



UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

175 WEST VALLEY FORGE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1802
610-265-2600
FAX: 610-265-0482
www.umtownship.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WILLIAM JENAWAY, PhD
CHAIRPERSON
CAROLE KENNEY
VICE-CHAIRPERSON
TINA GARZILLO
GREG PHILIPS
GREG WAKS

TOWNSHIP MANAGER/ SECRETARY-TREASURER

ANTHONY HAMADAY

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

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

Minutes

Community Center Complex Advisory Board October 20, 2020 7:30pm

1. Attendance: Dennis Rudzinski, Chris Levy, Ben Eyer, Karen Huller, Sharon Davis, Deena Newman, Greg Waks, Evelyn Ankers
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of September 15th minutes – Chris motioned; Sharon seconded; approved
4. Staff Report
 - a. Passholder update
 - i. March 2020 – 2859 passholders
 - ii. 19.7% passholder cancellations to date
 - iii. 22% passholder freezes to date
 - iv. 30 new passholders since re-opening
 - b. Pool feasibility study
 - i. Presentation was scheduled to be BOS business meeting 10/15 at 7:30 pm
 1. Had to be rescheduled for 11.12 @ 7:30 PM
 - ii. Survey was sent to pool members and placed on social media
 - c. Reopening update
 - i. Daily visit average
 1. 88.3 during weekday
 2. 49.5 visits on the weekend
 - ii. Pre-Covid
 1. 415 weekday visits
 2. 296 weekend visits
 - iii. COVID cases
 1. Were people scared?
 - a. Did have a number of freezes
 2. It may have made people more cautious
 3. Nominal drop
 4. Everyone recovered
 - d. Membership Fee Structure

- i. We formed a subcommittee
 - 1. No meetings yet
- ii. GlennAnne was waiting on an answer about Ben being included
 - 1. Dennis did not hear if there was an answer
- a. 5th Year Celebration – September 2021
 - a. Staff will be starting to plan an event
 - b. Not sure if it will be virtual or in-person
 - i. Will depend on what things look like in December
 - c. Wanted to know if we had thoughts or ideas
 - d. Sharon asked that Dennis let the subcommittee we formed know when they are meeting about the event
 - i. Dennis said when the staff get the ball rolling, they'll let us know and ask for input
 - ii. Sharon reiterated that we want to be included from the beginning to get the ball rolling
- b. Free Passholder Program
 - a. GA shared e-mail with BOS questions about the program
 - b. There are outstanding items
 - c. It makes sense for a member or two to come to the next BOS meeting to have a conversation about the program
 - i. They are not familiar with the thought process
 - ii. Not opposition, just want an understanding
 - iii. Workshop on November 5th
 - iv. Want to be prepared to offer residents with financial limitations
 - v. Want to make sure people don't take advantage, and make sure those who want to participate can access the program
 - vi. Sharon wanted to know what else came up that requires us to come back
 - 1. They want the applicants to be vetted
 - 2. They want to know how we'll make sure
 - vii. Greg wants to confirm that the board can talk about this November 5th
 - 1. Sharon – we can send it in writing
 - 2. Greg asked Dennis to tell Tony that the advisory board wants to talk about the program
 - d. Sharon asked Dennis – can someone in the department create the online application/form
 - i. Dennis said that once everything is approved we can send the application and it can be put on the website
- c. Passholder thank you
 - a. Goody bags with hand sanitizer, UMCC workout towel, masks
 - b. When they come to the center they get it
 - c. Chris – is there a checklist to make sure that people don't receive more than one?
 - i. They have a limited amount – 300
 - ii. They will get them as they come/go

5. Board of Supervisors Liaison Report
 - a. 1st budget meeting this Thursday
 - i. Will be tight
 - ii. Fewer capital expenditures
 - b. We have significant reserves will get us through shortfall to come
 - c. Next 3 weeks will know more
 - d. Greg's assessment of COVID operations at the center
 - i. Tries to avoid going indoors
 - ii. Did go to the CC to play pickleball
 - iii. Processes and procedures were excellent and executed well
 - iv. Felt comfortable
 - v. Not very busy
 - vi. Will use it more based on what he observed
 - vii. Chris – how many were playing- 6 rotating on and off

6. Park and Recreation Advisory Board Liaison Report
 - a. Notice that went up in Bob White about the park being rezoned
 - i. Many unhappy residents thought the township was going to sell/develop park land
 - ii. Questions as to why wasn't there more transparency
 1. Greg says there's always more transparency that can be done
 2. 2 supervisors workshops last year, one attended by multiple Bob White residents
 3. P&R board knew about Catalyst
 4. The relationship between Catalyst and the rezoning was not clear
 5. Greg had made the motion
 - a. Immediate residents may not have had enough notice
 - b. Did decide to continue the hearing until the next business meeting on November 12th, but it could be pushed back
 - c. There were a lot of residents there
 - d. One of the residents in favor of the project was there
 - e. If they could do it without rezoning, they would
 - f. Immediately after rezoning will be putting covenants in place to protect any further development of the land
 6. Bob White and Heuser will need rezoning
 - a. PennDot will not approve without it
 - b. Township will get more park land, more open space, more amenities
 - c. Catalyst is buying that land to put up monuments
 - d. Mullen Tract and Damiani property (R2) will become park land
 7. Getting rid of junk yard
 - a. Land gets cleaned up and turned over to township and added into park system
 - b. Underlying property development rights
 8. There was speculation about putting a library near Mullen tract, but there were access issues and insufficient space
 9. Monument would go up near 422 exit

- a. Bob White parcel is all the way back in the woods over 76.
 - b. You won't see it unless you're on the expressway or on the trail that will go adjacent to it.
 - c. Will put in a bathroom, trail and pavilion at Bob White
 - d. 4th parcel/monument is at Halloween store on 202 that has been left vacant
 - i. Underlying development rights
 - 10. Someone asked about the wildlife
 - b. Budget reductions
 - i. Current discussions: Without a budget what could we do?
 - ii. Brainstorming without results
 - c. Continuing to work with school district to allow use of parks for sports
 - d. Crow Creek Trail bid went to Jim Kenny out of Collegeville, came in under budget, all sections
 - i. 1.5 year before it gets done
 - ii. Chris – Will fences at Walker come down?
 - 1. Talks continue to move playground and to not put fences back up – nothing official
 - 2. We have someone in maintenance department who can put the fences back up and save money?
 - 3. Greg and Dennis don't know
 - 4. Not sure the fences are reusable
 - 5. Chris walks there every morning and thinks they can be salvaged
 - 6. Significant storm water issues that affected fields and adjacent properties
 - 7. Crow Creek trail, high school and Damiani property could make a real difference in the flooding
 - 8. Taking out concrete at junk yard will enable more absorption of storm water
 - 9. Greg can get info to Chris from Rob Loper on storm water improvements
7. Senior Center Representative Liaison Report
- a. Dennis has not heard definitively about reopening
 - b. Dick McCann is still working on a re-opening plan
 - c. They did not get the BCA grant, first time turned down
8. Student Liaison Report
- a. Talked with some friends about how the reopening is going
 - b. Ben went once, but parents want him to play outside
 - c. All his friends are happy about how smoothly it's going
 - i. They are happy to be play basketball
 - ii. One friend was impressed with strictness of mask policy
 - d. Have there been additional measurements taken with the cases?
 - i. They followed all Montco Dept of Health protocols
 - ii. They are running the same procedures as before
9. Old Business
- a. Should Sharon, Paul and Deena be meeting for the membership subcommittee?

- i. Sharon – yes, though not an urgent thing

10. New Business

11. Adjournment