

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
JOINT MEETING  
APRIL 15, 2013

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Joint Meeting on Monday, April 15, 2013, in the Board Room, in the Township Building in King of Prussia. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a pledge to the flag.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS:

Chairperson Waks asked for a moment of silence for the victims of the tragedy in Boston today. He also indicated an Executive Session was not held prior to this meeting.

DISCUSSIONS:

TRICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE (AD HOC)

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Erika Spott, Greg Waks, Bill Jenaway, and Carol Kenney. Others present were: Dave Kraynik, Township Manager, Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager, Jim Ruddy, Frank Luther, and Rob DeFelice. Supervisor Greg Philips was absent.

Ms. Judy Vicchio, Tricentennial Chair, provided an update on the activities of the Tricentennial Committee: Highlights as follows:

- Financial: As of April 15, 2013 the available fund balance is \$53,766. Future expenses will leave a fund balance of \$23,536.
- Sponsorships: Corporate and Gala sponsorships totaled \$37,375.
- Other Fundraising: 32 events were or will be held involving eateries, fire companies and ambulance, Upper Merion Area School District, other schools, King of Prussia Business Improvement District, Court at King of Prussia, Christmas Tree sales, Senior Center, Rotary Club, Upper Merion Farmers Market plus several other local businesses.
- Gala: Revenue over expenses showed an amount "in the black".
- Upcoming Fundraisers: Pertucci's Ice Cream 6-8:30 pm, no date yet, but Tricentennial will receive 20% of sales; Gateway Café II one-week profit fundraiser in May; and Famous George's in June.
- Commemoratives: Revenue over Expenses resulted in an amount "in the black" by approximately \$7,900.
- Commemoratives available for sale are: History Book, UpperMerionopoly game, holiday ornaments, wooden replicas of King of Prussia Inn, Christ

Church, Valley Forge National Historical Park Memorial Arch and car magnets.

- Events/Programs/Projects: Approximately 600 plus historical items have been scanned into the Township's Tricentennial Historical file.
- Senior Fall Fling: held September 27, 2012 with a theme of "Memories" in honor of the kickoff of the Tricentennial Year.
- Upper Merion Heritage and Tricentennial Local History Series is presenting 11 programs; they have been scheduled and include various speakers/topics from the Industrial Revolution, George Washington's Continental Army's Encampment on Rebel Hill, Silent film classics made locally, Native American Cultural Festival and several others.
- Historical Audio Tour: Through an Eagle Scout project, Upper Merion Township produced a Historical Audio Tour with a CD and booklet that will be available shortly.
- Musical Historical Comedy: A two-act production featuring the history of Upper Merion Township will be held on October 25, 26 and 27, 2013. The name of the production is called "300 years in a Sinkhole."
- Tricentennial Golf Classic is scheduled on Monday, July 29 with a shotgun start at the Gulph Mills Golf Club and is limited to 18 foursomes.
- Parade and Community Day will be held on Saturday, September 7. A draft budget has been prepared and sponsorship letters are being prepared. Park and Recreation Department is considering a three-day carnival as part of Community Day. Bands are invited including: U.S. Army Military Band, Irish Thunder, Uptown and possibly Fralinger String Bands, Cardinal Dougherty High School, Upper Merion Middle School and the Upper Merion High School Band. Submitting request for a special PennDOT permit for part of the parade route over state highways.
- Concert Under the Stars will have a Tricentennial theme.
- Pole Banners – Clear Channel – township's bus shelter vendor has agreed to place a Tricentennial banner with the appropriate sponsors name into 20 bus shelters along major highways in the Township.
- Christmas CD: a possibility exists for a production of a Christmas CD performed by the Upper Merion Area High School advanced choir. This project will be completely budget neutral and possibly a fundraiser.
- Commemoratives continue to be available at the cashier's window in Administration, Library, Park and Recreation Departments, and at various off-site fundraisers. Events will be posted on the Township and Tricentennial websites and Facebook page.
- Guidelines for Future Programs and Events were developed and shared with the committee at its March 6, 2013 meeting.
- Marketing Recommendations suggested by Gailey Murray have been reviewed with the committee and assignments made; and for the most part, many of the recommendations have been acted upon in a timely manner. Other recommendations are in the process of being completed.

- Monthly Committee Meetings: The committee approved holding its monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of the month instead of the third Wednesday. Next meeting of the Tricentennial Committee will be May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Volunteers: The need for new volunteers and the participation of current volunteer members of the Tricentennial committee is critical to the success of the Tricentennial celebration through its fundraising, especially with the sale of commemoratives in order to deplete the inventory and come out in the "black" at the end of the Tricentennial year.

Mr. Waks commended the work of the Tricentennial Committee and noted the success of the Gala and how important it is that the Tricentennial Committee remain operating "in the black."

Mr. Waks commented on the plaque that the Township received from PSATS recognizing the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Upper Merion Township.

Mrs. Spott also had favorable comments about the work of the entire Tricentennial Committee, the success of the Gala and the ubiquitous presence of Rob DeFelice selling commemoratives.

Mr. Jenaway echoed the foregoing favorable comments and asked if coupons will be needed for upcoming fundraisers. Mr. DeFelice responded at some of the events the coupon will be an advantage. He mentioned the current fundraiser at the Secilian Delight; the Township will receive 20% back on all purchases made there today and tomorrow.

Mrs. Kenney commented she is looking forward to the upcoming parade and Community Day on September 7<sup>th</sup>. She also noted while all the spots are filled for the July golf outing, there still is room if people want to have dinner and they can sign up online. Mrs. Kenney noted another favorite feature has been the History Series promoted by the Upper Merion Township Library as well as the history book which is a product of the Tricentennial year as well.

## LIBRARY BOARD

### ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Erika Spott, Greg Waks, Bill Jenaway, and Carole Kenney. Other present were: Dave Kraynik, Township Manager; Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager; Karl Helicher, Library Director; Jeanne Kaufman, Head of Child Services; John Egan, Chairperson, Library Board of Directors; David Bristowe, Secretary; Janet Medrow; Sharon Duris; Tracy Pasquale. Supervisor Philips was absent.

Mr. John Egan, Chairperson, offered introductory remarks and noted a positive increase in wireless use and downloadable books.

Mr. Waks asked if the trend for increased library usage during the recession is still ongoing. Mr. Helicher responded it varies from community to community. He pointed out in his discussions with other librarians, it seems like a number of libraries have been affected by their downloadable devices and circulation has flattened out as people spend more time on the internet.

Mr. Helicher pointed out other items of interest as follows:

- circulation of the Adult Department of the Upper Merion Library increased by 1,900 items and represents a 1% increase.
- number of books borrowed from the Children's Department increased by 4,905 items and represents a 5% increase.
- Inter-library loans increased by 1% (603 items; to 60,321 total).
- This is the second year in-house computer use has dropped by 6% which indicates more computers for public use at this point.
- Wireless increased dramatically by 47% with people bringing their own computers.
- Downloadable books increased by 51% - This year the Library started purchasing some of their own, which are only available to Upper Merion residents.
- number of adult programs in 2012 increased to 69 programs.
- Number of children's programs in 2012 increased to 426
- Total program attendance for 2012 was 18,122
- The Fine Endowment remains untouched for the third consecutive year at \$312,000
- "One Book, One Community": *We Is Got Him*, by Carrie Hagen. Discussion on Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 7 p.m. For the first time, the discussion will be led by the author.
- Book Discussion series: "Life's Prisons With or Without Bars." The series is in its 17<sup>th</sup> year and is going well
- Friends of Black History annual "Celebration of Black History", the "Let Freedom Ring" event was held on February 9, 2013, with a total attendance of 250-300 people. The 2014 event will be held on February 8, 2014.
- Jazz Night will be held October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Jeanne Kauffman, Head of Children Services, provided an update on the Children's Department noting the circulation of books have gone up 5%. Ms. Kauffman reported that the Upper Merion Township Library received recognition from the State Library Association for creative programming.

Highlights of Family Face Place are as follows:

- Upper Merion Township Library was selected for a Family Face Place grant in the amount of \$5,000. In addition training was provided for Library staff.
- Family Face Place is a national Public Library Movement intended to strengthen libraries as resources for children and families.
- There are 300 Family Place Libraries throughout the country offering family centered library services.
- There will be increased partnership with the School District, local community organizations and agencies, businesses and other service providers to better serve the needs of families in the community.
- "Parent/Child Workshops" have already started. There are three 5-week play-oriented workshops, specifically designed for children ages 1-3 and their parent or care giver. The workshops emphasize the role of parents as the child's first and best teacher, and are built on research that shows children learn and make sense of the world and their role through play.
- There are research professionals available each week focusing on a different topic. Topics include: early literacy development, speech, parenting, nutrition, music, health and child development. They provide opportunities for families to connect with each other, use the library resources and ask questions about parenting from experts.
- Sometime this fall the Upper Merion Township Library will receive its official recognition as a "Family Place Library."

Additional highlights as follows:

- Through various grants, the Library has been able to expand the collection of parenting resources with over 100 new and updated books
- a more welcoming space is being created within the library
- Contributions totaling over \$5,000 have been made to the Library in memory of former Library Board member, Helene Thorpe. Funds are being used to create a Family Place nook in the Library.
- "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" is a new program designed to educate parents and increase the amount of time they spend reading and participating in activities that enhance early literacy skills.
- 7 traditional day time story hour classes are offered for preschoolers, including an evening class to accommodate working families.
- Outreach to 40 different preschool and child day care in the community as well as to Adventure Day Camp.
- Elementary school programs, theme and book character parties as well as cultural programs that enrich the community.
- Very strong Middle School Program. Middle school children enjoy having their own club, Junior Friends of the Library, and participate in plays and dramas. They also like helping younger children and putting on programs for them. The summer reading theme this year is "Dig into Reading."
- Outreach to businesses to support the library in the community

Mrs. Spott asked for more information on plans for the use of goats at the Library. Mr. Helicher responded it has been proposed to use the goats from the farm and have a "petting zoo."

Ms. Kauffman noted there are also plans to plant daffodils in front of the Library in memory of Helene Thorpe. Goats could also be used to keep the grass down.

Mr. Jenaway asked for clarification about ebooks and audio books. Mr. Helicher responded audio books have been in the Library for a number of years, but the ebooks are fairly new.

## UPPER MERION MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY

### ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Erika Spott, Greg Waks, Bill Jenaway, and Carol Kenney. Other present were: Dave Kraynik, Township Manager; Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager; Ed O'Brian, Director of Public Works; J. Veneziale, Chairperson; Stanley Channick, Vice Chairperson; Charles "Pete" Smyrk, Secretary; James Ruddy, Treasurer. Supervisor Philips was absent.

Mr. Edward Veneziale, Chairperson, reported the health of the Authority is very good, both financially and physically in terms of infrastructure. He noted there is a very good Capital Expenditure plan in place. While 2012 for the most part was a quiet year, there were challenges posed due to Super Storm Sandy in late October and because of the excellent operations staff and well maintained equipment these challenges were met successfully.

Mr. Ed O'Brien, Director of Public Works, provided an overview of the 2012 projects for the Upper Merion Municipal Utility Authority (UMMUA) as well as the Sewer Revenue Account (SRA).

Mr. O'Brien began with a report on the Swedeland Pump Station Upgrade Project, Phase 2, the Authority funding at \$1.7 million to upgrade (design and construct) the station to bring it up to modern capacities as well as modern electrical equipment. UMMUA and the Township applied for an H2O grant; however, the grant is still pending. Bidding has been delayed hoping for receipt of grant funding. UMMUA has decided to move the project forward due to need to complete it because of present equipment age and condition as well as the potential savings to be realized. ARRO Consulting was awarded a Professional Services Agreement to update the design. Bidding is anticipated for fall 2013 pending receipt of all necessary permits.

The next project Mr. O'Brien discussed was the Tredyffrin Interceptor Project at the Village at Valley Forge. UMMUA funded this project which

involved the installation of a new 14 inch Interceptor Line to enable the transmission of wastewater from the Village at Valley Forge to the Trout Run Plant as per agreement between the UMMUA and the developer. ARRO Consulting was the engineer and B.P. Patterson was the contractor with a bid price of \$495,150. Restoration phase of the project was completed in 2012 and the project is complete.

Next project discussed was the 2011 Gulph Creek Emergency Stream Bank Stabilization Project (SRA) made necessary by damaging flood waters resulting from Hurricane Irene. There was previous flooding of the creek area in April 2011 due to heavy rains which exposed the sewer line and caused significant stream bank erosion damage. Emergency permit was obtained to perform repairs which were budgeted at \$350,000. Contractor for that particular job was TST Construction. The project was essentially completed in 2011; however, there were significant punch list items including trees and other things that had to be established as part of that project and these were completed in 2012. Project is completed.

Mr. O'Brien discussed the Trickling Filter Tower Remediation Project which is an SRA funded project at the Matsunk Plant and is Phase 2 of a two-phased project and consists of repairing the concrete structure from the inside due to wear damage on structures that date back to the early 1980's. H2O grant was approved in May 2011 for approximately \$332,000. The project was bid and awarded in fall 2012 and the construction phase is underway with completion anticipated by the end of this year.

Mr. O'Brien discussed the Rehabilitation of the Final Settling Tanks Numbers 1 and 2, Sludge Thickener Tank Number 1 and Primary Settling Tank Numbers 1 and 2 at the Matsunk Plant (SRA funded project). The design is complete and is awaiting funding to move the project forward.

Next project discussed was the Emergency Sinkhole Geotechnical Evaluation Study Remediation project (SRA). This two-year project would provide remediation of major areas inside the Matsunk facility where sinkhole activity could compromise building and process structures. Approximately \$555,000 was expended for this project; Earthcore Services was the contractor. Major work was done in 2011 and the second year was for follow up evaluation to determine effectiveness of void filling program.

Mr. O'Brien discussed the Matsunk Screenings Building Upgrade (UMMUA). This is a Design and Construct Phase to replace the existing building with a more permanent structure to house preliminary treatment equipment and operations. Design completed in 2010 by BCM and project budgeted at \$325,000 to move forward in 2013.

The next project Mr. O'Brien discussed is the upgrade of the Matsonford Pumping Station funded by UMMUA. The project involves the upgrade of the entire facility as well as the equipment, including electrical equipment and security. This station is located around the Turnpike area off of Matsonford Road. There have been instances when people have been living behind the station from time to time, and for this reason security measures are included. BCM completed the design in 2009 and UMMUA has determined it has ample funding to move this project forward in 2013.

The next project discussed was the Sludge Dewatering Replacement Project (SRA). This project involves the installation of one rotary press at each plant to replace worn out belt presses. Total project budget is approximately \$2.1 million. A Pennsylvania Infrastructure Loan was obtained to help fund this project. The Board of Supervisors provided ARRO Consulting with a Professional Services Agreement to bid and award the project. Bids were received in March, and bid award anticipated this month.

Mr. O'Brien provided an update of the Municipal Industrial Pretreatment (MIPP) Program with a summary of 2012 compliance award winners. He reported the 2012 MIPP compliance award winners are: CTI (formerly American Food Service), iCeutica which is their first year in the program, GlaxoSmithKline, Arkema, Montgomery County Landfill, and Hope's Country Fresh Cookies will all be winning the 2012 compliance awards this year.

Mr. O'Brien noted Upper Merion Township also recognizes what companies are doing in other areas regarding the environment and pollution prevention. For 2012, there was one award winner: GlaxoSmithKline – Building 38 with a focus on energy savings. Four tasks were performed and equipment upgrades were done with estimated annual energy savings of approximately \$58,000.

The Upper Merion 2011 operation of the MIPP Program was rated 90.7% which is considered a Category 1, a top rating received from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A report for 2012 has not been received as yet.

During his update of the MIPP program, Mr. O'Brien reported there were 10 permitted industrial users in Upper Merion Township in 2012. All were inspected and sampled in 2012 and out of these; three notices of violation were issued. Penalties were collected from one industrial user amounting to a little less than \$31,000.

Mr. O'Brien reported on other Wastewater System items of note in 2012 that included:

- cleaning 165,436 linear feet of sewer mains



- television inspection of approximately 4,000 linear feet of sewer mains
- inspection of approximately 3,257 manholes
- marking approximately 3,000 PA One Calls
- replacing 175 linear feet of 4-inch force mains
- replacing 153 linear feet of 6-inch sewer laterals
- replacing 124 linear feet of 8-inch sewer mains.

As a former and current Board Liaison to the UMMUA, Mr. Waks and Mrs. Kenney respectively noted the good work and professionalism of the Authority.

Mr. Jenaway asked about the major item of concern to the UMMUA. Mr. O'Brien responded the major concern would be for a full complement of staff as the treatment and collection systems are pretty well shorthanded across the board.

Mr. Channick concurred with that comment, and stated even though these facilities are short staffed the quality of staff are the best in the field.

Mr. Jenaway followed up by asking if there was one item "we need to get ahead of." Mr. Veneziale responded from a capital standpoint, he believes the Authority is managing the priorities. He said as an aging infrastructure gets older it needs more maintenance and more of a capital investment.

Mr. O'Brien stated the Authority's engineer evaluates the entire operation every couple of years. He noted from a mechanical standpoint things are getting older with many items going back to the late 1960's, but there is a good team of people taking care of the equipment. Mr. O'Brien pointed out that he presented at this meeting the significant needs starting with the Rotary Belt Press and working through the Swedeland Pumping Station.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

#### ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Erika Spott, Greg Waks, Bill Jenaway, and Carole Kenney. Also present were: Dave Kraynik, Township Manager; Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager; Janet Serfass, Staff Liaison; Chris Kaasmann, Chairperson; Dan Yarnall; Vician Peikin, Kate Pietrowski, Sal Sonsino (arrived late). Supervisor Philips was absent.

Mr. Chris Kaasmann outlined the EAC's key accomplishments in 2012:

- four video-taped educational forums were held for access on UMGA-TV: (1) Energy Works which promotes increased energy in homes and businesses in our community. (2) Renewable Energy (3) Trash and Recycling Systems, and (4) Stormwater.

- two electronics recycling collection events were held. There were 590 participants for two days which brought in about 31,000 pounds for which the township received \$3,000 which paid for the one or two township staff overseeing the events with the remaining funds going into the General Fund.
- welcomed first high school liaison to the EAC, Smriti Chauhan
- promotion of Earth Day celebration
- raffled off a rain barrel and compost bin on Community Day
- promoting ways to reduce stormwater runoff and reduce the amount of trash that is going to landfills and the waste management facility.
- received a \$3,000 Pennsylvania DEP grant to install a rain garden demonstration area planned for installation this spring at Heuser Park which will involve vegetation, a bench, a rain barrel and an appropriate plaque.
- made a presentation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the trash recycling hauling system
- co-hosted forums with Economic and Community Development Committee and Park and Recreation Department.
- continuing to obtain information on environmental issues for the education of the public.
- Maintained Facebook page.
- Continued review of township Superfund sites and hazardous waste locations

Mr. Kaasman provided highlights of activities held or planned in 2013:

- More involvement with Earth Day and Community Day with continued raffle of rain barrels and assistance with MS4 stormwater education.
- Continued environmental forums: Energy Works and stormwater.
- Spring 2013 installation of a rain garden and memorial plaque which will be gifted to the Township for the Tricentennial.
- continued partnership with other townships and other township departments, ECDC, etc.
- continued evaluation and monitoring of Superfund sites.
- As issues arise will continue to present topics and timely issues to the Board of Supervisors

Mr. Waks commented that stormwater is the Municipal Environmental issue of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and anything the Environmental Advisory Council can do to continue to educate the public about that issue will be very much appreciated.

Following up on the stormwater issue, Mrs. Spott said just as the Shade Tree Commission is working with Penn State on developing ordinances for recommendation to the Planning staff relating to stormwater management issues, it might be well to reach out to other agencies for suggestions on some

progressive ideas for an ordinance that would provide incentives for individuals and builders to include some innovative sustainable features in their construction, not only with stormwaer, but also such things as building permits.

Mrs. Spott also suggested finding out what some other communities are doing in regard to these environmental issues.

Mrs. Spott said if additional electronic recycling events are held, it would be beneficial to hold them in conjunction with the Farmers Market because of shared goals and functions.

Mrs. Kenney commented she had the same thought about combining recycling events with the Farmers Market, and agreed with Mr. Waks that stormwater is a very important issue for everyone. She also recommended including native species in rain gardens to help mitigate the problem with invasive plants, and suggested partnering with the Shade Tree Commission on such initiatives.

Mr. Jenaway noted his continuing questioning of developers during Board of Supervisors meetings as to stormwater management on their sites. As Board Liaison for the Planning Commission, he said he hears this issue addressed continuously at their meetings. Mr. Jenaway asked the EAC to consider an educational session for the Planning Commission at one of their workshops on the coming trends or what might be happening elsewhere around the region or the state with regard to the Best Practices [for stormwater management] that are in place and how Upper Merion can better use these ideas in Upper Merion Township.

Mr. Kaasmann indicated he would welcome an opportunity to discuss these matters further at a Planning Commission meeting.

Mr. Jenaway pointed out there are been significant development already in the past year along US 202 and according to the King of Prussia Business Improvement District (BID) there will be additional work done on First Avenue and the Industrial Park. He emphasized we should get out in front of some of these stormwater issues now so that as plans come in they will be addressed properly.

Mr. Kaasman provided the supervisors with the flyer for the Energy Works forum scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2013 at 7 p.m. in Freedom Hall.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Jenaway, seconded by Mrs. Spott, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the Joint Meeting. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

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DAVID G. KRAYNIK  
SECRETARY-TREASURER  
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved:  
Minutes Entered: