

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS  
AND RECREATION BOARD Monthly  
Meeting Minutes January 2020**

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, January 16, 2020, at the Upper Macungie Township building. Recreation Board members present: Katie Shade, Gwen McCurdy, Dave Kentner, Bret Spangler, Karla Trumbauer, Matthew Bernard; Andrea Russell; Wes Schlauch. April Navarra attended remotely. Also present; Recreation & Events Coordinator, Lynn Matula, Parks Team Leader Jim Soltis, Deb Soltis; Friends Members Jason Krier, Jeff Lapp, Chuck Thomas; Matt McConnell.

Temporary Chair Bret Spangler called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. He asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. A motion was made by Matthew and seconded Wes by to approve the November meeting minutes. All were in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Matt McConnell** – Proposed an “Interpretive Beehive Exhibit” for Ricky Park to gauge interest. This is a structure that houses a honeybee hive behind plexiglass. The entrance/exit for bees would be inside the fenced wetland area, so people wouldn’t be close to it while they’re looking at the hive. There is a local beekeeper we could potentially work with to help feed and care for the bees; Chuck also mentioned another area beekeeper and will provide contact info. Matt is working with a local contractor to get an estimate to build – bees would be less than \$300.

A concern was raised about vandalism and how can this be “vandal-proofed.” The plexiglass would be shatter-resistant. Gwen also suggested that this could be done as an Eagle Scout project. Educational signage would be posted as well (working with Air Products).

Matt also mentioned he proposed (to Bob Ibach) the installation of a submersible pump or a fountain/bubbler to help reduce algae in the wetlands area to help improve water flow. Bob agreed to fund 50% and electric; Matt will need to identify other 50%. Matt will put together an estimate and come back with additional info. Funding expected to be from Sierra Club as a grant.

**Introduced members of Friends** – Jason Krier, Jeff Lapp, Chuck Thomas. Jeff and Jason are new members. Jeff is the new president and Jason is Treasurer. April will now be secretary.

**BOARD RE-ORGANIZATION: ROLE CALL**

- **2019 Chairperson-** Katie Shade
- **2020 Chairperson-Bret Spangler** (Karla motioned; Katie seconded); Andrea called a vote –
  - Katie Shade – yes
  - Gwen McCurdy- yes
  - Dave Kentner – yes
  - Karla Trumbauer – yes

- Matthew Bernard – yes
  - Andrea Russell – yes
  - Wes Schlauch – yes
  - April Navarra - no
- **2019 Vice Chairperson-** Andrea Russell
  - **2020 Vice Chairperson- Andrea Russell** (Bret motioned; Karla seconded); Bret called a vote –
    - Katie Shade – yes
    - Gwen McCurdy- yes
    - Dave Kentner – yes
    - Bret Spangler – yes
    - Karla Trumbauer – yes
    - Matthew Bernard – yes
    - Wes Schlauch – yes
    - April Navarra - yes
- **2019 Secretary-** Karla Trumbauer
  - **2020 Secretary- Karla Trumbauer** (Katie motioned; Bret seconded); Andrea called vote
    - Katie Shade – yes
    - Gwen McCurdy – yes
    - Dave Kentner - yes
    - Bret Spangler – yes
    - Matthew Bernard – yes
    - Andrea Russell – yes
    - Wes Schlauch – yes
    - April Navarra - yes
- **2020 Meeting Dates-** Meetings will continue to be 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. November 19<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> are on the meeting schedule, as they no longer conflict with holidays. Katie has the calendar on google drive.
  - 2020 Meeting dates: January 16, February 20, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 21, October 22 November 19, December 17

## REPORTS

### Community Programs Scheduled

Lynn provided a proposed schedule for programs (see agenda). Programs that do not yet have dates or that are not definite for 2020 are bolded in agenda. Pickleball lessons will likely continue; **Bret will contact Dottie to attend March's meeting as a review of the program.** Lynn is still working on getting volunteers for basketball and volleyball.

Movies in the park – Bret motioned for Movies in the Park to be June 5, July 10, August 14; Andrea seconded. No additional discussion. All approved. Dave will coordinate sports schedules at parks.

Barktoberfest – Lynn proposed moving this to Grange Park. It is easier logistically at Grange and can highlight small dog park. This is a tournament weekend at Grange, so there will be athletic conflicts. Additional discussion needed for this.

Holiday Events – Lynn is working with Officer Rorbach and Grant Grim. If we did a tree lighting, we likely would not also have a holiday show unless they are the same night. If we do this at Township building, there is a tree that can be used and visible, but parking would be an issue. Parking would be easier at Grange, but would need a tree, and may be able to do temporary ice skating. Because these are more expensive events, we would need this to be an entire township event and would need sponsors. Jason may have contacts for ice rinks. This will need additional discussion at next month's meeting.

Kids' Noon Year's Eve – 2019 event was well attended, estimated 170 kids. Concessions made \$225. \$1175 revenue, expenses \$1713. Net was \$538 cost. 2020 New Year's Eve falls on a Thursday, so additional discussion is needed around dates.

Katie suggested cancelling Photo Scavenger Hunt. All agreed.

Andrea suggested cancelling Lemonade in the Parks. Additional discussion needed.

#### **PROPOSED/NEW:**

- Sponsor banners on baseball fields – This was raised to help offset cost of maintaining the fields. Chuck mentioned there would need to be standards to ensure consistency across signage. Bret mentioned that we would potentially want to solicit from different sponsors than we get for Movies in the Park, so we don't reduce that income. Dave said the only park this would work in would be Breinigsville because it's the only one with fencing. Research needs to be done for possible locations and materials, as well as potential weather impacts. Bret suggested getting more specifics on cost and terms prior to a motion being made. Lynn will pull additional information together for additional discussion.
- New event ideas- Everyone will rank the ideas for discussion next time. Karla will consolidate and add top 3-5 ideas to next month's meeting.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Suggestion to rename Parks – Kathy Rader mentioned to Lynn that parks were named based on location for ease of finding and emergency services. Will be discussed at another meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

New event ideas from Recreation Board members

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Pavilion Rental Update

- January 2020 - 0 bookings, \$0.00
- January 2019 - 0 bookings, \$0.00
- UMT Recreation fund balance – (see spreadsheet) \$1,672,756.01
- Friends of Upper Macungie Parks and Recreation, Inc. fund balance - \$35,386.32
- Recreation & Events Coordinator Updates – Lynn will send the link to background checks to board and Friends.
- Officer Update – Thank you Katie for your service and leadership for two years!! Thank you Wes for being reappointed! Bret will be focusing on moving the meetings forward and addressing unfinished business.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chuck asked about shade structures for splash park. Lynn said additional benches have been purchased, and she's been looking into shade structures and will send pictures. Expect 2 will be purchased. Friends may donate a portion of the cost but need estimates.

Matthew asked about reason why quarry can't be used. Lynn said discussions have always been around safety. Matthew said grants can be obtained to potentially fill in, but need to know why it's unable to be accessed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made at 8:24pm by Bret and seconded by Katie to adjourn the meeting, and all agreed. Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 20, 2020, at 7:00 PM at the Township building.

Bret Spangler, Chairperson UMT  
Parks and Recreation Board