



UPPER UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

March 15, 2018

Minutes

Board members Patrick Dennin, Christopher Foster, John McManus, Praveen Nadkarni, Sushila Subramanian and Cathy Tomlinson were present. Also present were Assistant Township Manager Shanna Lodge and Township Land Planning Consultant Sheila Fleming.

Call to Order

Ms. Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Minutes

Ms. Tomlinson called for a motion to approve the minutes of February 15. Ms. Subramanian moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Foster seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved without comment.

Old Business

Spring Event Planning

The group commenced a planning discussion for the upcoming spring event, an Easter Egg Hunt, to be held on March 31st at Upland Farms Park at 10 am. The Park and Rec Board members will arrive at 9 am on the date of the event to set up.

Ms. Subramanian distributed flyers for the event for the Board to share. Ms. Lodge confirmed that the Township has purchased supplies for the event including the following: candy filled plastic eggs, crayons, sidewalk chalk, and stickers. Coloring sheets will also be printed for the event. The Public Works department made large signs for the event shaped like a bunny and a chick. The Chester County Food Bank is pleased to accept food donations from the event.

The group discussed event logistics, including the best location for the hunting areas. Mr. Nadkarni and Ms. Tomlinson confirmed that local students from Shamona Creek Elementary School have offered to volunteer with the event. Ms. Lodge offered to find out if there are any t-shirts left over from past Block Parties that could be worn by the Board at the event to make them identifiable.

Hickory Park Playground Planning

Mr. Lanzalotto, Ms. Lodge, and Kyle Ripka from the Township Public Works Department met with Paul Grim, a sales representative from Boyce Associates Playgrounds, to discuss playground design options. Ms. Lodge provided an update from this meeting.

Mr. Foster and Mr. Dennin inquired about moving the playground to the other side of Field 1 at Hickory Park. Mr. Dennin further proposed that one of the open grass areas could be converted into a small whiffle/tee-ball diamond. Ms. Lodge will explore the feasibility of these suggestions.

New Business

Planning Discussion – Ms. Tomlinson updated the Board that the Conditional Use hearing regarding the Struble Trail extension into Marsh Creek State Park that had been scheduled for March 2018 was postponed to a date to be determined.

Ms. Sheila Fleming, Upper Uwchlan Township Land Planning Consultant, led the Board in a discussion of trail planning. Ms. Fleming pointed out - on the Trail Network Master Plan - the center loop trail, a planned multi-use trail that roughly encircles the center of the Township.

The consensus of the group was to focus efforts on the following: First, to identify the remaining gaps in this center loop trail; second, to request funding from the Board of Supervisors to engineer plans for the gaps; and finally, to work toward applying for grants and pursue other funding to complete those trail sections. Ms. Fleming noted that the next significant grant round will have an April 2019 deadline. Ms. Tomlinson noted that it may be possible to leverage both trail/recreation funding as well as transportation funding. In addition to the gaps in the center loop trail, the group identified the Struble Trail extension into Marsh Creek State Park (and eventual connection to the Park Road Trail on the east side of the Lake), and a connection from the Windsor Ridge development to existing trails as priorities.

Mr. Dennin inquired about the inclusion of trails in land development plans. Ms. Lodge offered to contact the Planning Commission for information about trails included in developments that are in-progress.

To provide a larger perspective, Ms. Fleming showed the Board the Concept Map for the Brandywine Creek Greenway (BCG), which includes a large part of Upper Uwchlan and names the Village of Eagle as a “destination point.” Ms. Fleming will email Ms. Lodge a copy of the BGC Action Plan for Upper Uwchlan Township for distribution to the Board.

The group discussed the best ways to publicize the trail network goals. Ms. Tomlinson noted that the Township website could more prominently feature the trail network goals. Mr. Foster suggested that a handout be created for the group’s Block Party booth.

Committee Reports

Facilities – Ms. Lodge reported that the sign for Fellowship Fields is completed and will be installed soon.

Upland Farms – Ms. Subramanian reiterated the need for trail enhancements such as signage and additional seating space. Ms. Lodge will check to see when the PECO Green Region grants are expected to be awarded. Ms. Tomlinson noted that the newest picnic tables at Shamona Creek Elementary are good quality and that the Township could purchase something similar.

Trails – No further update.

Events – No further update.

Regional Connections – No further update.

DARC – Mr. Nadkarni offered an update from the most recent meeting of the DARC Board. He noted that Upper Uwchlan Township contributes \$4,000 annually to be part of the Consortium. Municipal contributions enable DARC to offer programming, and this programming is offered to residents of member municipalities at a discounted rate. Mr. Nadkarni announced that the Spring/Summer 2018 program catalog is finished; he distributed to catalog to Park and Rec Board members via email.

Mr. Nadkarni acknowledged that DARC programs might be more desirable for UUT residents if the programs were held closer to the Township. He reported that the DARC director, Vince Visoskas, is interested in hosting programming at the Barn at Upland Farms. Ms. Lodge will get in touch with Mr. Visoskas about scheduling use of the Barn.

Open Session

Flag Retirement – Ms. Lodge suggested the group select a date for the Flag Retirement. The group preferred May 26, 2018. Ms. Lodge will check with the local resident who has led the event in the past to see if this date works.

Upland Farms Barn Renovation – Ms. Tomlinson reminded the group that Brett Hand, Chair of the Township Historic Commission, will be attending the Park and Rec Board's April meeting for a discussion of the Upland Farms Barn. Ms. Tomlinson suggested partnering with a local caterer, such as Montesano Brothers, for service to those who rent the Barn for events. Ms. Lodge noted that she has talked to County personnel about the caterers and vendors who supply the County venues, and has acquired information about a Request for Proposals for those kinds of services. Mr. McManus suggested a “*Dîner en Blanc*” style fundraiser would be a way to raise funds for the Barn.

Mr. Nadkarni reported that he attended the Chester County Planning Commission Public Meeting regarding Landscapes3 on March 6th. A part of the discussion touched on the vision for Graphite Mine Road and upcoming conversations between Chester County and PennDOT about the re-designation of Route 100. Mr. Nadkarni recommended that Upper Uwchlan Township be represented at those meetings.

Mr. Nadkarni also shared an idea from the Landscapes3 meeting: to support local agriculture through a Farmers' Market. Mr. Dennin suggested that Upland Farms would be an ideal place to locate such an event.

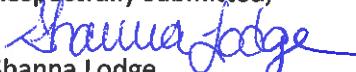
Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Park and Recreation Board will be held on April 19, 2018.

Adjournment

Mr. Dennin moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Subramanian seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Shanna Lodge

Park and Recreation Board Secretary