

## **PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

### **UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP**

### **PARKS & RECREATION BOARD**

**Thursday, March 2, 2023**

**7:30 PM**

**Members Present** - Joe Sena, Ryan McQuade, Tim Shuler, Sylvie MacKenzie, George Plotts, Mike Gress. Don Vymazal and Kevin Else also attended.

**Call to Order** - Joe Sena – 7:35 pm

**Announcements** – N/A

**Public Forum**- N/A

**Prior Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Mike to approve prior Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Joe and Tim.

**Old Business** – Correction on the Meeting Minutes. Don advised that there was an error regarding the permit application fees. He advised that there is indeed a fee. Fee information is available through the Township.

### **New Business/Public Comment** –

- **Rose Tree Soccer Club** – Members of the RTSC Board were on hand to discuss details of Cherry Street Park and their involvement in it's upkeep and maintenance. Attendees were President Jeff Arbogast, Treasurer Jeff Patti, and Head of Coaching Fred Potts. The annual cost for field maintenance is approximately \$40,000-\$50,000 annually. This cost includes water usage, seeding, aeration, mowing, and up keep of the 3 designated fields. Township maintains the sprinkler system and the clubhouse, as well as the playground. RTSC has been adhering to the field guidelines that were set by the UP Rec Board in 2017. Ryan noted that he can attest that the RTSC staff has done a great job having it's coaching staffs adhere to the field and time guidelines instituted by the Rec Board. George asked if there were any other field locations that RTSC was trying to utilize for soccer. Jeff and Fred advised that field resources in the area are scarce. RTSC also uses Sleighton Park, Springton Lake and are hoping to utilize Smedley Park.
- **Saint Mary Magdalen**– SMM has submitted a permit application for Cherry Street Park. The application is for soccer after school. In the past, RTSC and SMM have worked together to share the fields and not infringe on allotted times. George suggested the permitted time for SMM should be amended to 5:30pm, a half hour earlier than the requested 6:00pm end time. This would allow for a half hour buffer between the end of SMM activities and the beginning of RTSC activities. Motion to approve permit application, as amended, by Tim, seconded by Mike and Sylvie. Amended permit was approved for recommendation to Council 6-0.
- **Media Little League** – MLL has sent in a request for an Upper Providence Field sign ad. George advised that the sign renewal fee is \$250. Ryan made a motion to approve the sign renewal, seconded by Mike. Field sign request was approved for recommendation

to Council 6-0. There was also a request for the Township Police to sponsor a team. Joe felt that MLL should resubmit their request for a team sponsorship, as there was confusion as to what MLL was requesting from the Board. Don offered to go back to MLL and get more clarity on the team request. Team sponsorship request was tabled pending further information.

- **PA Recreation and Park Society** – Joe had a discussion with our area representative about the UP Recreation Board becoming a member of the society. There is a \$20/person licensing fee. Joe feels it would be a good idea to get involved. There area lot of resources and benefits that would be available to the Board members as members of the PA Rec and Park Society.
- **Environmental Society Mineral Hill** – Proposal to develop a plan to revitalize the Mineral Hill area within Lou Scott Park. Don is working with the Environmental Commission to learn more about the plans of the redevelopment and the role of the UP Rec Board. More information to follow.
- **Liaison to Community Board Planning** – Sylvie attended the meeting. She advised it was a very productive meeting. The date of Community Day has been moved to September 23. Currently, the Community Board is raising funds through sponsorships. Sponsorship fees will be higher this year. There has been a very large and encouraging response from the Community. There will be a UP Rec Board booth to interact with the Community members. Discussed what we could offer at the booth, Lottery, frisbees, raffle, etc..
- **Youth Engagement** - Sylvie and other members would like to see more youth engagement within the community activities. Try to have more high school kids involved in Community Day, organize an Easter Egg hunt. The Rec Board will be looking for ways to get youth more involved in the community.
- **Budget Brainstorming** – Rec Board discussed roles and responsibilities regarding the budget and budget planning. Council requested a recommended budget proposal for 2023. Current budget is \$3,000. Typical annual requests to the Rec Board are \$500 from AM Prom Party, \$1,000 for UP Seniors, \$250 for the MLL fence ad, and \$200 for the Rose-Tree Elementary Strawberry Festival. Joe to draft recommended budget proposal and deliver to Council at their next meeting.
- **Summer Camp** – Don is still working on the details of the summer camp. Question of whether the Rec Board would be willing to utilize available funds from the budget to put towards camp scholarships. Board members were open to this proposal and supportive of including it in the Budget recommendation for 2023.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tim at 8:45, seconded by Adam. Next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, April 6, at 7:30pm. Meeting minutes recorded by Ryan McQuade.