



UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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GREG WAKS

TOWNSHIP MANAGER/ SECRETARY-TREASURER

ANTHONY HAMADAY

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

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

AGENDA

Community Center Complex Advisory Board September 21st, 2021 7:30pm

1. Attendance – Chris Levy (remotely), Paul Salamy, Gino Cavaliere, Dan Russell, Terry Stevens, Sharon Davis, Karen Huller
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of 6/15/21
 - a. Sharon moved to approve
 - b. Gino seconded
 - c. Approved
4. Approval of 8/17/21 minutes
 - a. Chris moved
 - b. Paul seconded
 - c. Approved
5. Parks & Recreation Staff Report
 - a. Recent Indoor Mask Policy
 - i. Dramatic impact on membership cancellations
 - ii. Planned programs being impacted
 1. Indoor basketball program
 2. Several indoor fitness programs
 - a. Instructors don't feel safe doing it with masks on
 - b. Did have a class outdoors, but hard to schedule
 - iii. Are other facilities having the same problem?
 1. Other gyms in area are not enforcing a mask policy
 2. Didn't canvas them all, but LA Fitness is not
 - iv. Paul – Is there a safety threshold we may hit to lift the mask requirement?
 1. Township manager is looking at when vaccines are available for kids as a target date

- 2. Previous – 80% of community vaccinated
 - 3. No benchmark for this go-round
 - v. Township is following county and CDC guidelines
 - vi. Center still seems busy
 - vii. Paul – colder weather may bring people back
 - viii. Indoor basketball changes –
 - 1. Youth basketball uses several schools
 - 2. School district is not allowing any outdoor groups into the schools
 - 3. Trying to do some things at the center, but it's limited
 - a. Reshaping and will not be the size it was prior to the pandemic
- b. Passholder update
 - i. 1519 active passholders
 - 1. 100 less than last month
 - 2. Total cancellations since 3/2020 – 763
 - 3. Cancellations have exceeded active passholders
 - ii. Averaging 147 visits per day
 - a. Up from 141 visits per day during week
 - b. 85 visits per day, up from 76 visits
 - c. Confirms that center is still getting used more
- c. Child Watch Survey
 - i. Collected prior to mask mandate
 - ii. Mixed results
 - iii. Some responses indicated that people need child watch in order to come here and others are not comfortable sending their kids to child watch
 - iv. Only 45 responses collected
 - v. Once kids can be vaccinated, it will be a different story
 - vi. Vaccinations are expected to be for ages 3+
- d. Pool Snack Stand RFP
 - i. Contract with Hedgehog grille expired
 - ii. Redoing RFP process to send out and advertise for businesses interested in running the snack stand to send a proposal to the township
 - iii. Hedgehog Grille will get the RFP
 - iv. Township manager will be reviewing
- e. Partnership with UMASD Life Skills Program
 - i. Adults and children with special needs have come to do light cleaning and admin
 - ii. Working with Fitness staff to come 1-2 times per week and learn how to use the equipment, go through a workout, understand the open gym schedule
 - iii. 20-25 students
 - iv. No registrations yet; working out special student rates with school districts

6. Board of Supervisors Liaison Report (Greg not in attendance)

7. Park and Recreation Advisory Board Liaison Report

- a. The township faired well from storm except Walker
 - i. Maybe redo fence to alleviate some issues

1. A breakaway fence that won't come down completely
 2. Hasn't yet hooked up with UMBA, who has conceptually agreed to pay for some of the repairs
 3. Experiment: Put mesh on other side of pole, water will go on other side of fence
 4. May have to consider portable fences if it doesn't work
 5. Only 1 field
 6. Several thousand dollars spent moving the playground, which worked – just lost some mulch
 7. Chris – Did the trail flood/drain work not work?
 - a. Along the trail, some work was done to alleviate flooding
 - b. The township has not implemented it's total storm water management plan
 - c. These storms at Walker were not as strong as others in the past
 - d. Concrete barriers to guide the water away from walker and toward the other side of the creek
 - i. This was discussed with township engineer
 - ii. Conceptually, it would work, but would be sending the water to Park Lane and here at the community center
 8. Boathouse is total loss
 - a. Township owns the land
 - b. School district owns the building
 - c. School tried to take out as much as they could
 - i. UM boat club didn't get anything out
 - d. Dock survived
 - i. Great engineering; use this engineer again (Walker fences?)
- b. Community Center took on no water
- i. Dan was watching on cameras
 - ii. Filled back parking lot and receded in 15 minutes
 - iii. Used sand bags
 - iv. Got a bit under the senior center in storage base
 1. Considered due to downspouts not able to keep up
 2. Trash container moved across the road again
 3. Will be moving them into lower parking lot
 4. Building a corral for if the trash receptacles go back there
 - v. No leaks in the roof
 - vi. There is a portion of track that had received water damage from first couple leaks
 1. Found mold/mushrooms
 2. Covered by insurance
 3. Construction started on replacement
 4. 2-4 weeks to complete; 1.5 weeks in
- c. 10/2 Fall Fest
- i. Norview is having festival days through October, being promoted by Norview vs. township

1. Sharon – it looks like the township event and farm events are one and the same
 - ii. Issues getting corn to grow, so not sure about corn maze
 - iii. Fire pits, smores, cider, pumpkins
 - d. 2022 budget
 - i. Probably done by now
 - e. Fall/Halloween decorating contest again this year – Paul will be one of the judges
 - f. Pickleball lines at Executive Estates
 - i. Whitegate will be done next
 - g. Gino – wondered if there was any more collaboration about tennis courts
 - i. There were early discussions; Dan is unaware what the status is
 - ii. Zoning board denied changes to Belmont
 - iii. Township also lost 6 courts of its inventory when the high school tennis courts were lost
 - iv. Heuser – the timing
 1. P&R is looking at Heuser Phase 2 now
 2. There will be a survey, a lot of meetings, stakeholders
 - h. Sharon - Connector trail to VF?
 - i. Awarded contract
 - ii. Done by the end of this year
 - iii. Sharon - Behind Abrams Mill Rd. to train yard, from Beidler there's nothing – no bridge, no barrier, no signs
 1. There will be a little bridge
 2. There was before the storm
 3. Contractor needs to put some kind of safety effort
 - i. Chris – When will the last part of Crow Creek Trail be completed?
 - i. School district is responsible for part of trail behind high school
 - ii. Their engineering firm and township engineering are working together
 - iii. Don't want people to have access to the construction site, so won't build until construction is complete
8. Senior Center Representative Liaison Report
 - a. Wanted to know if roof was done
 - i. Yes
 - b. Still water that comes in the eating patio and the doors
 - i. There is clear space
 - ii. Chris – could need just a door sweeper
 - iii. Dan has a meeting with Gerry tomorrow and will bring it up
 - c. Paul – Two months ago talked about getting help for the back hill
 - i. E-mail went to shade tree people
 - ii. Paul was in touch with Lee who can help look at the area
 1. Will figure out which ones are weeds and come up with a plan
 2. Paul will get some high schoolers to help
 3. Lee may be able to get a scout troop out
 4. Terry – the seniors can deal with the planters
 - a. Some things are now overgrown and perhaps can be relocated
 - iii. Trying to coordinate a crew for Saturday, October 2, 9 AM for a couple hours

1. Paul - Kids are looking for volunteer hours for National Honor Society, Optimist Club, scholarships, etc.
 - a. Has to be planned
2. Terry will notify the garden club once the date and time is final
- d. Hometown heroes military banners
 - i. Paul was in touch with Bill Jenaway and Gerry Vattimo
 1. Will form a committee
 2. Another veteran involved
 3. Plan is to focus on getting one banner up by Veteran's Day, having a ceremony to promote it
 4. Start taking applications for whoever else wants a banner
 5. Will look at township property to put the banners up
 6. Township maintenance crew would put them up
 7. Maybe start at township building, and then expand outward to other township properties
 8. It's hard to put the banners on street poles because utility companies don't want them there
 9. Paul reached out to school district
 - a. 2K wanted banners in school parking lots
 - b. Talked to woman in charge of town center marketing and they are on board
 10. Chris – Consider putting a walk of fame along the path at Walker
 - a. Paul – would have to put in poles
 - b. Also have to consider that the banners can act as sails
 - c. 18x30 – pretty big
 - d. Heuser has 90 light posts

9. Old Business

- a. Dennis presented some numbers to promote the community center next year, and Dan assumes that includes some 5th anniversary events
- b. There was no special events budget this year

10. New Business

- a. Karen resigns as Secretary
 - i. She is staying on the board
 - ii. She will serve as a substitute back up

11. Public Comment (no public in attendance)

12. Adjournment