

Upper Merion Park & Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes August 13, 2024

Attendees: Mike Trachtenberg, Paul Salamy, Neil Sardiñas, Tina Garzillo, Kathy Garro, Dan Russell, and Jerry Recupido

Absent: Mark Vondra, Holly Meade, and MaryAnn Ahearn

1. Approved meeting minutes 07/11/24
2. Comments from the Chairperson
 - a. The September meeting of the Park & Rec Board will be held at the McKaig Nature Center Schoolhouse on 9/10/24, beginning at 7:30 PM. Prior to the meeting, the Board will participate in the planting of the Tree of Liberty cutting.
3. Board of Supervisors Report - Tina Garzillo
 - a. The Township Board of Supervisors has agreed to enlist the assistance of the Chester Valley Deer Management Association to assist in the culling of the over populated deer in the community. This culling will occur during the regular hunting season from the end of September through January, 2025. This program will occur at no cost to the Township.
 - b. The UM Police National Night Out has been tentatively rescheduled for 10/1/24 to be held at the UM Township Park, from 6 to 8 PM.
 - c. The UMASD and Township have come to agreement on the placement of tennis courts on the back of the Walker Field property. Engineering plans have not yet been finalized.
4. Park & Rec Director Report - Dan Russel
 - a. The P&R Fall Activity guide will be out on August 15th.
 - b. The summer P&R programs are winding down, as well as the swim club.
 - c. Concert Under the Stars is continuing with ticketed events on August 16 & 17.
 - d. The UM Community Fair will be held on October 5, 2024 at Heuser Park.
 - e. The UM P&R Department will begin travel sport program for basketball this fall. It is geared towards youth ages 6 through 14 who look to be more competitive and will have opponents from the Montco, Chesco, and Delco areas.
 - f. The 2025 Budget process is ongoing.
5. Park Maintenance Department - Jerry Recupido
 - a. Whitegate tennis courts resurfacing is complete.
 - b. Wm. Wall park has issues with fallen trees, some already having been removed. One tree will continue to need additional testing and attention.

6. Community Center Advisory

- a. Membership and usage slightly down as summer continues.
- b. Community Center received a \$6000 grant from the BCA to reinstate a Child Watch program at the center beginning this fall.
- c. The Community Center is exploring the development of a game room where participants could check out board games for use in the center.

7. New Business

- a. Guest Josie Walmuth asked for an update on the Sweetbriar Park kiosk. Dan Russell indicated that the Eagle Scout has not continued with the project.
- b. Discussion occurred about new park signs - including the township ordinances that regulate park usage.
- c. Guest Vytas Masalitis, Park Ranger of the McKaig Nature Center, outlined a series of events to be held in September and October.

8. Adjournment 8:53 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Garro
Secretary
UM P&R Advisory Board