – 2 additional reservations since last month. Discussing opening the rentals to non-residents. Board will look at last year's rentals and decide if its reasonable number of open weekend date that can be filled.

UMT Recreation Fund Balance – The balance is \$687,361.69.

Friends of Upper Macungie Township Fund Balance – The balance is \$12,979.41.

Park and Grant Updates – Tree grant has been completed at Grange Park. About \$350,000 dollars granted to Grange Park for a splash pad and parking. Dean Haas presented plans for 2015. Dean also spoke of connecting the sidewalks around the park.

Andrea Russell presented a Recreation Program magazine that City of Allentown prints every year. May be a way of advertising our programs.

Public Comment – No Comments

A motion was made at 8:15PM by April Navarra and seconded by Linda Gorr to adjourn the meeting, and all were in agreement. Next month's meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2015 at 7:00pm at the municipal building.

Rich Kiser
Chairman
UMT Parks and Recreation Board