

**Upper Allen Township  
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**PARK & RECREATION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**September 27, 2023**

**PRESENT:** JEFF WILLIAMS, CHRISTINA DRYDEN, LAUREN SANKER, JASON SAPOSNEK, CHRISTINA MARTINI, DAN HARRISON -MEMBERS; Jim Cochran, Township Commissioner; Rick Castranio, Township Commissioner; Kelly Palmer, Assistant Township Manager; Chad Krebs, Parks Director; Eddie Mera-Aguilar, Parks and Facilities Coordinator

**VISITORS**

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 Ms. Sanker to approve the meeting minutes from the July 26, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

None.

**CHAIRMAN'S RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

**1. Township Commissioners – Jim Cochran/Rick Castranio**

None.

**2. Assistant Township Manager - Kelly Palmer**

Ms. Palmer mentioned that at the October 18<sup>th</sup> Board of Commissioners meeting, President Martin will be doing a resolution to honor Tonya Brown for her years of service. Mr. Williams added that he appreciates their recognition of Ms. Brown, and it is well deserved. Ms. Palmer stated that the township is currently in budget season and the budget meetings will start next week.

**3. Parks Director - Chad Krebs**

Mr. Krebs mentioned that Pennsy Supply has completed all the paving at Winding Hills Parks, Center Square Park, and Friendship Park, however the seeding still needs to be completed. He added that the sensory garden is completed and will be closed this fall to allow the plants to grow. Mr. Krebs stated that the crew is currently aerating and seeding the fields and then will be moving on to do tree work. He added that the heating system in the restrooms in Winding Hills

Park has been installed so the restrooms will be open all year. Commissioner Cochran asked about the new parking area at Friendship Park as someone drove over the grass strip to leave. Mr. Krebs stated that he had just received a quote for parking blocks to prevent that.

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

Mr. Mera-Aguilar mentioned that this Friday will be the first annual fall fast from 4p.m. to 9p.m. at Winding Hills Parks. He added that they are hoping to have a good turnout and that the weather holds off. Mr. Mera-Aguilar stated that next month, they will be focusing on making changes to the athletic field usage forms for the sports groups for the upcoming year. He added that he will have those changes for the next meeting.

**5. *Mechanicsburg Recreation Department- Tiffany Herron***

Ms. Herron mentioned that the summer playground program was about fifty percent residents from Upper Allen Township. She added that the fall program guide was mailed out to the residents this time and the exercise programs are already filling up. Ms. Herron stated that field hockey has started, and basketball registrations are open. She added that the five week after school program at the middle school has 136 kids registered. Ms. Herron mentioned that the next program guide should be prepared by the end of October to beginning of November.

**PARK ASSIGNMENTS**

Mr. Williams mentioned that Mr. Christie was not able to attend but stated that Friendship Park and Rosegarden Park looked good. He added that Country Estates Park is in great shape and very lush and McCormick Park is always a joy to drive through. Commissioner Cochran stated that at the last board meeting, a resident asked for trash cans to be installed at McCormick Park. Mr. Williams stated that he rarely sees any trash there. Commissioner Cochran asked the committee members to watch for any trash when they visit the park. Mr. Williams stated that the dog park will have a booth at the fall festival and that last time he asked, there were 305 registrants for the park.

Ms. Sanker mentioned that Grantham Park looked very nice and there were a few people fishing. She added that stones need to be filled in at the base of the driveway.

Ms. Dryden mentioned that Center Square Park and Simpson Park both looked great.

Ms. Martini added that she was able to visit the parks on Sunday and everything was fine.

Mr. Saposnek mentioned that the rain has helped every park, and they all look great.

Mr. Harrison stated that it was a little rainy when he visited Winding Hills Parks, but they looked very nice.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Park Events Update**

Mr. Mera-Aguilar mentioned the sponsors for the upcoming Fall Fest. He stated that music will be provided by North Side and As Written, craft vendors are sponsored by the Upper Allen Woman's Club, inflatables are sponsored by Alba Orthodontics, kid's games are sponsored by Grantham Church and the Healthy Kids Running Series, and the parks department will be running the hay rides. Mr. Mera-Aguilar added that there will be municipal and county equipment along with the police and fire departments. He stated that the food trucks will be Mad Dash, 717 Tacos, The Italian Job, Dough and Arrow, Kona Ice, and the Winding Hills concession stand sponsored by Upper Allen Mechanicsburg Softball. Mr. Mera-Aguilar added that the Upper Allen Woman's Club is also hosting a food drive during the event. Mr. Williams stated that he is very excited about it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held on October 25, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. With no further business to discuss, Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Roth  
Recording Secretary