

**UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP
PARK & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES**

September 14, 2010

In attendance: John Tallman, Maryann Ahearn, Eileen Connelly, Barb Schafer, Mike Trachtenberg and Dave Burns, Dan Russell and Erica Spot

1. Pledge of Allegiance,
2. Approval of Board Minutes
3. No Guest
4. Supervisors Liaisons Report
 - A. Goats in the Park to manage the Vines. The intervention will be using both Township Goats and private goat owner. Ivones' goats are free to the township. The goats will have to be prepped to begin the change in their diets. Township Residents will be notified of the Plan.
 - B. The Feasibility Study for the Community Center will be in Late September early October. Ken Ballard prepared the study. He likes Heuser Park for a site. The Township will have to check the site can go at an open Space Location. Discussion to include pros and cons of township ownership.
5. Directors Report
 - A. Movie in the Park sponsored by funds from the Farmers market Committee. The event was well attended approx. 100 people. Ratatouille was the movie. Dan reported the sound and picture were excellent. The cost included 400 to the movie company and 200 to the licensing company. This cost was lower because the TWP. is a government agency.
 - B. The Community Fair included the Big Red Run which was sponsored by the Upper Merion Mothers club. The Fair included 85 vendors, 19 Farmers Market Vendors. Art Powell was awarded the 1st Gold Key to the Township by Mr. Joe Bartlett. The High School Marching Band performed. It was a beautiful sunny day.
 - C. The Park and Rec Activity Guide is out. Since the five days the guide has been public over \$17,000 has been received.
 - D. The Park and Rec department has begun working on there budget for 2011. The department expects to carry over unspent funds to the New Year.
 - E. The Township Sport Organizations will be contacted about grant Applications for 2011. There is One new applicant UM S.P.R.I.N.G. They are a Special Education Parent and Resource Group. They will be looking for start up funds. They have a roster of 45-50 parents. Some of their activities include bowling, hayrides and making inroads to team sports.
 - F. Pa Transit Initiative Grant is due 9/16/2010. Dan shared the Application and a map of the route. The grant was written by the Township Grant Writer. The route will address the connection Heuser to Valley Forge Nat. Park. The township is seeking \$600,000 of State Grant monies.

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- G. Challenger Day will be October 2nd at Upper Merion Area Middle School. Raffle tickets are being sold. Prizes include Phillies baseball camp, Best Buy and Target gift certificates. Mike Trachtenberg manned a booth at the community fair and was well received. Looking for Kids to attend the event. The event is designed to provide services for children with disabilities. The date is being advertised and promoted by using flyers to schools, e-news letters and the UMGTV. Mike shared his appreciation for all that Suda in the Park and Recreation office, has been doing to help with Challenger Day.
 - H. The King of Prussia Indians are celebrating their "Vannicelli Day" on 9/18/2010. The celebration begins at 9:00 am.
 - I. The Citizens Board Appreciation Banquet is scheduled at Magiones from 12-3:00
 - J. Dan has been working to find a Sign company to match the signs provided by the Kunda Sign Company that went out of business. Sign O Rama in King of Prussia at the Valley Forge Shopping Center can match the colors for the Park Signs.
6. Old Business Heuser Fields.(Small, Practice, and Game Field)
- C. The Condition of the Ball Fields at Heuser.
 - D. Recommendations from the Park and Rec. Board to the TWP. Board to have Counsel see if anything can be done to Contractors, Engineers etc for the poor conditions of the fields.
 - E. Dan will give Erica a copy of the Heuser Park Field contracts
 - F. John would like to see the Penn State Maintenance Plan for operation of Heuser Fields.
 - G. The goal to see what we can do to correct quality of Ball fields
 - H. Mentioned expansion of fields at Heuser.
7. New Business:
- I. Surfacing of Basketball courts through out the Parks.
 - J. It is more economical to repair the parks all at one time by one contractor as opposed to having the contractor do one at a time.
8. The members reviewed the current use of park binders to document our park visits.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Trachtenberg, Secretary

