

**Upper Merion Township
Park and Recreation Board Minutes
July 10, 2012**

Attendees: Dan Russell, John Tallman, Dave Burns, Barb Schafer, Neil Sardinas, Mike Trachtenberg, Mary Ann Ahearn, Eileen Connolly

**Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of June 2012 Minutes**

Directors Report:

1. Upper Merion Recreation Center
 - a. First meeting with architect Joe Powell occurred yesterday. Dan will get us the minutes.
 - b. Last month the court issued an order that all belongings of Mr. DePrince of Sabertooth be removed by the end of business July 13th. The township was given permission to change the locks on the building.
 - c. The other tenants have signed leases and will pay back rent from February.
2. Shannon Connelly Memorial at Heuser Park - The official dedication is will be Thursday, July 12th. The adaptive play equipment is already getting lots of use.
3. Summer Programs – going well with numbers up on everything.
4. Park & Recreation 2013 Budget – the second meeting with the BOS has taken place. The budget includes funds for a park master plan which will probably be done in phases due to cost.
5. New township manager, David Kraynik, has started working with Ron and is sitting in on meetings.
6. Heuser to Valley Forge Trail - Norfolk Southern will not support any trail that will cross or be near tracks at grade. Alternatives include building a bridge over the creek and inactive spur which is the most expensive option but is supported by the railroad. Worst case scenario would be to bring the trail down to the route 23 bridge. We will investigate whether NS has an easement to use the land in question or if they actually own it. If it's an easement, it may be inactive long enough to have expired. The contract has been returned to us by the state, so we have until summer 2017 to complete the trail.

Old Business:

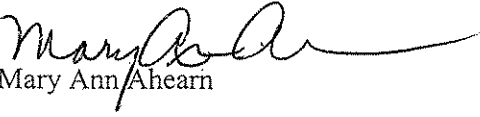
1. Surveillance cameras – Dave asked if there are any cameras on township property other than those on the Norview rooster and the Township building. There are no others and we discussed the feasibility of installing cameras at Heuser and other parks to reduce vandalism.
2. Heuser fields - Dan is getting 2 quotes for synthetic turf for Heuser fields. Barb pointed out that we need 3.5 new fields as well as turf for existing fields.
3. Kingwood Park fence - Barb asked why the fence could not be fixed. Dan will look into it.
4. Bob White Park dumping – At Dave's suggestion, we discussed whether a no-dumping sign would help discourage residents from dumping of yard waste in the park.

New Business:

1. Kingwood Park grass - Barb suggested sending the PECO representative a thank you for helping with the dispute with the apartment complex about who mows the grass.
2. Defibrillator (AED) - Barb asked about defibrillators and Dan will check on which sports teams have them. Police have them in all cars. We discussed the possibility of having one in the township building and at Heuser, Walker and other parks. Dan suggested that that this is an issue for the safety committee.
3. John Tallman will be away in August.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mary Ann Ahearn', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mary Ann Ahearn

Secretary