

Upper Merion Park & Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes March 12, 2024

Attendees: Mike Trachtenberg, Paul Salamy, Neil Sardiñas, Mary Ann Ahearn, Kyle Marchese, Tina Garzillo, Kathy Garro, Heather Melck for Dan Russell, Jerry Recupido

Absent: Holly Meade, Mark Vondra, Dan Russell

Guests: Vytas Masalaitis, Josie Walmuth

1. Approved meeting minutes 02/13/2024
2. Comments from Chairperson, Mike Trachtenberg.
 - a. Guest Josie Walmuth inquired about the status of the kiosk for Sweetbriar Park. It is an Eagle Scout Project. Inquiry directed to Dan Russell upon his return from a conference.
 - b. Park Evaluation schedule will be available via email.
 - c. Earth Day and Recycling events to occur in April.
3. Board of Supervisor Report - Tina Garzillo
 - a. Women's History Month is currently being celebrated
 - b. Township Staff is attending a conference in State College
 - c. Twelve new firefighters/emts will begin on Wednesday 3/13. Salaries will be funded for three years by grant.
 - d. Advocacy Breakfast occurred with the local and county officials in conjunction with VF Tourism Bureau.
 - e. Solar Eclipse will occur on April 8th. McKaig Nature Center has activities planned.
 - f. Township Director of Finance has resigned.
 - g. KOP BID gave a presentation about Renaissance park.
 - h. Township is updating ordinances.
 - i. Joining Breakfast between Board of Supervisors and Chairs of Citizen Boards will occur. Topics to include are Township Comprehensive Plan and Friends of the Farmers Market
 - j. KOP BID annual report due in the end of March.
 - k. Primary election day is on 4/23/24.
 - l. There are sinkholes on 202 in front of the Hobby Lobby being worked on.
 - m. NorView Farms. Discussion about the replacement of tents used for the Farmers Market and possible future additions to the site.
4. Park&Rec Director Report - Heather Melck for Dan Russel
 - a. Earthh Day Festival will be on Saturday, 4/20, from 11am to 2pm, at the Township Building Park

- b. Recycling Event will be on Sunday, 4/21 from 11am to 2pm at the UM Middle School.
 - c. Concert Under the Stars 38th season was announced.
 - d. Penndot will begin work on I76, near Bob White Park, for drainage easement.
 - e. DCNR Grant to be submitted for the Master Site Development Plan of Heuser Phase 2.
 - f. UM Community Center survey is out. Over 800 responses so far.
 - g. Adventure Day Camp is full. Sites to be determined by the school district.
 - h. Staff for both ADC and the pool have been filled.
 - i. Pool has 1800 members so far and will be open to non-residents on May 1st.
5. Park Maintenance Department - Jerry Recupido.
- a. Heuser Tac House painted
 - b. Flag pole to be placed in Volpi Commons
 - c. Tree planted in Kingwood Park in honor of retiring employee
 - d. Maintenance of ball fields ongoing
 - e. Playground maintenance ongoing
 - f. Wood carpet for parks ongoing
 - g. New picnic table placed
6. Community Center Advisory
- a. Survey has been released.
 - b. Passholders and usage continue to rise.
 - c. A request was made for heavy bags in the LAR.
7. BCA Grant Submission for historical markers ongoing
8. New Business - request to address traffic flow issues at Norview Farm.
9. Adjournment 8:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Garro
Secretary
UM P&R Advisory Board