

**Upper Allen Township
100 Gettysburg Pike
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: (717) 766-0756 ♦ Fax: (717) 796-9833
www.upperallentwp.org**

**PARK & RECREATION
REGULAR MEETING**

November 29, 2023

PRESENT: JEFF WILLIAMS, JASON SAPOSNEK, JESSICA MARTINI, DAN HARRISON, NICK CHRISTIE -MEMBERS; Rick Castranio, Township Commissioner; Chad Krebs, Parks Director; Eddie Mera-Aguilar, Parks and Facilities Coordinator

VISITORS

Doug Marsico- Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Baseball Association
Jim Salter- Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Girl's Softball

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

All present introduced themselves.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison to approve the meeting minutes from the October 25, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Saposnek and passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Williams mentioned that Commissioner Cochran is not in attendance tonight, but his term as a commissioner is over at the end of the year. He stated that he wanted to recognize him for the work he has done. Mr. Williams added that it is great to have commissioners that understand and support staff and, in his opinion, Commissioner Cochran is one of those.

Mr. Williams mentioned that this coming year's Pennsylvania Recreation Parks Society conference will be held in Seven Springs from March 12th through 15th. He added that he might be attending the conference this year but for 2025 it will be back in Hershey.

CHAIRMAN'S RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

1. Township Commissioners – Rick Castranio
None.

2. Parks Director - Chad Krebs

Mr. Krebs stated that all restrooms are winterized, and the seasonal trashcans have been brought in. He added that Winding Hills Park North restrooms are now staying open since they are heated. Mr. Krebs mentioned that most seasonal employees are done, and the parking blocks are being placed in the new parking lots. He added that they are wrapping up the sensory garden

with a few more things to complete in the spring.

3. *Parks & Facilities Coordinator-Eddie Mera-Aguilar*

Mr. Aguilar mentioned that the field permits were sent out. Discussion ensued with the audience who did not use microphones; therefore, their comments were not picked up by the recording equipment.

4. *Mechanicsburg Recreation Department- Tiffany Herron*

Absent

PARK ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Christie mentioned that Friendship Park and Rosegarden Park looked great.

Mr. Williams stated that he did not make it out to Country Estates Park but when he visited McCormick Park and the Dog Park, there were people there. He added that he did not see any maintenance issues.

Ms. Martini mentioned that Aspen Park, Spring Run Park, and Mt. Allen Park all look good.

Mr. Harrison stated that there were no issues at the Winding Hills Parks.

The recording system did not pick up what Mr. Saposnek said regarding Fisher Park, Miller's Crest Park, and Koser Park.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Update

Mr. Krebs stated that there are five funds for the parks department. He mentioned that in the general fund, a new employee was added. Mr. Krebs stated that in the capital expenditures fund, there will be new equipment purchases and trucks replaced. He mentioned that in the improvement fund, there will be small replacements and maintenance costs. Mr. Krebs stated that in the park improvement fund, there will not be any large expenses in 2024. He mentioned that the newly created escrow fund will be for large projects and replacements as needed. Mr. Krebs stated that some of the projects for 2024 for the Generations Park are the trails, small parking area, screening for the neighbors, fencing, trees and an automated gate at the entrance to the park. He added that other costs will be adding cameras to Fisher Park, bathroom upgrades at Fisher Park, heating the bathrooms at Friendship Park, and updating hand dryers at Winding Hills Parks. Mr. Krebs mentioned that the roof will be replaced on the lower pavilion at Simpson Park and Koser Park will receive updated fencing along with upgrades on the tennis courts with a possibility of pickleball courts. He added that the basketball court at Rosegarden Park will be resurfaced and new playground equipment for Grantham Park will be purchased to be installed in 2025. Mr. Williams asked if anyone has heard anything about modifying the lease for the dog park since the lease ends in four years. Mr. Krebs stated that the church wants to extend the lease. Mr. Williams mentioned that he saw activity around the house at Generations Park and asked if there is an update on that. Mr. Krebs stated that the house is set to move in the middle of December and that contractors have torn down the accessory buildings at the park.

Mr. Williams mentioned that the next meeting is scheduled for December 27th, and he asked how the board felt about cancelling that meeting. All agreed to cancel the December 27th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on January 24, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. With no further business to discuss, Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Roth
Recording Secretary