

## **Upper Merion Park & Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**

June 13, 2017 / Tuesday 7:30 PM.

**Attendees :** Tina Garzillo , Mike Trachtenberg , Robert DeFelice , Mary Ann Ahearn , Neil Sardifias , Deena Newman , Paul Salamy , Dan Russell , Carole Kenney , and Bill Schutter .

**Guests:** Christopher Hand , Bill Kenney , Jim Ruddy.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of May 9 , 2017 UMPR BOARD MEETING MINUTES . APPROVED 6 - 0 .**

### **New Business**

•Dan Russell introduced Christopher Hand to UMPR BOARD MEMBERS and described him to be a member of our community who has devoted a lot of time volunteering throughout our township Parks.

Mr. Hand is very much interested in trails , especially non- paved trails throughout the undeveloped areas at HEUSER Park. He expressed interest in connecting these trails at HEUSER Park to Valley Forge National Park . ATV Vehicle use on these trails was also discussed.

•Board Chairperson, Tina Garzillo , reminded board members of the Tree Tenders presentation to be held at the TOWNSHIP BoS workshop meeting on July 13, 2017.

•New Township Park signage , including their cost , design, and installation was discussed.

**Vote:** Board member Mike Trachtenberg made a motion to include the Park signage replacement project as part of the 20-year Capital Improvement plan for all Township parks.

**Motion passed . 7-0.**

### **Board of Supervisor 's Liaison Report**

•BOS Carole Kenney reported the first portion of the linear Park on 1st Avenue is open and looks very nice. The linear Park is a public /private business partnership and is off to a great start!

•The June 15,2017 BOS meeting will be honoring Eileen and Michael Centrella, owners of Michael's Delicatessen and Restaurant located in the Valley Forge Shopping Center, for their many years of generous contributions to our township community. Michael's Deli recently closed after over 35 years in business.

### **Park & Recreation Department Director's Report**

•Dan Russell was pleased to announce the Township Community Center Complex Passholder membership has reached 2131 plus 152 Silver Sneaker /Silver Fit members. Also ,The Township swimming pool memberships has reached 1337 and is on the rise!

•The Park Recreation Department staff are busy gearing up for the summer camps , devoting time to staff training.

•The July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration at HEUSER Park . Entertainment to begin at 3:00 PM. Carnival , Concert and Fireworks!

•The DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION has expressed interest in partnering with Upper Merion Township, connecting the Chester Valley Trail to Valley Forge National Park.

The feasibility study for this project is to be completed before the year 2019, at an approximate cost of \$5000.00 - \$10,000.

#### Old Business

•Mary Ann Ahern reported on the progress of the Green Goats at Bob White Park.

The removal of the evasive vines is progressing ."Things are going well."

•July 17<sup>th</sup> , 2017 Is the very first meeting with the board's staff member (Mike Trachtenberg ) and members of the soccer ,football, lacrosse, and UMBA sports representatives. The tentative location for the meeting will be held inside the Clubhouse at Heuser Park.

The needs and maintenance concerns of the Park and Recreation board , the Upper Merion Park & Recreation Department , sports organizations and residents are among items to be addressed.

•Tina Garzillo announced our township staff is applying for a Dog Park grant application for \$25,000 from PET SAFE.

There are only five grants being issued across the United States. Recipients will have 3 years to use the grant money.

•Tina reminded Park and Recreation board members of the Emerald Ash Borer follow- up presentation to be held at the next Board of Supervisors Workshop meeting on July 13th, at 7:30 p.m.

#### Park Maintenance Supervisor Report

•Park maintenance supervisor , Bill Schutter, gave a full report on all Park maintenance performed by his staff during the month of May, 2017.

Adjournment 9 : 10 PM.

Kindly submitted,

Robert DeFelice

