

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 17, 2022**

A meeting of the Disability Advisory Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held via zoom on December 6, 2021. Chairperson Huchler opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Those present:

Lisa Huchler, Chairperson

Michele Williams, Vice Chairperson

Lynne Catarro, Secretary

Al Catarro, Member

Dr. Fred Weiss, Supervisor Liaison

David Rogers, Resident and Former Member

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2021 MINUTES

Ms. Williams moved, Ms. Catarro seconded, and the December 6, 2021 minutes were unanimously approved.

REORGANIZATION

The reorganization of Board members for

2022 was as follows:

Lisa Huchler, Chairperson motion made by Ms. Catarro and seconded by Mr. Catarro. Approved unanimously by all board members.

Michele Williams, Vice Chairperson motion made by Ms. Huchler and seconded by Ms. Catarro. Approved unanimously by all board members.

Lynne Catarro, Secretary motion made by Ms. Huchler and seconded by Ms. Williams. Approved unanimously by all board members.

Liaison, Dr. Fred Weiss assigned at BOS reorganization meeting.

Welcome new member, Al Catarro.

DAB AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITY INFO

Ms. Huchler spoke about surrounding community info. It seems only Middletown Township has a DAB. However, it has merged with Human Relations Committee which is more focused on discrimination: gender, race, employment, etc.

Ms. Huchler presented info regarding statistics of the township population. The 2010 Census shows 12.4% population over 65 years old. The Bucks 2040 Comprehensive plan shows in 2019 18.1% is over 65 in Bucks County.

Ms. Huchler wanted to present results from the 2010 survey the DAB had done to the new Board members. The results would probably still be applicable today.

Results:

Types of disabilities:

69 % had difficulty walking or were unable to walk

25 % have some hearing impairment

10 % have trouble speaking

13 % have seeing impairment

6% were mentally challenged

The majority of residents said that transportation and inaccessible buildings and/or other areas were their major concerns.

Ms. Huchler elaborated on the DAB mission which is to support township supervisors and all departments. As well as to educate community and provide resources to people with disabilities.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

All community events can be found under LMT Parks and Recreation webpage and Facebook page.

A few mentioned by Ms. Huchler were:

Flyers game –Sunday, March 13, 2022 7:00 pm See link below:

[https://offer.fevo.com/philadelphia-flyers-vs-montreal-canadiens-9wwcwgu-](https://offer.fevo.com/philadelphia-flyers-vs-montreal-canadiens-9wwcwgu-c05660c?fevoUri=philadelphia-flyers-vs-montreal-canadiens-9wwcwgu-c05660c%2F)

[c05660c?fevoUri=philadelphia-flyers-vs-montreal-canadiens-9wwcwgu-c05660c%2F](https://offer.fevo.com/philadelphia-flyers-vs-montreal-canadiens-9wwcwgu-c05660c?fevoUri=philadelphia-flyers-vs-montreal-canadiens-9wwcwgu-c05660c%2F). This event will be run through Parks and Recreation. Bus may be provided. Portion of the ticket sales will be allocated to ADA Transition Plan.

5 K Anyway run/walk will occur in August 6, 2022. A portion of the funds raised will be allocated to the ADA Transition Plan.

Community Day August 27, 2022- Great opportunity for DAB to have a table set up with brochures and resources for community members.

Roll and Stroll- This event was held in Memorial Park near the inclusive playground with many children, scouts, vendors and local representatives. This was a huge success in past years but unfortunately, since COVID, the event has not been held. We will discuss if we want to continue with this event and possibly add a fundraising opportunity to help with the ADA Transition plan.

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Parks and Rec has launched a community needs assessment survey to learn more about what issues are most important to you. Ms. Huchler highly encouraged all community members to go to the link: <http://metroquestsurvey.com/ua71t> and respond. It will take about 5 minutes.

WEBPAGE

Ms. Catarro reviewed updates for the DAB webpage. The following will either be added or corrected.

Update member list and meeting schedule after our next meeting.

Remove the Property tax info

The center for independent living link: <http://thepecil.org/cilbc/>. Phone number for CIL is: 215-781-5070

Add link: <https://www.buckscounty.gov/231/Aging>

Add transportation link: https://www.bctransport.org/persons_with_disabilities.cfm

Add bucks intermediate unit over 21 <https://www.bucksiu.org/child-student-services/adult-programs-and-services>

Add Smart 911 information: www.smart911.com

Add the following links.

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Disabilities-Aging/Pages/Services-for-Persons-with-Disabilities.aspx>

<https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/Pages/Disability-Services.aspx>

<https://www.abclawcenters.com/pennsylvania-disability-resource-guide/disability-resource-guide-in-southeast-pennsylvania.html>

Ms. Huchler will monitor email.

Email address is: DAB@LMT.org

COMMUNITY CENTER DOOR UPDATE

Door is complete and works perfectly. Thank you to all that made this happen.

BUILDING PLAN REVIEW

Mr. Rodgers and Ms. Williams met with Jim Majewski for an updated Prickett Preserve Plan. Only an overall Site Plan was available for review. Concerns brought up to the DAB committee:

From initial glance only 2 handicap parking spots for each building. Even though, this may be up to code, Mr. Rodgers and Ms. Williams will highly encourage more spots to be made available.

No curbs per say or obstructions seen on plans. Flat ground in front of all parking spaces.

Seems to be adequate parking in front of all retail buildings

Ms. Williams mentioned the Prickett project will be completed in phases.

NEW BUSINESS

Goals for 2022- Ms. Huchler asked the committee members to think about goals for 2022. We can go over at the next meeting. Potential suggestions included:

Literature for proper use of parking in handicapped parking spots

Fundraising ideas

Shades for the Memorial Park Inclusive Playground at the same time resurfacing is completed.

Guidance for accessibility for all children with disabilities to participate in LMT recreations programs.

Mr. Catarro will research ideas.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Ms. Huchler will confirm meeting date options with schedulers. Looking at 1st Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Probably every other month.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ms. Catarro. Second: Mr. Catarro

Approved unanimously by all board members. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynne Catarro

<https://www.lmt.org/government/boards-and-commissions/zoning-hearing-board/>Secretary, Disability Advisory Board