

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

Attendees: Mike Trachtenberg, Paul Salamy, Kathy Garro, Dan Russell, Holly Meade, Tina Garzillo, Mark Vondra, Neil Sardiñas, MaryAnn Ahearn

Absent: Jerry Recupido

Guests: Kelly Snizavich and Vyfas Masalaitis

1. Approved meeting minutes 10/8/24
2. Comments from the Chairperson - Mike Trachtenberg
 - a. The P&R board will develop a list of questions for the RFP for Heuser II project.
3. Chairperson Board of Supervisors - Tina Garzillo
 - a. DCNR grant, in the amount of \$75,000 was awarded to the township for the design phase of Heuser II.
 - b. A donation in the amount of \$2,000 was given to First Responders in honor of First Responder Appreciation Week.
 - c. Farmers Market Chili Cook Off will be held on 11/23/24 at Norview Farms.
 - d. The deer culling project is ongoing with a total of 21 deer removed thus far. The project will continue through the PA deer hunting season.
 - e. Leaf pickup by the township began last week.
 - f. CAST will host a Turkey Trot at the UMAHS field on 11/13/24 from 2:30 to 4:30. Proceeds will be directed to the Community Cupboard.
 - g. Comprehensive Plan Open House will be held in Freedom Hall, UM Township Building, on 11/21/24 from 6 to 9 pm. All residents are encouraged to attend.
 - h. Township budget will be posted by the Board of Supervisors this week.
 - i. No update is yet available for the tennis courts at Walker Field.
4. Park & Rec Director Report - Dan Russell
 - a. Fall programming is underway and the Winter Activity Guide will be out soon.
 - b. The Holiday Village event will be held at the UM Township Building parking lot on 12/7/24 from 12 to 3 pm.
 - c. The Executive Estates Park court resurfacing has been completed.
 - d. The 2025 budget has been sent to the Board of Supervisors.
5. Community Center Advisory - Paul Salamy
 - a. Membership and usage has gone down slightly.
 - b. Community Center received a \$6000 grant from the BCA to reinstate a Child Watch program. Program is available on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 4 to 7:15 pm.
 - c. The Guest Pass policy is being revised to members 18 and older.

- d. The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce has declined the offer to place a trail sign in front of their building outlining the historical significance of the building.
6. Guest - Kelly Snizavich, President, King of Prussia Soccer Club. The club is grateful that Baxter Field will remain for use by the club. They are interested in gaining additional fields as their program has grown and existing space is limited. In addition, all the available fields are in constant use and there is no time to reseed and provide adequate field maintenance. They are interested in Bob Case park as a possible site. Kelly will work with Dan Russell to explore how Bob Case could be a viable use for the club.
7. New Business - Vytas Masalaitis, McKaig Nature Center Ranger, has two events coming up. On Friday, November 15th, a moonlight walk through McKaig will be held beginning at 7 pm. And, on December, 13, 2024, there will be a meteor shower viewing party.
8. Adjournment 9:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Garro
Secretary
UM P&R Advisory Board