

**UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND
RECREATION BOARD Monthly Meeting
Minutes May 15th, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:

The monthly meeting for the Upper Macungie Township Recreation Board was held on Thursday, May 15th, 2025, at the UMT meeting room.

Recreation Board members present: *Matthew Bernard, Jaclyn Svetcov, Neeraj Sharma, Michael Sicinski, Wes Schlauch, and Gwen McCurdy*. Also present: *Recreation Manager Ryan Griffiths, Parks and Recreation Public Works Lead: Jim Soltis, and township residents Deb Soltis and Frank McDowell*.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

-Chairperson Matthew Bernard called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. He asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: none

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

-A motion was made by Michael to approve the April, 17th 2025 minutes, Neeraj seconded, all approved.

-Warm welcome to new rec board member Michael Sicinski

PUBLIC COMMENT: Frank McDowell, a township resident, spoke about the need for more attention paid to the tennis courts, especially the courts near Blue Barn. There are safety concerns with broken fencing, equipment that is in disrepair, and unserviceable entrance/exit gates, etc. There is a high level of interest at those particular courts with a group that plays organized games in the 3 tennis courts that are there at the park. Frank also presented a signed petition to have the concerns addressed by the township.

STAFF REPORTS:

-**Programming and Event Updates:** The Spring and Summer workshops and programs continue to grow this year with high levels of participation and interest. Lil' Athletics Summer sessions are full, as well as the Summer Camp program, and Zumba Spring II session. Grub & Groove at Grange has started on Thursdays from 5/15 through 9/25. The Luck of the Draw Pickleball tournament at Grange Park will occur on 5/17 with over 55 participants. The first Concert in the Park will be on Saturday 5/31 from 6-10 PM in Grange Park.

- **Recent Event Debrief:** The Kaybrook Ribbon cutting on Saturday 5/10 was a success and a lot of fun was had by all as we officially opened this newly updated playground.

OLD BUSINESS:

-**Lehigh Valley Cricket Club:** Meetings and walk-throughs have occurred between the Parks and Rec team and LV Cricket Club to come up with a game plan to move forward with the needs of the Cricket Club. A temporary location is being prepped and a future location is being investigated.

-**SPYA Projects:** The wall-ball project is moving forward with appropriate specifications and certifications that need to be conducted. The township is committed to making this a quality construction that can last for years to come. The sports lighting project is going through permitting and moving forward nicely as well.

-**Tennis Court Follow Up:** Preliminary meetings have occurred to look into the request for additional tennis court venues in the township and repair updates, specifically Apple Park. Inventory of our facilities have been conducted. Grant funding can be used to upgrade the tennis courts.

-**Hassen Creek Trail/Loop Marking:** Residents have expressed concerns about Hassen Creek Trail needing upgraded signage/tree markings. Ryan is investigating updates to the trail markers. More immediate updates will be made soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

-**Mobile Vendors in Parks:** We are running into an issue with mobile food vendors in our park facilities and it is becoming a safety and parking concern. Ryan opened a discussion with the board to see if members are interested in having the Recreation department look into creating some ordinances concerning this issue. After a discussion, the board feels that it would be wise to look into creating an ordinance to address future problems.

Matthew made a motion for the township to create an ordinance to address mobile vendors in the park. Wes seconded and all approved.

-**Design Standards:** Ryan wants to make updates to our parks moving forward that will make UMT Parks more identifiable in the future. He would like to get feedback from the board about any design decisions regarding signage, receptacles, pavilions, etc.

-**CPROSP Looking Forward:** There are only two more meetings that will take place to get to the adoption process for the Comprehensive Parks and Open-Space Plan. The July meeting will be the time that a plan will be adopted and residents are welcome to attend.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR:

-none

ADJOURNMENT:

-Jackie made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 pm, Wes seconded, all agreed.

-Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 19th, 2025, at 7:00PM at the Township building.

Matthew Bernard- Chair

April Navarra- Vice-Chair

Jaclyn Svetcov- Secretary

UMT Parks and Recreation Board