



UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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ANTHONY HAMADAY

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

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

Minutes

Community Center Complex Advisory Board

June 16, 2020

7:30pm

1. Attendance: Sharon Davis, GlennAnne Chabal [GA], Greg Waks, Chris Levy, Ben Eyer, Deena Newman, Paul Kubler, Karen Huller, Evelyn Ankers
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval February 18th, minutes
 - a. Paul approves with changes
 - b. Deena seconds
 - c. Approved
4. Staff Report
 - a. Roof project
 - i. Hal was on site yesterday and is pleased with progress
 - ii. The west side done.
 - iii. No site work/maintenance, e.g. floors, will be done until after roof completed
 - iv. Chris- are we ahead of schedule for re-opening?
 1. GA – on time because they didn't start with site work
 - v. No estimated time for completion
 1. Rainy days and delivery was a couple days late
 2. Still looking at the beginning of July
 - vi. No damage to community center during storms
 - b. Pool Opening
 - i. Some nice comments on FB on how well Heather did in planning
 - ii. 812 members. Had 400 at beginning of June.
 - iii. Not a ton of refunds.

1. Asked them to let them know by 6.15, but decided to let people visit with restrictions to try it.
- iv. Not finding it as restrictive as the guidelines on paper might have made it sound
- v. Maximum amount of people in the pool area based on sq. ft is over 500
- vi. 524 people checked into the pool with almost 2,000 members last year
 1. Feels we will stay well within our limits
 2. 220 people checked in yesterday throughout the day
 3. 100 people on the site at a time
 4. Heather has no concern about maxing out
 5. Could max out of pool space
- vii. Baby pool is segmented into for 4 family sections
- viii. Middle pool split in half – 9 people in each half
- ix. 6 people per lane in laps
- x. 5 little squares in area perpendicular to lap lanes, each can accommodate 12 people
- xi. Manager on duty is responsible for managing numbers
- xii. Chris – biggest test will be the upcoming weekend
 1. Father's day
 2. Heat is coming
 3. Hope to be prepared, but not sure how
 - a. Heather's staff is ready
 - b. They evaluated the data from last year's days
 4. If we have a family who is in there all day and we max out, can we monitor that and ask that family to leave?
 - a. Yes, we can see that data
 - b. Color coded wrist bands might be a way to know when a family comes in
 - c. Talked about doing only timed entrances
 - d. When Heather looked at the numbers, they seemed staggered and had good turnover anyway
 - e. Will re-evaluate after 7.6 to see if they will allow more to register or will keep it low
 - f. Chris suggests that we get bands just in case
 - g. GA can get them overnight
- xiii. Deena - 139 people there when she visited at 3:30 PM today
 1. Surprised there were 2 swim lanes
 2. Feels that reducing lanes could be a way to create more pool space
 3. No one was in the adult swim space from 3-5 PM
 - a. Was more toward the middle of the pool
 - b. Moved it to the furthest shallow end
 - c. Curious why it moved; wasn't used
 4. Heather made orange circles in the grass to space out families
- xiv. Families were seen dropping their stuff off, to mark off their place, and leaving their stuff there
 1. GA didn't see that
 2. Not providing tables, chairs; are providing umbrellas.
 3. When they leave they have to take their items with them

- a. Anything left goes into the trash vs. lost and found
 - b. Last year a tent was left up
 - xv. Paul - Will anyone try to bring guests for 4th of July?
 - 1. GA – All members were notified of the limitations
 - 2. Chris – Let's communicate often
 - a. Not everyone pays attention to all information
 - b. Get ahead of any particular conflicts
- c. Summer Camp
 - i. Once in green, still need to wait for roof
 - ii. Cannot use the school district
 - iii. Currently have 15 children at each site
 - 1. Not sure if lower numbers related to hours or fears
 - 2. Not used to kids being outside for 6 hours
 - 3. Those sites have buildings, but only used in inclement weather
 - 4. Physical camps starting in July
 - iv. Playground program, supervised
 - v. Heuser and Baxter 9AM - 3PM
 - 1. Max 40 children per age group
 - 2. Separated by age
 - vi. Swedeland is half day camp
 - 1. Has pavilion, but parents would need to be called if terential weather
 - vii. No beechtree, but trying something or 3-5 age group
 - viii. A couple of different virtual camps
 - 1. Science
 - 2. Chess
 - ix. Consortium is hybrid – art at Walker Field
 - 1. No performance at the end
- d. Passholder update
 - i. Drop off is a moot point
 - 1. Evaluating refund rate
 - 2. Surprised only 63 cancellations
 - 3. 2.3%
 - 4. Has to stay at/below 50% capacity in green phase
 - 5. Could be that people are not thinking about cancelling while they are not being charged
 - ii. Will see when the time comes to start charging again if more cancellations
 - iii. Putting protocols in place
 - 1. Time limits
 - 2. Entrance/exits
 - 3. Monitoring maximums in the building
 - 4. 300 is capacity of gym.
 - a. Can't fit 150 comfortably
 - b. Can't have 5-5 basketball
 - 5. Sharon- what will we do if schools start playing basketball
 - a. GA – Current guidelines do not allow contact sport
 - b. Small group basketball is allowed outside

- c. Family groups on a hoop is probably recommendation
 - d. No doubles pickleball- will allow singles
 - e. Volleyball – for families, but no spiking
 - f. Cardio machines – every other machine will be open
 - g. Some of the machines are moving along the track to spread people out
 - h. No open gym passes - members only
 - i. To allow members to access equipment they want
 - ii. Gives them time to trial the safety protocols and make tweaks
 - i. Chris- sounds like spin would be 1/3 the size
 - i. GA – It will be about half
 - j. Have to have a mask to enter the building.
 - i. Experts are saying you can't exercise with a mask
 - ii. Have to use it to travel about the building
 - k. All recommendations have to go to BOS
6. Greg - Police townhall last week
- a. One of the hosts asked a question about guests at the UM pool, if they must be residents
 - b. Greg wasn't sure
 - c. He did affirm that all rules are completely different because of COVID
 - d. Can only come in if you are a guest of a member
 - i. Only allowing UM school district residents to register
 - ii. No guest passes
- e. Pool member update
- i. 1934 members at this point last year
 - ii. Still doubled from beginning of June
 - iii. Had to issue refunds in excess of \$300K for camps, programs that didn't run
 - iv. \$50K in credit from different accounts
 - v. Not going to make the revenue goals this year
 - vi. In June so far has taken in \$67K
 - vii. All capital projects are on hold
 - 1. Child watch expansion
 - 2. Office renovations
- f. Outdoor programs
- i. Acquasize
 - ii. Yoga
 - iii. Adding more classes
- g. Pool feasibility
- i. Only boards are meeting, not subcommittees
 - ii. On hold
 - iii. 1100-1400 survey responses
 - 1. 80% wanted the pool to stay where it was
 - 2. Of those who wanted it moved, they wanted it to be at Heuser

- 3. BOS probably would not support the pool moving to Heuser
- iv. Hoping July will offer approval for subcommittee to meet

5. Board of Supervisors Liaison Report

- a. Busy season
 - i. Virus > economic hardship > derecho > protests
- b. No workshop meetings, and much business languishing
- c. Will have to pick up number of meetings to preserve progress in the case that there is a second COVID outbreak
- d. General Maxwell entrance
 - i. Potential options for acquisition
 - ii. KoP was the only SEPA zip code included in top real estate market list
 - iii. Housing market moving fast
- e. Not sure how local economy will react should there be another wave of COVID
 - i. When we are clear, there will be continued effort to make passholdership available to needed
 - ii. Draft to allow people to join the community center may become more pressing
 - iii. Sharon – we finalized the plan
 - 1. Who physically creates the posters and puts them up
 - 2. Nuts and bolts of printing it and getting the word out
 - 3. Sharon was waiting to go to the other council meetings to announce it as well
 - 4. Not sure how to create an application on a website
 - a. Sharon and GA can talk about it
 - b. GA- thought there were questions from BOS about how determination would be made
 - c. No financial basis
 - d. Referenced the community services person as someone who would vet/interview prospective passholders
 - e. Sharon made the application and the flyers
 - f. Usage is going to be tricky because using it is going to be impaired by COVID restrictions
 - g. Talking about the time when everything opens, but there is an economic lag
 - h. Is there a way to find people who might need a place to workout, shower without getting the word out full-fledged
 - i. The center is no longer going to be a hang-out
 - j. GA - Wants to make sure passholders' needs are addressed
 - k. Sharon - Do people who run the site have any insight into people who would like to use the center but can't afford it
 - i. GA – It's never come up, but she can ask
- f. Expects to meet in person in July

6. Park and Recreation Advisory Board Liaison Report

- a. Gerry was working hard on clean up after derecho
 - i. Chris – Township did a great job, especially at Walker Park!

- b. Fireworks are not happening 7.4, but are scheduled for Community Day – 1st Saturday in October
 - c. Crow creek received all permits
 - i. Gilmore finalizing bid preparations
 - d. Ross Road development is required to put in a new park; original plans rejected
 - e. Pickleball tape will be put back down on Bob White park
 - i. Agreed to open those courts
 - f. Big discussions
 - i. Pavilions are open, but not to rentals
 - ii. Playgrounds closed
 - iii. Skatepark open
 - iv. Youth sports can practice but not play
 - g. Backlash from UM Mom's club about playgrounds staying closed
 - i. So many parks and playgrounds vs. staff
 - ii. Sanitizing daily was not possible with current staff
 - iii. Greg received a private message and once he explained it made sense
 - 1. Things that did not require a lot of cleaning because of not a lot of touch were allowed to stay open
 - 2. Rules do make a lot of sense
 - h. Tennis vs. pickleball
 - i. Pickleball players come in groups and take turns among themselves, but can monopolize the courts for hours
 - ii. Message: Don't be a jerk
7. Senior Center Representative Liaison Report
- a. No updates from Terry
 - b. Talked to Dick about re-opening Senior Center
 - c. Talked to Mark Zadroga
 - i. Go by 50% of what fire codes say is the full capacity of the room
 - ii. Dick was waiting on plans to get specific room sizes
 - d. Asked senior center to submit a protocol plan to describe how they plan on managing the entrance/exit (corridor is not 6 feet wide)
 - i. How do you disinfect the things that seniors use, like majong tiles
 - ii. How will they protect Beth at the front desk
8. Old Business
- a. Approximately 1.2% membership freeze in the summer
 - b. 6 passholders from West Conshohocken
 - c. 195 passholders from Bridgeport
9. New Business
- a. Deena wanted to make a note that there was no BCA grant
 - b. The pandemic shifted how the money was allocated
 - i. Need vs. want
 - ii. 1st time ever BCA is having a 2nd open period
 - 1. Will begin 8.1 and end in September
 - 2. No scholarships – only grants for organization
 - 3. More urgent needs

4. \$35-49K available
- iii. Casino closures will not impact BCA
 1. Funds are based on number of slot machines and seats at table games
 2. General fund is based on revenue
- c. Ben's suggestion
 - i. Is it possible for the community center to rent out equipment, like sporting equipment or weights?
 - ii. If it works, it could be a good source of revenue
 - iii. Not sure how it would work now because building is closed
 1. Curbside pickup?
 2. Closed by governor's orders
 3. Since library is at the township building, considered essential
 - iv. Sharon – likes the idea, one person could be there
 - v. Deena – knows other gyms who have done it
 1. JCC in York, PA
 - vi. Cost/risk is much more significant than a book
 - vii. Sharon- maybe you can unfreeze your fee so that you can borrow equipment
 - viii. GA – Would have to inventory every piece of equipment and figure out how to rent it
 1. Would need to barcode everything
 2. GA will explore it among other community centers, park and rec contacts

10. Adjournment

- a. Chris motioned
- b. Karen 2nded
- c. All approved