



## UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG WAKS  
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CAROLE KENNEY  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

TINA GARZILLO  
WILLIAM JENAWAY, PhD  
GREG PHILIPS

**ACTING TOWNSHIP  
MANAGER/  
SECRETARY-TREASURER**

SALLY SLOOK

**TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR**

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

## Minutes

### Community Center Complex Advisory Board April 16, 2019 7:30pm

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance
- 2) Attendance: Chris Levy, Paul Kubler, GlennAnne Chabala, Deena Newman, Greg Waks, Sharon Davis, Terry Stevens, Karen Huller, Dick McCann
- 3) Approval of March 19<sup>th</sup> minutes - Approved
- 4) Staff Report
  - a) Roof update- Passholder idea
    - i) Hal is reviewing specs with staff
    - ii) GlennAnne went to Chairman's meeting
    - iii) BOS is not in favor of selling panels, but asked board for feedback
      - (1) One concern – didn't think that the roof would look good with old panels
      - (2) Greg disagreed, and thought kids would love it
  - b) Passholder updates
    - i) Total passholders: 2546
    - ii) 454 new passholders YTD
    - iii) Pool membership is at 1138
    - iv) Membership keeps growing in spite of the time of year
    - v) Greg – it's a reflection that this board is doing something right
      - (1) People were actively discouraging people from joining and numbers still going up
      - (2) People will disagree about how it should be
        - (a) Some think too big
        - (b) Some think too small
        - (c) There's not a social service in the township that makes money
        - (d) Majority of budget is salary and benefits
          - (i) Mostly police department
    - vi) A passholder cap has not been discussed; passholders come at different times
      - (1) When it gets busy, people decide to come at different times

- (2) GlennAnne hasn't found a center in the country (through professional organizations) that has a cap
- (3) May have come close to fire code limits with tournaments.
- (4) Gym capacity is 330
- (5) Classroom capacity is 40
- c) Pool feasibility study
  - i) Hal is writing the RFP
  - ii) Will narrow down applicants and bring in proposals for board to review
- d) BCA grant
  - i) Next year's grant- Rock Wall
  - ii) 2019 Pool- volley ball nets
  - iii) Cantilever umbrellas
  - iv) Senior Center has trips funded
- e) Joint meeting May 16<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm-8:00pm
  - i) Paul would like us all to show up
  - ii) Everyone gets a page
  - iii) Looking for something about senior center to put in
    - (1) Sharon to Terry – talk about their trips
    - (2) Compare last year vs this year
- f) Backboard repair
  - i) \$2400
- g) Suggestion box
  - i) Last month 6 suggestions in box
  - ii) Most were about mind-body room being hot
  - iii) When people provide feedback, tell them to put in suggestion box
  - iv) Board was put up to show people what was done from suggestion box
- 5) Board of Supervisors Liaison Report
  - a) Greg challenge to board- explore programs to make it more affordable, as affordable as it is for many families
    - i) 40% of kids in district on lunch assistance; many more families don't, but are eligible
    - ii) Would like to make something available to those who want to be passholders without making a dramatic sacrifice
    - iii) We did offer 10 families passholderships through UM Township Foundation
      - (1) 10 families that district recommended, few if any took advantage of it
      - (2) There were 4
      - (3) Will they use it?
        - (a) GA can look up what usage resulted
      - (4) Was only a 1 year allocation
      - (5) That population just scratched the surface
      - (6) A host of other people if there was a subsidy
      - (7) Was a trial and we can change it
    - iv) Other ideas
      - (1) Portion of fees off for volunteering
      - (2) Come up with ways to raise money for foundation to subsidize membership
        - (a) Supermarkets that ask you to throw in an extra dollar for donation.
        - (b) Could have a donation bin at front counter
        - (c) CT town has donate button on website

- (i) Asks beneficiaries to pay forward your subsidy by volunteering
  - (ii) Two rivers has an entire packet you can download
- (d) We can use our sw to help support family to join center/do programs.
- (e) Can't round up with current software.
- v) Income verification requirement?
  - (1) Have to be willing to stick to guideline for income
  - (2) Not sure how you do that
  - (3) Most of communities use federal guidelines
  - (4) Difference between those who qualify for federal and those who have difficult means
  - (5) Have to set up criteria perhaps using a hybrid of federal guidelines
  - (6) Total income, household size
  - (7) Show 1040; reassure of privacy/security of information
  - (8) Figure out living wage for Upper Merion based on average rent/mortgage
  - (9) Collaborated with high school social workers for the previous scholarships
    - (a) Seniors who have to make choices
    - (b) Social workers who don't know about families with problems
    - (c) What about people not in school
- vi) Seniors have some subsidy options
  - (1) Silver sneakers, it is a supplement and not everyone's insurance works with it
  - (2) Silver fit is other one
  - (3) Senior center collects for unnamed family per year prior to Christmas
  - (4) A big van comes to take stuff
- vii) Can advertise that we have those programs
  - (1) Want to be able to give these families access to recreation
  - (2) It's not a luxury
  - (3) Some kids may be excluded
- viii) How much will foundation offset?
  - (1) Foundation doesn't have that much money right now
  - (2) Tasked as department by board to generate certain amount of revenue
  - (3) Deena – can we just lower rate without offsetting from foundation
  - (4) Would probably increase revenue because it's still additional revenue
- ix) Chris – Are we looking at families or individuals?
  - (1) Could be both
- x) Remove names from applications?
  - (1) BCA talked about taking names off of scholarship applications
  - (2) Sometimes you have to ask questions and need to know who they are
  - (3) Refer to them by applicant # instead of names
  - (4) Does think people need to self-identify
  - (5) Always possibility of having a subcommittee and a staffer reviewing the documentation
- xi) Could we apply for BCA grant for passholder scholarships/subsidies
  - (1) Would that detract from other potential applications
  - (2) Not needing as much for center/pool by next year
  - (3) Will be applying for rock wall
  - (4) Form committee for exploration of details necessary:
    - (a) Karen Huller
    - (b) Deena Newman

- (c) Paul Kubler
- xii) Form Affordable Passholder Options committee
  - (i) Sharon Davis
  - (ii) Karen Huller
  - (iii) Chris Levy
- b) Joint Meeting of Chairs of Citizen Boards is May 16th 7:30 AM
  - (1) Also a public meeting
  - (2) Interesting topic – opportunity to add desirable stuff
  - (3) Question: is price to high
  - (4) Will also be discussed at May workshop – May 2nd
  - (5) More by Monday/Tuesday when agenda for workshop will be posted
- 6) Park and Recreation Advisory Board Liaison Report
  - a) Bid for Mullen tract has been accepted
  - b) Big tree planting 4.27
  - c) Awarded tree city USA for 43<sup>rd</sup> year. One of 16 in the country continually
  - d) Park maintenance has new liaison Jerry Recupido
  - e) Already gave report on all parks
  - f) Gilmore Associates of Crow Creek – wanted it to go between Walker park, but can't
  - g) Paul Salamy volunteered to apply for BCA grant for bat house
  - h) Volpe Commons – there was a miscommunication between school board and township
  - i) Heuser park shared maintenance plan is going well – Paul Salamy is leading that
  - j) Security cameras are going up in Heuser park
  - k) New weight station for dumping at Heuser park
  - l) Walker park – Chris – A great job was done with the way it's cleared out, especially where the water goes through
- 7) Senior Center Representative Liaison Report
  - a) Don't know if we really have mice or need to have mouse traps
    - i) Can get rid of the traps if they want
    - ii) Dick - Two women in the office decide if they stay or go
    - iii) Gerry has not emptied mice out of the senior center
    - iv) Will get worked out
  - b) Bats
    - i) Dick doesn't know a scout troop that would take on the assignment
    - ii) Maybe 551
      - (1) Would be interested
    - iii) Girl scout troop building them
    - iv) They come on their own
  - c) Mosquitos
    - i) Terry – mosquito disks were put in drains
    - ii) GlennAnne bought 150 of the discs
    - iii) Gerry will keep an eye on them an put one in as they dissolve
    - iv) Terry also found a light to repel mosquitos
    - v) Will see if discs work
  - d) Travel committee is doing an excellent job
  - e) Planters were removed; screws still in
    - i) There are 12 along the whole wall

- ii) There are no plans for what to do there and no budget
- iii) Talked about a mural, but not before the roof is done
- iv) Mural could be donated, but may have to pay for supplies
- v) Ask MCGOPA; we have a good relationship and maybe they would see it as free advertising

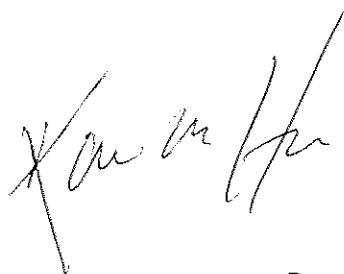
8) Old Business

- a) Chris shared concerns of a passholder who is also a nutritionist that vending machines are not selling healthy snacks
  - i) The World Health Organization recognizes obesity as an epidemic and does not recommend selling sugary snacks or soda or kids gather
  - ii) Wants volunteers to buy fruit from the farmers market and have Front Desk Assistants sell
    - (1) Orange and banana peels would produce trash and potentially litter
    - (2) Finding volunteer to do this seems unlikely
  - iii) Suggested hanging a sign to tell kids to bring in their own snacks
  - iv) Three vending machines and the coffee machine have been taking out and coffee
    - (1) No problems since
    - (2) What's left is a mix of healthy and not healthy snacks and a Pepsi machine
  - v) Vending is here for passholder and visit her convenience, for instance when people are here for hours for leagues
    - (1) Generates \$17-\$25 per quarter
    - (2) Vendor has better stats on what is sold
  - vi) Juice bar was an idea, but logistically not sustainable
  - vii) Chris will relay back to passholder

9) New Business

- a) No update on Pickleball at Bob White Park
  - i) Not a done deal
  - ii) More of a P&R board matter
  - iii) Deena will follow up with Dennis
- b) Share your community center love contest
  - i) Randomized prize – P&R swag
  - ii) Winner could get included in a program
- c) There is a closed group administered by Fran Littlewood
- d) Back door is getting fixed by Valley Forge Lock
- e) Earth Day was a nice turnout and nice weather
  - i) 26 vendors
  - ii) Ponies were stars

10) Adjournment



5.21.19