

Upper Merion Park & Recreation Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes October 8, 2024

Attendees: Mike Trachtenberg, Paul Salamy, Kathy Garro, Dan Russell, Holly Meade, Tina Garzillo and Mark Vondra

Absent: Neil Sardiñas, MaryAnn Ahearn and Jerry Recupido

Guests: Josie Walmuth

1. Approved meeting minutes 09/10/24
2. Comments from the Chairperson - Mike Trachtenberg
  - a. Four of the six historical trail marker signs have been approved. Installation date pending completion of all signs.
3. Chairperson Board of Supervisors - Tina Garzillo
  - a. Ribbon cutting on the 1st Ave. Linear Park will occur on Thursday, October 10th at 4:30 pm.
  - b. Fall Fest will occur at Norview Farms on Saturday, October 12th, where the new mural of the milk truck will be presented.
  - c. Fall Fest days at Norview will be October 12th, 19th and 26th from 10 am to 6 pm.
  - d. The opening for Eataly in the mall should happen in the fall of 2025. The Netflix House is scheduled to open in 2026 (demo has begun). Trader Joe's in the old Bed, Bath and Beyond site, is scheduled to open in November 2024.
  - e. Friday night Markets will be held at Norview Farms on October 11, 18 and 25, from 6 to 9 pm. There will be a beer garden.
  - f. Township budget process is ongoing.
4. Park & Rec Director Report - Dan Russell
  - a. The 2025 budget process is ongoing.
  - b. The Community Fair was held at Heuser Park on 10/5/24. Adjustments for next year's event are underway.
  - c. Community Center is undergoing a business plan analysis update by Ballard King & Associates. Draft report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors.
  - d. Eagle Scout project for Sweetbriar Park kiosk is back on.
  - e. P&R has developed a new fall program for youth travel basketball teams..
5. Community Center Advisory - Paul Salamy
  - a. Membership and usage has been stable.
  - b. Student representative on the board has been appointed - Sidney Marchese.
  - c. Community Center received a \$6000 grant from the BCA to reinstate a Child Watch program at the center beginning this fall.

6. Guest - Josie Walmuth - requests that benches and trash cans be added to the Covered Bridge Road entrance to Sweetbriar Park. And a thank you to Tina Garzillo for addressing the deer situation in the township.
  
7. New Business - Jared Lash - Township Planner.
  - a. New Township Comprehensive Plan is beginning. Open House dates to invite citizen input are November 7, 2024 at the Senior Center from 1 - 3:30 pm and November 21, 2024, from 6 to 9 pm, in Freedom Hall at the Township Building.
  - b. Paul Salamy would like to spread the word that Honor Flights, a veterans group, will host a trip to Washington DC, on May 17th, 2025. This is at no cost to the veteran. The organization is looking for interested veterans, volunteers and donations.
  
8. Adjournment 9:21 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Garro  
Secretary  
UM P&R Advisory Board