

7:30 PM Tuesday
October 14, 2014

Upper Merion Park and Recreation Board Minutes

Attendees: Mary Ann Ahearn, Eileen Connelly, Tina Garzillo, Dan Russell, Neil Sardiñas, Barbara Schafer, Bill Schutter, Mike Trachtenberg

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Minutes: 2014.09.09 UMPR Minutes V2.pdf

Director's Report: Dan Russell - Upper Merion Community Center construction will begin on October 6, 2014. The ground breaking ceremony will be on Thursday October 23, 2014 at 4:30 PM. July 2015 is the projected opening date.

Six construction companies submitted bids for the Valley Forge to Heuser Trail construction project. Horst Excavating is the low bidder at \$1,737,831.

The UMPR Master Plan Subcommittee has added Bob Littlewood and Cindy Eastman. The next scheduled meetings are November 3, 2014 and December 2, 2014 at 6:30 PM in the Henderson Room.

A family near William Wall Park requested a curb cut to allow a neighbor restricted to a wheel chair to have park access. Todd Lachenmayer and Bill Shutter built an ADA path to enter park.

Upper Merion Park and Recreation's next budget is currently being determined. The Upper Merion Community Center's cost is a major portion of the next budget.

Bids for the engineering and design of the proposed skateboard park ranged from \$7,000 to \$20,000. T&M Associates was the lowest bidder. Construction bids will be requested latter.

The Vannicelli family has contributed 98% of the money for the Vannicelli sign. The balance of the expense will be coved from the Vannicelli sign fund.

Guests: Upper Merion sports organizations were invited to update the UMPR Board on their current status. This is part of the process to apply for financial support from the township.

The attendees were:

Upper Merion Lacrosse Club - Jose Almonte
Upper Merion Aquatic Club - Andrew McNally
Valley Forge Generals Senior American Legion Baseball - Rich Lachenmayer
UM Crew Boosters - Michael Buce
UM Crew Boosters - Barb Linnenbaugh
Upper Merion Youth Wrestling - Robert Castaneda
Upper Merion Youth Wrestling - Bob Wochele
Upper Merion Football Association - Jose Almonte

UMPR Board asked Dan Russell to contact the organizations that did not submit their applications to the board.

Park Report: Bill Schutter

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP PARK PROGRESS REPORT 10/14/2014

Completed Tasks (from last month's meeting until now)

- Delivered the bandwagon to beer feast, King of Prussia Fire Company and boathouse
- Trash picked up in all parks every Monday
- Trimmed trees along Langdale Road

BELMONT PARK

- Removed the edging around the playground and replaced with "wood carpet"

BOB CASE PARK

- Installed a tent for flag football

BOB WHITE PARK

- Painted the park benches

HEUSER PARK

- Lined the fields
- Watered the football fields
- Watered newly planted trees

KINGWOOD PARK

- Installed wood carpet

MCKAIG NATURE TRAIL

- Installed a "No Parking Area"

SWEDELAND PARK

- Blacktopped area leading into the park from U Street.

SWEDESBURG PARK

- installed wood carpet

SWEETBIAR PARK

- Removed 3 dead trees

TOWNSHIP BUILDING PARK

- installed the new tercentennial tree and sign.

WILLIAM WALL PARK

- Installed wood carpet
- Installed the handicap ramp leading into the park

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

- Planted 5 trees leading into the park
- Completed last tree pruning class

Old Business: The owner of Eco-Goats may be willing to look at Bob White Park. The goats from Eco-Goats could possibly be hired to eat the invasive vines growing in Bob White Park.

It was noted that Upper Merion's website needs to be improved. Currently it is difficult to find event locations. The current online UMPR map is a difficult to read low resolution black and white image.

Bill Schutter - Shade Tree Committee's last tree pruning class was on October 5, 2014. The next tree planting event is scheduled for November 15, 2014 9:00 AM at White Gate Park.

New Business: The Bicycle Coalition of Philadelphia is sponsoring a walk on the Upper Merion portion of the Chester Valley Trail on October 18, 2014 at 1:00 PM.

Adjournment:

Neil Sardiñas