

UPPER UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

May 16, 2019
Hickory Park Pavilion
Minutes

Board members Christopher Foster, Lou Lanzalotto, Praveen Nadkarni, Sushila Subramanian and Cathy Tomlinson were present. Also present was Assistant Township Manager Shanna Lodge.

Call to Order

Ms. Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Minutes

Mr. Lanzalotto moved to approve the minutes of March 21. Ms. Subramanian seconded the motion. The minutes were approved without edit or comment.

Old Business

Playground Ribbon Cutting and Easter Egg Hunt – The group reviewed a summary of the event compiled by Ms. Lodge. It was the consensus of the group that the event went very well, despite the cloudy weather and wet ground. A discussion of ways to improve the event included: streamlining the check-in process, adjusting signage, and getting more noticeable shirts and/or hats for the PRB to wear. Ms. Lodge will update the summary with the additional notes from the Board.

Lighting Improvements at Hickory Park – Ms. Tomlinson noted that these projects are on hold until the Township Building renovation is complete. Mr. Lanzalotto requested that the Board of Supervisors be made aware that this is a project on the horizon. Ms. Lodge noted that this was included in the PRB's annual report presented to the Supervisors.

Mr. Lanzalotto further noted that improvements to athletic facility lights will have to be accompanied by improvements to parking lot and entrance lighting, since they will bring people to the parks after dark.

Ms. Lodge reviewed the rough quotes that the various lighting projects, but noted that they are outdated, and that the true cost of the projects will likely be much higher. Ms. Subramanian noted that the basketball fields and tennis courts should be considered in addition to any improvements at the ballfields. Ms. Lodge noted that these two are in the budget for 2019.

New Business

2019 Block Party - The annual Township Block Party will be held on June 15, 2019. The group affirmed Ms. Tomlinson's suggestion of sunglasses as a giveaway for the Park and Recreation table. Ms. Lodge noted that she has purchased a canopy for the table per the PRB's request. The group reviewed mock-ups of trail maps that will be handed out. Mr. Nadkarni suggested that a QR code be added to the map to take the reader to a digital version. Mr. Foster suggested that the future extension of the Park Road Trail and Eagle Crossroads park be added to the map.

Ms. Tomlinson suggested that a large sign or banner be purchased directing passersby to the Park and Rec table. Mr. Foster suggested that the table also feature a poster with details about the Township parks and trails and their amenities, as well as the events and initiatives of the Park and Rec Board.

The members of the Park and Rec Board offered to volunteer with event set up as well as staff the PRB booth at the Block Party.

Committee Reports

Facilities – Mr. Lanzaletto reviewed a few previously mentioned items for Fellowship Fields. He noted further that another project he believes should be on the horizon for Hickory Park is a replacement of the dugouts.

Upland Farms – Ms. Lodge noted that staff will soon be reviewing update architectural plans and making phasing decisions based upon the recommendations of the Board of Supervisors per the input of the PRB.

Trails – Ms. Lodge noted that the Park Road Trail construction continues on schedule. Mr. Lanzaletto praised the work of the contractor and flagger team, who are doing a great job directing traffic in the area. Ms. Tomlinson noted that at the recent joint Boards and Commissions meeting, she emphasized to the Board of Supervisors the need to connect Windsor Ridge to the existing trail system.

Events – No further update.

Regional Trail Planning – No further update.

DARC – Mr. Nadkarni noted that DARC had a great camp fair at Hickory Park, and that he continues his efforts to encourage more DARC programming in the northern area toward UUT. Ms. Tomlinson noted that she has emphasized to the Supervisors that classroom space at the Upland Barn will make this possible. Mr. Nadkarni noted that a grant-funded strategic planning initiative is underway at DARC. A discussion of DARC's programming for youth and adults followed.

Open Session

A local resident who was at the pavilion with her child inquired about safety in the parking lot at Hickory in the vicinity of the playground, requesting that additional "slow, children at play" signage be added. The Board noted that fencing is planned to be added along the playground, which pleased the inquiring resident.

Ms. Subramanian advocated for an additional event/program to plant trees throughout the Township, noting that the United States lags behind other nations in terms of trees per capita. Ms. Tomlinson suggested that this could be accomplished by partnering with the Brandywine Conservancy.

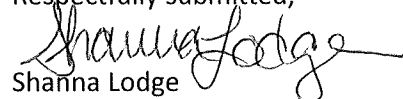
Next Meeting

The Board elected to cancel their June meeting. The group decided that their July meeting should be held at Fellowship Fields.

Adjournment

Mr. Nadkarni moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Subramanian seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna Lodge

Park and Recreation Board Secretary