

UPPER MERION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 9th, 2021

7:30 PM

Attendees: Mike Trachtenberg, Mary Ann Ahearn, Paul Salamy, Deena Newman, Neil Sardiñas, Dana Augustine, Dan Russell & Tina Garzillo

Guest: Jack Fox, Colleen Bullock, Susan Shelton, & David Craig

1. The Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of the January 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes – APPROVED 4-0.

3. Guests

- Jack Fox, Colleen Bullock, Kim Bullock, Susan Shelton, & Bill Lehner
- Dave Craig
 - Would like to suggest an ordinance for money to be put aside for trees to be replanted.
 - Would like another ordinance to have residents be notified through certified mail and have the residents gather to discuss and be more included in the decisions.
 - Tina noted it wouldn't necessarily have to be an ordinance and more of a budget discussion regarding trees and that the mailing issue will be addressed but is more of an administrative issue. This change has already been made.

4. Board of Supervisor's Report-Tina Garzillo

- Covered Bridge update
 - 15 trees have been secured for around the bridge area on Cover Bridge Road. They plan to walk through and map out where the trees should go.
 - The property on General Knox has some large trees that may be able to be relocated.
 - Able to change the slope for the bridge by a 1 degree change.
 - A crosswalk was moved to the intersection of Caley and Covered Bridge from the bridge.
- The Chester Valley Trail by Ross Rd in Bridgeport by Kabuki on 202 has now been cut.
- The diner at Valley Forge Shopping Center has an opening date May 3rd.
- Metal stake by Township Park has been removed.

5. Park & Recreation Director's Report-Dan Russell

- Bob White will have additional ADA construction completed in the spring.
- Staff is working hard on summer camp planning and how to incorporate COVID procedures.
 - Hopeful that the school district will allow the use of their schools this summer.

- Spoke to the school district about the use of our parks for their sports programs. Currently spring sports are being pushed to a March 22 start. They plan to use Heuser Park and Walker Park.
- The Schuylkill River West Trail connection will move forward after talks with Norfolk Southern.
- Community Center
 - Despite weather challenges, closures, and delay openings, the community center going well.
 - Unfortunately, there is a group of individuals who were refusing to wear masks. Three individuals had their memberships terminated after repeated offense. Police were involved.
- No community day or 4th of July this year due to budget and Covid concerns. It was discussed that it would be important to consider some type of community events/activities to bring a sense of community back. Our board should be involved in this project.

6. New Business

7. Old Business

8. Community Center Complex Advisory Board Report- Paul Salamy

- Increase in membership this past month.
- New classes being offered which is increasing membership.
- Pool feasibility study was received well. Not moving forward anytime soon.
- Crow Creek Trail behind the pool changed some of the previous privacy to the pool. Talks to maybe get some fundraising to add some greenery and add privacy.

9. Additional comments

Adjournment: 8:40PM

Kindly Submitted
Deena Newman