



Upper Mount Bethel Township

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UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP PARKS/RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024 – 7 PM

PART I

Stavros Barbounis called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present were, Stavros Barbounis, Sharon Cerny, April Pinto, Anthony DeFranco, and Manager Graziano. Karyn Pinter was absent. Also in attendance was Joann Dentith (Volleyball).

PART II (Parks & Recreation Board Administration) (Annual Re-Organization)

1. Approval of Agenda-**MOTION** by April to approve the agenda, seconded by April. Vote: 4-0.
2. Appoint Chairperson-**MOTION** by Anthony to appoint Stavros Barbounis Chairperson of the ParksRec Board, seconded by April. Vote: 4-0.
3. Appoint Vice Chairperson-**MOTION** by April to appoint Anthony DeFranco Vice Chairperson of the ParksRec Board, seconded by Sharon. Vote: 4-0.
4. Appoint Secretary-**MOTION** by Anthony to appoint Sharon Cerny Secretary of the ParksRec Board, seconded by April. Vote: 4-0.
5. Appoint Treasurer-**MOTION** by Stavros to appoint April Pinto Treasurer of the ParksRec Board, seconded by Anthony. Vote: 4-0.
6. Appoint Standing Committee Members
 - a. Committee on Finance- April Pinto and Stavros Barbounis
 - b. Committee on Buildings and Grounds-Sharon Cerny and Stavros Barbounis
 - c. Committee on Programs-Karyn Pinter and Stavros Barbounis.
 - d. Committee on Personnel-Anthony DeFranco and Stavros Barbounis
7. Set regular meeting date and time-Stavros stated that the meetings will be the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Township Municipal Building.
8. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 12, 2023-**MOTION** by Anthony to approve the October 12, 2023, meeting minutes, seconded by April. Vote: 4-0.

PART III

1. Announcements-Happy New Year
2. Governance
 - a. Correspondence-Stavros stated that any email communication outside of the ParksRec Board to sports programs, donors, vendors, etc, outside of events, to please include Stavros in the email, especially when it comes to receipts/payments/donations.
 - b. Separation of duties-Stavros stated that when it comes to the standing committees that you are on, he is asking everyone to take the lead.
 - c. Fields & Facilities fee schedule-Stavros stated this was previously discussed that for non-umbt sanctioned sports programs, leasing of fields fees, Karyn was reaching out to neighboring municipalities to find out what they do and charge. Sharon asked about the pavilion, those fees have already been defined. April stated that she received a call from Bangor Soccer, and they would like to hold a soccer clinic and would like to book the pavilion. April will be working on building the reservation calendar. Dates for Bangor Soccer Clinic, May 4th, 8-1, followed by the parents meeting and picnic. There is no charge to school. Other dates, August 5th or 7th.
3. Recreation Fund & Budget
 - a. 2024 Budget-Stavros stated he worked with Nick and the budget is in.
 - b. Rec Fund Balance-Stavros does not have that tonight.
 - c. Revenue/Expenses Reporting- Stavros stated that whatever is approved via email, he will be reporting it at the meeting.
4. Sports & Recreation
 - a. UMBT Softball-There was a discussion on the Code of Conduct, due to issues that occurred last year. The parent will need to sign at the time of registration. April stated that there are three different registrations; pre-k – 2nd grade, 3rd and 4th grade, and 5th grade on up and the student will have a section where they will have to agree and sign the Code of Conduct, as well as the parent. Emily will be having a coach meeting to go over all the changes. Senior league 9th grade and above. Cindy will send the Code of Conduct to Solicitor Karasek to review. Registration opens January 23rd, practices start mid-March, and the season starts April. Early registration-2/23-2/10, for a reduced price, pre-k – 2nd grade \$70, 3rd grade an up \$75, after 2/10 is considered a late registration with an additional fee of \$10. Registration ends 3/9. Beginning balance is \$1,820.33.
 - b. UMBT Field Hockey-April stated the beginning balance is \$3,909.71. Emily stated they had another great season, 87 players (kindergarten-6th grade), 20 coaches, 9 teams, and ended the season with 26 wins, 28 loses and 4 ties. Emily talked about the first gear sale that brought in almost \$400 and the fan apparel sale brought in \$255. Tentative registration date opens 5/1, cap of 75 players, then a wait list,

registration will close 6/15. Emily stated she would like to keep the registration fee at \$100. At some point they will need goalie gear and goal cages. Manager Graziano stated that this coming mowing season, we will probably be bidding out the mowing, so he asked Emily to keep in contact with him. No need to budget mowing or paint. Stavros stated that he was approached about football using the park fields, practices only. He needs more details. There was a discussion on how to make everything fit, fields for field hockey, soccer, football. Emily would like to have a field hockey FB page; this would be a private group. Stavros will look this. There was also a discussion on CodeRed, setting up certain groups to receive general messages. Stavros would like Emily to send him pictures to be put on the website. Emily stated that the current Bangor Junior High field hockey team are the first group of girls that came through UMBT field hockey, and they had an undefeated season this year.

- c. UMBT Basketball-April stated their current balance is \$6,126.70, which includes \$330 outstanding registrations. There are 205 players registered. There is no cap on basketball, boys and girls.
- d. UMBT Winter Softball Clinics-Occurring every Monday night, free clinic held at LMBT.
- e. UMBT Volleyball-April stated the beginning balance for 2024 is \$252.93. Joann requested the registration fee to increase to \$16. Enrollment opens January 29th – February 26th. Season starts on March 11th. Age limit-16 by March 11th. There was a discussion on setting up a FB page for volleyball.

5. Park Development

a. 2024 Initiatives

- i. Park Pavilion-Stavros stated there one single quote of \$16,000 to finish the pavilion. Three quotes are needed because it is under the limit of \$21,300. It does not have to go out for bid. The scope of work includes all the fascia, soffits, and the entire ceiling being closed off. This work is holding up the installation of the cameras. We currently have a \$10,000 grant, which we have to match. Stavros and Anthony will draft the specs. Anthony stated to send specs out to Comunale, Chris Catino, and Adam Kluska.
- ii. Park Bathrooms-Manager Graziano stated that he met with Chairman Bermingham and Supervisor Friedman, who asked him to take the lead on the bathroom project, this doesn't mean that park/rec isn't going to involved, it has get completed this year. Manager Graziano stated he has meeting with Engineer Coyle to spec it out. Stavros stated the Post Foundation is willing to give more monies to the park to fund the bathroom plan as much as possible. Plans were previously done by Engineer Coyle, but it was later

determined (by ?) that the calf barn foundation was not structurally sound or safe to use, it would have to be torn down and built up. Stavros stated that Anthony had secured all the decorative block at no cost. There was a discussion on the septic for the bathrooms, to include the kitchen, not just the bathrooms.

- iii. Skate Park- Stavros stated that Ray Higgins approached him about a community skate park he saw. This skate park, located in Quakertown, is affiliated with the church there, the students/youth members of the church maintain the park. Part of the skate park is a community center that helps kids with their homework. Ray has already found ½ million dollars and he thinks he can find the other half. He would like the Board to consider this project. Manager Graziano's concern is the insurance/liability. Manager Graziano wanted to let the Board know that Supervisor Birmingham would also like to put a dog park in. The consensus was that the Board does not want a dog park.

b. Grants

This was previously discussed, but any grant opportunity that becomes available, let Stavros know.

6. Community Engagement

a. 2024 Event Planning

- i. Movie Nights-Stavros stated that movie nights are the least amount effort. April would like to table movie nights to the February meeting.
- ii. First Responders Picnic-Phenomenal event, schedule for Saturday, June 8th.
- iii. July 4th Fireworks-Our biggest event, schedule for July 6th with a rain date of July 7th.
- iv. Food Truck Festival/Craft Show-start planning now. There was a discussion about combining this event with a craft show and possibly Tricky Tray/Small Games of Chance. North Bangor has a small games of chance license. April will work on this. A raffle could be held as well. April will help with that; therefore, she will be working under North Bangor, not the Park. Schedule for August 24th.
- v. Harvest Festival-cancel Harvest Festival
- vi. Veterans Day-schedule for Saturday, November 9th
- vii. Christmas Pajama Party-cancel event, was not a well-attended event.

All events dates are tentatively scheduled. Everyone needs to check schedules. Stavros will work on flyers.

PART IV (Public Comment)

Anthony commented on the Board of Supervisors withdrawing the Mark Mezger/Community Park Foundation Lawsuit. The money was supposed to come to the Park, no one knows where the money went to. Anthony feels as though the Park Board should pick up the Lawsuit. Who would pay the legal fees? Maybe we could the legal fees donated.

Recording Secretary Cindy commented on the Township Newsletter and would like to have all event dates planned so that we could get them in the Newsletter, as well as Sports and Recreation happenings.

April commented on dog parks. If you have a dog and walk in public, it is your responsibility to clean up after the dog.

Manager Graziano commented on the speed radar signs throughout the Township. There is a cost to having the, do we need them. As well as other policies that would require someone to enforce them.

PART V (Adjournment)

MOTION by Anthony to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm, seconded by Sharon.
Vote: 4-0.