

UPPER MERION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 11th, 2019

7:30 PM

Attendees: Mike Trachtenberg, MaryAnn Ahearn, Neil Sardifias, Deena Newman, Dana Augustine, Robert DeFelice, Paul Salamy, Jerry Recupido, Dennis Rudzinski (attending for Dan Russell) & Tina Garzillo

Guests: Brian Schlorff, Jim Ruddy

1. The Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of the May 14th, 2019 Meeting Minutes – APPROVED 6-0.

3. Guests

- Brian Schlorff – King of Prussia Soccer Club
- Jim Ruddy

4. Board of Supervisor's Liaison Report – Tina's report included the following:

- Swedesburg had their Fire Alarm blitz on April 27th
 - Over 250 alarms installed
- Swedeland was June 8th
 - Over 300 alarms installed
- KOP Fire Company is August 24th
- Lafayette Ambulance was officially dissolved on May 6th
 - New plan begins July 1st and will be renewed annually
 - Mailings go out this week with rates
 - Email Dennis Rubin for questions – drubin@umtownship.org
- An offer has gone out for Township Manager
 - Anthony Hamaday has been offered the position
- Sally Slook leaving at the end of June
 - Department is evaluating the need for an assistant township manager – may not be needed
- Rob asked for an update on the sale of the waste facilities
 - BOS is still on a fact-finding mission
 - Want to take the time to investigate everything properly
- GSK development – supposed to be a science center
 - Not much is known yet
- Maryann asked about Catalyst Outdoor
 - 5 billboard locations have been presented
 - Tina will try and include the Parks & Rec board in an upcoming presentation so we can learn more
- Rob also asked about the mall zoning issues
 - Nothing set yet
 - Rob commented that the mall needs to decrease rent so companies don't leave

5. Park and Recreation Director's Report - Dennis

- Roofing project update
 - Only one bid
 - Recommendation is to re-bid
- Mullen property demo is complete
- Valley Forge Alliance working on feasibility study
 - Findings will be ready in August
- July 4th, 5th and 6th carnival is looking for volunteers for ticket booths
- Summer camp begins 6/24
- Just under 1900 members for the pool
- Rob – happy they are rebidding roof project
 - Felt the proposed cost was too high
- Someone removed the newly taped lines for pickleball on the courts at Bob White tennis courts
 - May look into temporary paint instead

6. Park Maintenance Report

- Jerry gave us a sheet with all maintenance done over the past month
- Mentioned pickleball lines
 - Looked beautiful and someone pulled them up – frustrating
- Soda machines removed from Heuser Park
 - Grills still there
 - Giving baseball one week to get rid of them and then we will
- Wednesday, May 15th, they are cleaning the tennis courts at Whitegate
 - They get slick when wet
- Three playgrounds being redone next week
 - Swedeland, Bob White, and Belmont
- Email from baseball saying lights out in right field
 - Only four bulbs out – have been replaced
- Switching lights to LED at Swedeland
 - Trying to get it approved
 - Currently all timers are set at the same time at all parks
- Poison ivy at Bob White on the playground
- Met with gentleman about Crow Creek Trail to discuss maintenance needs on trail
- Met about the 4th of July celebration with Parks & Rec department
 - Cleaning up trash for the weekend
- Scale at the compost site is closed indefinitely
 - Compost site is only open for residents
 - No longer available for contractors

7. New Business

- Brian Schlorff wants to move younger teams off of Baxter field to preserve the area more
 - Thought Bob Case would be a good location
 - Would like to do Tuesday and Thursday and begin 7/8
 - Dennis is going to look into it
 - Would need to end in October since it gets darker and Bob White does not have lights
 - Would need to add a port-a-potty
- Rob asked about discount rates for the community center
 - School district employees get a very large discount – larger than senior citizens

- Feels senior citizens should also have a large discount
- Tina explained the school uses a corporate discount which is why it is so good
- Rob questioned why the corporate rate is less expensive than the senior citizen rates

8. Old Business

- Bat Houses in Parks
 - Deena said there are no updates
 - Working on researching which parks, how many and where to put them
 - Jerry recommends not going with cheapest options
 - Park priority
 - 1) Township Park
 - 2) Heuser Park
 - 3) Walker Park
 - Neil suggesting talking to DCNR for help
 - Also suggested Barley or Vitas from Mckaig
- Citizens board mixer on Thursday at Conshohocken Brewing Company in KOP
- Paul mentioned that people have been requesting kids at camp have transportation to the pool for summer swim practice
 - Some children may not be able to get to swim if parents work
 - Suggested using the Rambler
 - Dennis will talk to Dan
- Rob asked about future plans at Heuser Park
 - Wants to move the pool there
 - Tina said it will most likely be years before everything is done
- Heuser fields look great!

9. Community Center Complex Advisory Board Report – Deena

- Continued discussion about ideas to keep passholders happy during roof project
 - Pool passes still an option
 - Pool party
 - Party at the Community Center
 - No money in the budget so they would need sponsors
 - Roof not happening right away now, but they still need to think of things for when it happens
- They have three presentations coming up for pool feasibility studies
 - Want to figure out what can be done with the pool and how much
- There is a waitlist for camp

Dana Augustine

Adjournment: 8:50pm

Kindly Submitted

Dana Augustine

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