

UPPER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 12, 2018

Minutes

7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Rob Nagele	Chairperson
John Murray	Vice-Chairperson
Danielle Dvorchak	Secretary
Mike Zumpino	Member
Kathleen Dooley	Member
Matt Duardo	Member
Kathleen Johnson	Member
Meredith Ziembra	Member
Amy Juarez	Member
Clare Edelmayer	Resident
Emily Croke	Park & Rec Program Coordinator
Alex Kaker	Director of Parks & Recreation

Amy Juarez was introduced as a new member of the Park & Recreation Advisory Board. Mr. Nagel noted that Mrs. Juarez has volunteered her time to assist with the carnival and bag bingo events in the past.

Mr. Nagel read a proclamation highlighting former Commissioner Mrs. Edelmayer's accomplishments and thanking her for her nearly 40 years of public service. Mr. Zumpino added that Mrs. Edelmayer's thumbprint can be seen everywhere in the Township's Parks & Recreation department and residents are indebted to her for her efforts. A group photo was taken, and Mrs. Edelmayer was presented with a plaque.

2. Approval of Minutes from the meeting held on January 8, 2018.

Mr. Nagele asked for any questions and corrections relative to the meeting minutes of January 8, 2018. Mr. Murray made a motion to approve the January 8, 2018 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zumpino and it passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments

None

4. Old Business

A. Pickleball Courts (Lighting)

Mr. Kaker gave an update on the pickleball court lighting project. The project is currently open for bids and will close on March 20th.

B. Community Center

Mrs. Edelmayer and Mr. Kaker gave a summary timeline of the process Upper Gwynedd Township has gone through over the last 10 years in relation to possibly expanding the existing community building to exploring the idea of building a new facility. Mr. Kaker then presented to the Advisory Board the schematic design and 3D renderings resulting from the Needs Assessment Committee's (NAC) meetings with the architectural firm, Buell Kratzer Powell (BKP). The NAC concluded that the most desirable location on Parkside Place complex for a facility would be the land between Sumneytown Pike and the police carport. While there are trees located in that area, many are ash trees and are dying/have already died due to the emerald ash borer. New trees would be proposed to be planted around the complex. The proposed facility includes the following major features requested in the community survey: a walking track, fitness room (yoga classes), gymnasium, turf field, party room for rentals, and a classroom. Additional spaces included are offices, a meeting room, restrooms, a lobby area, and storage. A patio area was added to the rear of building that could be used for rentals and/or programming. The facility as currently designed is approximately 37,000 sq. ft and includes spectator viewing both on the same level as the gymnasiums as well as above them. No "workout rooms" with treadmills/weight lifting equipment is proposed as to not conflict with nearby facilities providing a similar service. The next step is to create a business plan and discuss options with the Board of Commissioners.

C. Holiday Lights

Ms. Croke suggested planting a live 8' pine tree near the pavilion to use as the focal point for the event. Ms. Croke is working on getting quotes for purchase and installation of the tree. The first Friday of December was proposed for the date of the event. Mr. Zumpino asked what kinds of lights would be purchased and Ms. Croke replied that they would LED lights, which will last longer. Mrs. Juarez asked if the Township would look locally to purchase the tree and knows someone at Meadowbrook Farms that may be able to assist. Mrs. Dooley recommended a slow growing tree, like the Blue Spruce.

5. New Business

A. Earth Day

Ms. Croke explained the Township will be planting 11 trees at Garfield Park on Friday, April 20th. Mr. Kaker noted a path will be constructed from the sidewalks

to the playground on both sides of the playground. Strollers and bikes will no longer have to go through the grass to get to the playground. Volunteers from Merck and ReSawn Timber will be assisting with the tree planting. Pennbrook Middle School also holds their day-of-service and will be cleaning up around Parkside Place Park.

B. Save the Date – Volunteers Needed

Mr. Kaker requested volunteers for the following events:

- a. Night Sky Campout – July 6
- b. Carnival – Thursday through Sunday, September 6 – 9
- c. Fall Fest – October 20
- d. Galentine’s Day Designer Bag Bingo – November 2

C. Trails/Master Plan

Mr. Kaker will be meeting with Christine Hart (North Wales Borough Manger) to discuss some options for improving the trail system in Upper Gwynedd and will report back to the Advisory Board in May.

D. Branding

Mr. Kaker noted that Commissioner Duffy is interested in starting a branding campaign for the Township and looking for ideas on how promote that we are “Upper Gwynedd Township” not Lansdale, North Wales, etc. A discussion was had about the history of the Township attempting to change all mailing addresses to Upper Gwynedd. “Homework” was given to the Board to bring their ideas on how to brand the Township at the May meeting.

6. Other Business

Mr. Nagel mentioned he had a picture from years ago when the main field at Parkside Place was all muddy and inquired when the field was updated to its current state. Mrs. Edelmayer thought it was around 1995/1996. Mr. Nagel noted this was another feather in Mrs. Edelmayer’s cap.

7. Call for Adjournment (next meeting – Monday, May 14)

Mr. Nagele asked for any further questions or comments. Upon hearing none, Mr. Murray motioned for adjournment. Mrs. Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.