

## UPPER MERION PARK & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday , July 11 , 2017

7:30 PM.

Meeting location \*The West End Civic Association Meeting  
Hall.

**Attendees :** Tina Garzillo, Mike Trachtenberg, Robert DeFelice, MaryAnn Ahearn, Deena Newman,  
Neil Sardiñas, Jonathan Eyer, Dan Russell, Bill Schutter, Jr.

**Guests :** Janet Scott, J. Douglas Scott, Rodney & Angela Haynie, Pearl James, Angela Michael,  
Joe White, Jackie Zymroz, Laura Formariz, Zachary James, Oscar Gamble,  
William Wall , Jr., Mande Freeland, Ed Beasley, Tim Tyler, Barbara Williamson, Ronald & Mary  
Selix, Christina Thomson .

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2017. Approved 5 – 0.**

### **Chairperson's Comments**

Tina Garzillo greeted all guests in attendance and thanked the members of The West End Civic Association (WECA) for welcoming the Upper Merion Park & Recreation Board ( UMPR Board ) members into their meeting hall for this evening's meeting.

### **New Business**

West End Civic Association representative, Zachary James, welcomed the UMPR Board members to their meeting hall and gave a presentation that included the WECA's history, their present role in our community and their desire to partner with the Upper Merion Parks & Recreation Department.

UMPR Board Chairperson Tina Garzillo commented on the William Wall, Sr. Playground Park (named after WECA founding member, William Wall, Sr. ), and it's caring neighborhood community and how their Park and Civic Association can serve as a role model for other " pocket parks" within our township.

A township resident offered assistance to WECA with maintenance repairs to their facility, which was taken under advisement.

Upper Merion Park & Recreation Director, Dan Russell, commented on his department's willingness to partner with the WECA, pending board approval, and to coordinate programs and staff to meet the needs of the Rebel Hill Community.

All board members in attendance were in favor of the UMPR Department forming a partnership with the WECA and Rebel Hill Community .

### **Director's Report**

Dan Russell thanked the WECA members for allowing the UMPR Board to " take our show on the road" and hold our meeting at their clubhouse.

Dan's report included the following :

\*The township Swimming pool revenue is up from last year.

\*The Upper Merion Community Center Complex Passholder membership has reached 2279.

\*The July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration at HEUSER PARK was a huge success! Upwards of 9000 people in attendance , as estimated by UMPD.

\*The UMPR Fall programming is underway.

### **New Business**

The Patriots Girls Softball Team, made a request to the board to approve two batting cages to be constructed at HEUSER PARK . Some of the conditions for board approval include:

The Patriots would provide and be solely responsible for the following: The financing of all costs for the construction and maintenance of the batting cages, the off season storage of the nets, the entire insurance costs and liabilities, and the batting cages would be made available to the entire township community for use ,( UMBA , UMASD , and local residents, etc.)

Board member Robert DeFelice expressed his favorable opinion for the batting cages ,but had reservations as to where the proposed locations for the batting cages were to be constructed. Safety and park aesthetics being among his concerns.

Specifications on the construction of the batting cages are to be provided to the UMPR Board members and the proposed location's for the batting cages be cleared of any underground obstructions, water lines , electric , drainage ,etc . prior to final approval.

Mike Trachtenberg made a motion,( Mary Ann Ahearn second the motion),to recommend to township Board of Supervisors to allow the Patriots to construct two batting cages as shown and to be located as

shown, based on further plans to be provided and approved, and meeting with all underground utilities being clear of obstructions or harm. Motion approved , 6- 0.

**Old Business**

\*Mary Ann Ahearn updated board members on The Green Goats at Bob White Park.

\*Robert DeFelice updated board members on the ongoing success and upcoming events at the Community Center Complex.

\*Tina Garzillo updated board members on the Dog Park grant application .

**New Business**

\*Four board members were selected to the Ad Hoc group for the Parks Master Plan. Members include Tina Garzillo, Mike Trachtenberg , Mary Ann Ahearn , and Neil Sardiñas. First meeting is July 25,2017 @ 7:00 PM.

\*A Community Garden Ad Hoc group is currently being formed.

**Park Maintenance Supervisor Report**

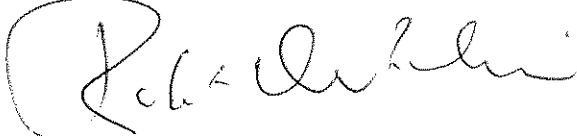
Bill Schutter,Jr. gave a complete report on all maintenance performed within township Parks by his staff.

(List of Parks and maintenance performed to be provided by Bill Schutter,Jr.)

**Adjournment – 9: 34 PM.**

Kindly submitted,

Robert DeFelice

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert DeFelice", written in black ink.