



UPPER UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

October 19, 2017

Minutes

Board members Patrick Dennin, Christopher Foster, Lou Lanzalotto, John McManus, Sushila Subramanian, and Cathy Tomlinson were present. Also present was Assistant Township Manager Shanna Lodge.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 220 were in attendance, working toward their Citizenship in the Community Merit Badges.

Call to Order

Ms. Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes

Ms. Tomlinson called for a motion to approve the minutes of September 21. Ms. Lodge noted one change to the minutes that consisted of the correction of a typo. Ms. Subramanian moved to approve the minutes of September 21, 2017. Mr. McManus seconded the motion. Mr. Dennin requested a copy of the memo mentioned in the minutes in which Ms. Tomlinson summarized the concerns of the Glenmoore Eagle Youth Associated. Ms. Lodge offered to provide Mr. Dennin with this memo. The minutes of September 21, 2017 were approved without further comment.

Old Business

Holiday Tree Lighting Planning

The Board commenced a planning discussion regarding the upcoming Holiday Tree Lighting to be held at Upland Farms Park. The event will be held Saturday, November 25th at 5 PM.

Ms. Subramanian had recommended glow sticks as giveaways for the children who attend the event. Ms. Lodge located snowflake and candy cane patterned glow sticks. The group determined that 125 glow sticks should be purchased.

The Township Public Works department will assist with setup of tables and chairs in the Barn at Upland Farms, which will be open for the event.

The group considered options for providing warmth, including a burn barrel, if the forecast calls for cold temperatures. This part of the discussion was tabled until the weather forecast is more certain.

Ms. Lodge will contact Township Police personnel and Township Public Works about assisting with public safety and traffic control for the event. Mr. Foster suggested that residents may be using the trails from Upland to the Reserve at Eagle and that safety considerations should be put in place.

Regarding refreshments, the group determined that food trucks were a good option. In the interest of supporting Upper Uwchlan Township based businesses, Ms. Lodge will approach Montesano's Deli

about providing a food truck for the event. Mr. Dennin advised that some food trucks may require assurance of a minimum profit.

Mr. McManus will work with Township staff to select and coordinate planting of the tree.

Survey of scouts determined a preference for multi-colored lights for the tree. White lights will be purchased for the fence, barn railing.

Mr. Foster asked how long the lights will stay up. Ms. Tomlinson suggested January 1. Jerry Flaherty, who attended with the boy scouts, suggested a yearly trimming of the tree will help maintain its shape.

The scouts in attendance inquired about an inclement weather plan. Mr. Dennin advised that the barn at Upland Farms will be used if it rains or snows.

The group discussed marketing strategies and determined that a Facebook event would help gauge potential attendance. Other outreach will include specific communication to the adjacent neighborhoods, yard signs, and promotion on the electronic signboards.

New Business

PECO Green Region Grant

Ms. Lodge provided the group with information about the PECO Green Region Grant, suggesting that the Township could apply for funding through this program to pay for signage at Upland Farms. Mr. Dennin and Mr. Foster will further explore signage possibilities. Ms. Tomlinson suggested regional input i.e., from Uwchlan Township, the County, could inform signage choices.

Trail Mapping

Mr. Dennin suggested that mapping trails will increase awareness of and use of trails. Mr. Dennin also expressed a desire for developers to connect trails at new subdivisions to the existing system. Ms. Tomlinson will contact the Township planning consultant about joining future meeting to discuss trail mapping.

Upland Farms Update

Ms. Lodge provided an update about the Barn at Upland Farms, highlighting electrical, fire safety, and egress improvements. Ms. Tomlinson advised that the group should think long term for providing catering and suggested contacting the contractor who handles events at Springfield Manor.

Committee Reports

Facilities - Mr. Lanzalotto reported on two maintenance issues at Hickory Park – garage handle, electrical outlets. He further reported that Marsh Creek Eagles youth football playoffs will be held at Fellowship Fields **October 28-29**.

Mr. Lanzalotto suggested that the Park and Rec Board consider running summer programs for local youth, e.g., 3 on 3 basketball tournaments at Hickory Park. Mr. Lanzalotto requested updates to the signage at Fellowship Fields. He also suggested recognizing UUT residents for academic achievements.

Upland Farms – Most updates had been covered earlier in the meeting. Ms. Subramanian reported observing drivers speeding through the Reserve at Eagle and other areas adjacent to Upland Farms.

Trails – Mr. Foster had provided the group with a list of suggestions, via email, of signage improvements that could be made to Upland Farms, both within and at entrances. Mr. Dennin suggested that the group obtain quotes for the various signage and make purchases with any funds remaining after the Holiday event.

Events

No Update

Connectivity – Ms. Tomlinson provided an update on the Struble Trail at the request of attendee and Upper Uwchlan resident Brett Boden.

Open Session

Mr. Dennin suggested that, to better interact with field users, the Township discount the field usage rate charged to GEYA Baseball. He suggested that the Township officially partner with GEYA. Mr. Lanzalotto noted that the Township spends considerable money – far above what is paid by field users – to both maintain and upgrade Hickory Park. Ms. Tomlinson noted that GEYA does not exclusively serve Upper Uwchlan residents, and noted that certain legalities prohibit the Township from entering into exclusive partnerships or contracts with youth organizations. Ms. Tomlinson suggested that one solution may be for the Township to begin offering other youth recreation programs specifically for Upper Uwchlan Township residents.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Park and Recreation Board will be held on November 16, 2017.

Adjournment

Ms. Subramanian moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Dennin seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,


Shanna Lodge

Park and Recreation Board Secretary

