



Upper Mount Bethel Township

387 Ye Olde Highway

P.O. Box 520

Mount Bethel, PA 18343-5220

Phone: (570) 897-6127 Fax: (570) 897-0108

www.umbt.org

UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP PARKS/RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 12, 2026 – 7:00 PM

PART I

Stavros Barbounis called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present were, Stavros Barbounis, Orion Barbounis, Jenn Hughes, Karyn Pinter, Recording Secretary Cindy Beck, and Liaison Cori Eckman. Sharon Cerny was absent.

PART II (Parks/Recreation Board Administration)

1. Approval of the Agenda-**MOTION** by Jenn to approve the agenda, seconded by Orion. Vote: 4-0. Part III, #2, will be discussed first as we wait for James Ohland, Basketball, to arrive.
2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes- January 8, 2026-**MOTION** by Karyn to approve the January 8, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Orion. Vote: 4-0.

PART III (Business)

1. Park Development
 - a. Park Pavilion Kitchen/Utility Buildout-There was a discussion on Slater Football using the pavilion kitchen. There is a liability issue if we share space. A lease agreement will need to be drafted. The lease agreement would be for one tenant. There was a discussion on insurance coverage. Mallory expressed her thoughts on having any sports program putting money into a Township owed property and then ask for exclusive usage. Cori asked what happen with them converting a shed to a concession stand. Stavros stated that is what softball is doing. Stavros stated that there is a power issue. The rental agreement has not been reviewed by the Township Solicitor. There was a discussion on having vending machines at the park. Supervisor Erler asked if they considered a third party vending company, where the money is split. Stavros stated that with all the issues with the pavilion, a food trailer is the way to go. All stainless steel commercial grade equipment, costs range \$30k-\$32k. There will be more discussion on this.

- b. Softball Field Dugouts-Stavros stated that there is \$50k budgeted for the dugouts. These funds will be used to get them started, which the road crew will be doing. Stavros stated that he has reached out to one of our significant donors and provided them with all the projects that we are going to attempt to do this year. Stavros was told to get in touch with their fund manager. They also asked who else is helping with funding. Stavros stated that he has another local foundation that is willing to match funding for walking trails. Stavros will be sending out his campaign letter to see what additional funding we can get. Lana stated that practices start March 23rd, games start mid April.
 - c. Pickle Ball Courts-Stavros stated that bids are going out. Residents are excited to hear about them. Funds (\$120k) were budgeted for the project.
 - d. Municipal Building Feasibility Study-Updating Park Master Plan-Stavros stated that Alloy5 gave a presentation on the Township Municipal Building Feasibility Study and of the three locations, they identified inside the Community Park, located off Marshfield Dr., to be an ideal location. There were discussions on extending the walking trails, gardens, pavilion. Part of the feasibility study should be part of the Park Master Plan.
 - e. Dugout Banners/Outfield Fencing Banners – Stavros stated this will go live on Rec Desk by March 1st. We don't have pricing for the outfield fencing banners yet. For the dug out banners, we were waiting for all the spaces to be filled before ordering, for the outfield banners, these are individual banners and can be ordered right away.
 - f. Food Trailer-previously discussed.
2. Sports & Recreation
- a. Future of UMBT Sports programs-Stavros stated that at the last meeting, it was discovered that all the sports teams have not been covered by insurance. All sport teams have to get their own insurance coverage. There was also a discussion on getting reimbursed for out-of-pocket sales tax, that will now be reimbursed going forward. Stavros is looking for alternatives to replace rec desk. Rec Desk costs are about \$3,600 yearly. He does not anticipate renewing. There was a discussion on keeping or changing the UMBT name. There was a discussion on the sports team budgeting for their insurance. Softball and field hockey have the ability to factor in the cost into the registration fees, basketball did not have that opportunity. There was a discussion on setting up a separate entity, separate from ParksRec. This would give them the ability to apply for 501(c) 3 status and apply for a game of chance license. The Board would like to have Solicitor Karasek attend a meeting for a discussion. Cori will discuss this with Nick and arrange for the Solicitor to attend a meeting.
 - b. UMBT Softball-Lana stated that they secured insurance for \$472.
MOTION by Karyn to approve the insurance payment of \$472, seconded by Jenn. Vote: 4-0. Lana stated that she would love to see the banners

up at Echo Lake field. There was a discussion on the shed that is being donated to softball to be put at the softball fields. Registration is open. They are doing work bonds.

- c. UMBT Field Hockey-Mallory stated she had no update.
 - d. UMBT Basketball-James Ohland stated that the Krispy Kreme fundraising event was a great success. End of the year celebration is scheduled for March 13th. There are 18 travels teams, 5 undefeated teams, 6 teams should be going into playoffs. They will be doing summer leagues at Forks.
 - e. UMBT Volleyball-no update
 - f. Slater Youth Football-no update
 - g. Soccer-no update
3. Community Engagement
- a. July 4th Fireworks-Stavros stated this is the 250th year. We have a commitment of \$36,000 for FW. Custom Laminating/Lamtec donation of \$18k and a personal donation of \$18k. Drone shows range from small at \$15k-\$16k and large \$32k. They are booked for this year. We have options for additional add-ons for the finale. The Board decided on the Uncle Sam Special, 5” shells, and the. Karyn stated that an additional \$1,000 anonymous donation will be given to support the additional specials.
 - b. Veteran’s Day-November 8th, rain date November 14th.
 - c. “Volunteer Appreciation Day”. Date set for June 13th, movie night to follow.
 - d. Movie Nights in the Park-we have time to plan.
 - e. Farmer’s Market-Stavros stated that he is already receiving calls on this event.
4. Recreation Fund, Budget & Finances
- a. Revenue/Expenses Reporting-Karyn stated the balance in the rec fund as of February 11th is \$77,331.99. Softball (without registrations) is \$4,645.10, Field Hockey is \$7,563.24, Basketball is \$14,220.90 and Volleyball (not including registration for the upcoming season) is \$1,369.15.
5. Governance
- a. RecDesk/Facilities Reservation System/Square-previously discussed.
 - b. Facilities Use Agreement-previously discussed.
 - c. Power Report from Met-Ed-previously discussed.

PART IV (Public Comment)

PART V (Adjournment)

MOTION by Orion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, seconded by Karyn. Vote: 4-0.