



UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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TOWNSHIP MANAGER/ SECRETARY-TREASURER

ANTHONY HAMADAY

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

FIRM OF:
HAMBURG, RUBIN, MULLIN,
MAXWELL & LUPIN, P.C.

Minutes

Community Center Complex Advisory Board

May 18th, 2021

7:30pm

1. Attendance: Ben Eyer, Dennis Rudzinski, Paul Kubler, Chris Levy, Karen Huller, Sharon Davis, Paul Salamy
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of March 16th and April 20th, 2021 minutes
 - a. March approved
 - i. Paul moved
 - ii. Sharon seconded
 - iii. Approved
 - b. April
 - i. Deferred until May
4. Staff Report
 - a. Passholder update
 - i. 1895 passholders
 1. 57 fewer passholders than last month
 2. Hard to say why, perhaps warmer weather
 3. There is a usual dip in the spring/summer
 4. Sharon – are other centers experiencing this?
 - a. Dennis is not sure their numbers, but believes they're all in the same boat
 - b. Fewer staff members, so not checking in as much when they don't renew to find out why
 - ii. Daily averages
 1. 134 weekdays – down 18
 2. 64 weekends – down 20
 - iii. Cancellations - 1178 since March 2020
 - iv. Freezes – 506

1. Sharon's daughter reported it was pretty crowded one evening she went
- b. Reopening update
- i. Updating Covid Safety Procedures
 1. As of Memorial Day, no need for social distancing as per CDC
 2. Are evaluating loosening restrictions
 3. Right now, every other cardio machine; will open every machine
 4. Open up gym to games vs. open shooting
 5. Board of Supervisors feedback is that we're ready
 6. Chris believes with numbers dropping, if state is dropping restrictions, we follow accordingly
 - ii. Masks are a more difficult discussion
 1. Do we allow everyone and go on the honor code?
 2. Do we take risks that people who are not vaccinated are coming
 3. Can't ask someone to provide the vaccination card
 - a. Sharon – it is not against any rule or regulation or HIPAA
 - b. They can decline to tell you
 - c. At Lifetime masks are not required anymore
 4. What kinds of communications are going to go out to passholders?
 - a. Once everything is firm and final, will do an e-mail notification and on the social media and website
 5. Interactions with passholders are that they are in favor of doing away with masks
 6. No survey
 7. Will continue to offer outdoor options free to passholders
- c. Pool Update
- i. Just filled all pools
 - ii. Installed permanent fence
 1. Chris – How much space did we lose?
 - a. Dennis isn't sure how much
 - b. From the pavilion onward, about 6 feet, and up to the bocce court
 - c. Sounds like about 12-18 feet
 - d. Paul S – we lost about ½ an acre that wasn't usable, there was poison ivy there
 - e. We'll see where the kids will play now
 - f. Paul K – is the contractor doing anything about that?
 - i. Paul S – it was approved that way
 - ii. Paul K - By whom?
 - iii. Paul S – that's a conversation for Dan and Tina.
 1. P&R never approve the final schematic
 2. Didn't realize until they saw them cutting through
 3. Measurements are being taken to make sure that they see the final visual plan before it happens
 4. They knew some would be lost, but didn't realize how much

- 5. It's all for a good purpose- a functional trail
 - 6. Paul K will ask Dan and/or Tina to come to our meeting next month explain what happened
 - iii. Staff training right now
 - iv. 1500 pool members, exactly, which is slightly better than 2019, were about 1300 at the same time in 2019
 - d. Free Passholder Program Update
 - i. Karen, Sharon, and Dennis did three interviews
 - 1. Sharon – Interviewed 3 families
 - a. All had previous gym experience and couldn't go because of COVID
 - b. All intended to use the program the minimum number of days
 - c. They understood that usage would be monitored and their passholdership may be surrendered and offered to another family
 - d. All had transportation
 - e. Explained all that was included and what was not
 - f. Agreed we would move forward to these three
 - i. We would approve up to 5 for now, as we trial how it goes
 - ii. We didn't offer anything yet to anyone
 - iii. Figured we would discuss today and confirm that everyone was on board
 - g. Do we wait until our monthly meeting to formally approve the families
 - i. Chris - For the sake of their anonymity, the interviewers will make a committee decision without needing the approval of the whole board
 - ii. Update the board via e-mail with the decision
 - h. Dennis was not able to coordinate with 4th
 - i. Dennis will provide us with usage numbers monthly as we roll out to evaluate their activity
 - j. Chris is traveling more heavily now
5. Board of Supervisors Liaison Report – not present

6. Park and Recreation Advisory Board Liaison Report

- a. Paul S. didn't go to the meeting, is reading notes
- b. Tony Hammaday and Jeff Hickman came for monthly review of parks
 - i. Some complaints that parks weren't getting done quickly enough
 - 1. Tony and/or Jeff acknowledged
 - 2. Paul believes Gerry and team are highly responsive
 - 3. If things aren't getting done, could be procurement or needing funding
- c. Possibility that township will sponsor 4th of July event
 - i. No official fireworks
 - 1. Chris- reason cost or distancing?
 - 2. Dennis – turnaround time
 - a. Last year's deposit was retained
 - b. Contract was not signed in enough time for July 4th
 - c. Higher demand all at once
 - ii. Vendors/food, maybe a band
 - iii. Dennis – no specifics
 - 1. Working with company who previously ran carnival
 - 2. Looking at an alternative date in October
 - 3. Perhaps the 5th anniversary celebration
- d. Farmers Market opened successfully
- e. Court resurfacing projects this year and next, split
- f. Walker – playground was moved
 - i. Could still flood, but not the moving currents
 - ii. Chris – they did a great job moving everything
- g. Park rentals are huge right now
 - i. Booked almost every weekend through the summer
- h. Canadian film festival at one of the parks is possible
- i. University partnership to use 90' baseball field
- j. Business is recovering, revenue is flowing
- k. BCA grant
 - i. P&R benches were approved, got 3 of 5 they asked for
 - ii. Will be picking locations
- l. Tennis Court installation at Belmont
 - i. Turned down the request
 - ii. Looking to build something at Heuser
 - 1. Paul is in favor, especially if school is in favor
 - 2. Another asset at Heuser
 - 3. Hopes it would be available to the public
 - 4. Hopes to double line with pickleball lines
 - 5. Wants for more joint projects between township and school board
 - a. Chris seconds that support
 - 6. Softball/baseball field remains
 - 7. Right now tennis team is being bussed to a local university to practice
 - 8. Thinks the noises would be far enough away from the homes

9. Sharon can hear the noise from Heuser and doesn't mind it, but any increase in noise could generate complaints
 - a. Paul S – putting shrubbery and trees around absorbs noise
 - iii. Swim team has 50 members and is getting more inquiries about joining
 1. A lot of new kids, a lot of new parents, and more potential new board members
 2. Pool open house this Saturday from 1-3:30
 3. Swim team will be there
 4. Hope to sign up another 20-30 members
 5. Sharon – what ages?
 - a. Just as long as you can swim across the pool safely
 - b. Usually 5-18; Can't be 19 past June 1st
 - iv. Sharon – What is happening on the spot on the trail with landfill, near water treatment plant at end of Mansill Mill Rd.
 - a. Can that be used for parking and field
 - b. Believes that is not township property, is private
 - c. Thinks it belongs to a developer, and not sure what they're building yet, perhaps homes
 - d. Will increase traffic that crosses trails
 - e. It gives off a bad odor
 - m. Senior center is looking to reopen mid-summer
 - i. P&R has been meeting at the Senior Service Center in their larger room
 - ii. Perhaps we should think about meeting there or somewhere else in person
7. Senior Center Representative Liaison Report – not present
8. Student Liaison Report
 - a. Ben received a BCA scholarship and won \$2K
 - i. 20-30 hours of community service required in the next year
 - ii. He can stay on the board then?
 - b. His plan: Summer school camp at the Gulph School – LIFT
 - i. Helps kids catch up over the summer
 - c. Going to University of Pittsburgh
 - d. Ben will not be able to attend the BOS meeting, but will send a slide
 - e. He will have to write a letter of resignation to formally leave the board
9. Old Business
 - a. 5 year anniversary
 - i. Is on the backburner, but now is the time to start planning
 - ii. So many staff are working on Farmers Market, and will be more free and flexible to start thinking about the 5th anniversary and other events in the fall
 - iii. Karen – the idea of neighborhood Olympics is to get neighbors together to plan/practice, and then, of course, compete
 - iv. Dennis - Likes the idea of competitive activities, like cornhole
 - b. Joint meeting/presentation to BOS – Scheduled for 5/20 at 7:30pm Freedom Hall
 - i. Introduce the future vision of putting community back into community center

1. 5-year anniversary
- ii. Who is coming?
 1. Paul K will be flying that day and unable to go
 2. Sharon can attend in person
 3. Chris will be virtual
 4. Karen will be online
 5. Dennis will attend virtually, but it's mostly the C3AB's opportunity to present
- iii. Paul sent a presentation, Chris will look at it and enhance, Sharon can work on it tomorrow
 1. Will put on Google Drive so that Sharon, Chris and Karen can enhance
 2. Senior Center submitted a strong presentation
- iv. Who will present what?
 1. Dennis will speak to reopening plans
 2. Paul recommends splitting up the presentation into various segments
 3. Karen will talk about the initial conceptualization through future vision – putting community back in community center

10. New Business

11. Adjournment