

TOWNSHP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
NOVEMBER 8, 2022

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held remotely on November 8, 2022. Mr. Krauss called the meeting to order and called the Roll.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: Douglas Krauss, Chair
Michael Brody, Vice Chair
Kim Rock, Secretary
Mike Blundi, Member
Rob LaBar, Member
Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Monica Tierney, Park & Recreation Director

Absent: David Malinowski, Park & Recreation Board Member
James McCartney, Supervisor Liaison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. LaBar moved and Mr. Brody seconded to approve the Minutes of October 11, 2022 as written. Motion carried with Mr. Krauss abstained.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Discussion and Recommendation on Fee Changes for 2023

Ms. Tierney stated with regard to Summer Camp everything was more expensive this year including supplies and trips, and Fees will be increased for next year. She stated they will break out Tween Camp and charge more for that because their trips are more expensive than standard Camp. She stated there were twenty participants in Tween Camp this summer which was great for their first year. It is proposed that the Fees will go up next year by approximately 5%. She stated they will have the same structure for Camp next year for the eight weeks, six weeks, and four weeks options. She stated the Tween Camp will go up an additional 5% more. She noted the information on extended care for

either the Tween or the regular Camp, and that would go until 6:00 p.m. Ms. Tierney stated before care will be \$40 and after care will be \$50 a week for the extended care.

Ms. Tierney stated we still need an indoor space, and we will continue to look for that. She stated this year we used a tent out back of the Community Center; and in the event that we cannot find an indoor space, we will probably use the tent again.

Mr. Krauss asked if they were at capacity. Ms. Tierney stated they could increase the Tween Camp slightly with ten more participants. She stated for Camp LMT, we are at capacity without getting a new space. She stated there was a waiting list of about twenty people per week.

Mr. Blundi stated he understood they were looking to hire more counselors, and Ms. Tierney stated that would be ideal although it is not 100% necessary and part-time substitutes would be helpful.

Ms. Tierney stated with regard to the Bench Donation Program, the costs have gone up for labor and supplies since 2017. She stated the proposal is to go from \$1,117 which was the 2017 rate to \$1,500 for the same bench. She stated this should cover all Township costs.

Ms. Tierney stated for Community Day and other vendor events, we have been charging vendors \$50 a day; but she recognized that there is a lot of back-end work needed in preparation, and a going rate for a vendor particularly for a large event would be much higher than the \$75 she is proposing and would help us recoup some of our costs.

Mr. Krauss stated that would be for for-profit vendors. He stated he understands that non-profits do not get charged for setting up tables at Community Day, and Ms. Tierney stated non-profits and community groups do not get charged to set up tables. She stated the for-profit vendors do well on those days, and she does not feel that \$75 is out of range for a fee.

Ms. Tierney stated with regard to the Pool Fees, they had many people pay at the Discount Period. Ms. Tierney stated we were “off” by \$14,000 at the end of the year, and they would like to have money to spend on the Pool in the future. She stated one way to do this would be to raise the Discount Period Rate. She stated instead of doing a straight reduction from the full price, it

would be a percentage. The graph related to the Discount Period was shown. Mr. Krauss stated there is no Discount for caregivers, and Ms. Tierney agreed adding that there are not many caregivers. She stated with the new pricing model a lot of the caregivers purchased their own pass.

Ms. Tierney stated in 2023 they plan to run lifeguard training courses that are open to the public at a cost of \$383. She stated these will be run throughout the summer which may also help with lifeguard shortages and generate a little bit more revenue. Mr. Krauss asked how long is the Certification good for, and Ms. Tierney stated she believes it is one or two years. Mr. Krauss asked at what age can the course be taken, and Ms. Tierney stated you have to be fifteen to take the course and be hired.

Mr. Blundi asked for a recap of last year versus the year before with regard to the number of registrants, LMT families, and non-LMT families.

Ms. Tierney stated she can provide information on that. Mr. Blundi asked if the \$14,000 Ms. Tierney noted was versus the prior year or versus the Budget, and Ms. Tierney stated it was versus the Budget. Ms. Tierney stated for 2023 she is hoping to get over \$1.1 million from membership.

Mr. Wysocki asked if it is felt that the price increase will have an impact on the Registrations, and Ms. Tierney stated she does not feel a price increase to the Discount Period will reduce Registrations. She stated she predicts that Registrations will increase from this year because there were many people who did not join the Pool this year who went to other pools but were disappointed with what they were able to get at the other pools.

Mr. Brody stated he is concerned that there was a significant change in our Fee structure last year, and now we are proposing a rate increase; and he has not seen an analysis on whether the change in the Fee structure resulted in a short-fall. He asked if we should just be raising the cost or should we be looking at the changes that were made last year. Ms. Tierney stated we had predicted that we would be make over \$1.1 million, and we were short \$14,000. She stated in the past, we never broke \$1 million. Mr. Brody asked what is the impetus to raise it again, and Ms. Tierney stated it is to make up the gap and to be able to have enough money to spend on Capital improvements in the future. She stated this is an old pool, and we will have to continue to improve it. She stated we recently had to replace our tanks, and we did not have enough money to be able to do that. She stated she wants to be able to have more of a buffer with Capital improvements in the future. Mr. Brody asked how much of the

\$1.1 million was profit that went into the Pool fund. Ms. Tierney stated none of it was profit because we were \$14,000 short of the projected end-of-year. Mr. Brody asked what were the costs and what was brought in regardless of what the Budget was. Ms. Tierney stated over the past few years we have not had any excess Revenue and were only breaking even from year to year. She stated last year we also needed money supplementary from Park & Rec funds because we did not have the normal amount of Registrations post-2020.

Mr. Krauss stated Mr. Brody is asking about Net Revenue, and he is asking what were the total Expenses. Ms. Tierney stated the Expenses were lower because she recognized that we were close to being on-Budget, and there were certain things that were not purchased this year that we could have or should have purchased such as replacement tables and chairs; and she made some modifications in our expenditures heading into the end of the Budget season so our expenses were lower than projected.

Mr. Krauss asked if the \$1.1 million being projected for 2023 is similar to 2022; however, Ms. Tierney stated she did not have the Budget available. Mr. Krauss stated Ms. Tierney had indicated there could be an increase in enrollment given potential demand; and he asked if they “kept rates whole and did not change the Discount Period,” how many additional members would be needed to make the targeted Revenue goal. Ms. Tierney stated she would have to do that math.

Ms. Rock asked if the Pool revenue is just Memberships, food, and lessons; and she asked if there is anything else that other local pools do to bring in revenue that we are not doing. Ms. Tierney stated we are probably doing the best because others also use their Tax Base to supplement the cost of their Pool. She stated we also have daily passes, and those \$20 a day passes are income. She stated that rate was increased, and that helped supplement our revenue.

Mr. Krauss stated they have previously discussed the Swim Team, and Ms. Tierney stated we could charge Swim Team User Fees. She stated Swim Team members do pay for Pool Memberships. Mr. Krauss stated while they use the Pool just like any other member, they get extra usage and they are a League participating in “games across other Townships.” He stated he does not see why they would not be charged a User Fee, and that would be another income stream.

Ms. Rock asked about parties, theme nights, and blow-up movie screens that could bring in people who are not members. Ms. Tierney stated those are done for free now for our members, and they are very well attended by the membership. She stated she does not feel they could charge non-members to come in for those events. She stated the Tween Nights are open to everyone, and that does generate a lot of revenue. Ms. Tierney stated we would have to reduce the hours to our membership in order to be able to offer special, for-fee programming. She stated we would also have to add staff and there would be additional expenses. Ms. Tierney stated they could offer Swim Lessons to non-members, and she is looking into that with the Pool Manager as a potential revenue maker. Ms. Rock stated she feels lessons to non-members would be a good idea since if people are taking lessons there, they may get comfortable with the Pool and be enticed to join. Ms. Tierney stated there could be a non-member lesson rate.

Mr. LaBar stated we are not increasing the Pool membership rates, and we are just not giving as much of a discount during the Discount Period; and Ms. Tierney agreed. Mr. Krauss stated a fair amount of members pay during the Discount Period, so it would be an increase for them. Ms. Rock stated there was backlash after raising rates last year, and now we are raising the Discount rate.

Mr. Blundi stated he agrees, and he feels that we need to do an analysis before we can look at this clearly and agree to do it. He stated he feels the Pool Fees should be Tabled until we get more numbers and have time to review them. Ms. Tierney stated she will share all of her analysis with the Park Board members. She suggested that Pool Fees be Tabled at this time. She added that they could also decide not to do what she has proposed and instead look for alternative means to generate revenue.

Mr. Brody stated he would be in favor of Tabling the Pool Fees portion and proceed with the rest. He stated he agrees with Mr. Krauss with regard to the Swim Team as they are using the facility extra hours, and they should pay User Fees the same as other Leagues. He stated he would be willing to consider a middle ground because they do pay a Pool membership and also do not have access to the Pool 24/7 like other Leagues.

Mr. Wysocki asked where the funds for this would go if there were User Fees paid by the Swim Team, and Ms. Tierney stated it would go to the Pool.

Mr. Krauss stated the User Fee for a resident is \$15, but he does not know if all the members of the Swim Team are Lower Makefield residents. Ms. Tierney stated she feels we would have to charge them differently and possibly an hourly rate anytime they use the Pool outside of regular usage. She stated the Swim Team uses the Pool in the morning before the Pool is open, and they sometimes use the Pool after hours. She stated she would have to evaluate this. Ms. Tierney stated at a future meeting there will be discussion about the League Agreements, and this could be considered moving forward.

Mr. Brody stated he would like to know what the User Fee would cover relative to the Pool recognizing that some Pool supplies would have to be considered which could be challenging. Ms. Tierney stated Pool staff would be easier to consider but supplies would need to be considered as to how that would be broken out.

Mr. Brody stated in the paperwork that the Board was provided use of lights on fields was shown at \$18, and he asked for clarification on this. Ms. Tierney stated it was \$18; however, because of a clerical error last year, in the Fee Structure it was \$16, and she fixed this to show \$18 which is where it should be. Mr. Brody asked how the hours are tallied, and Ms. Tierney stated it is based on field reservation.

Mr. Krauss suggested that there be approval of the Fees other than the Pool Fees which should be Tabled at this time.

Mr. Brody moved, Mr. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the 2023 Fee Schedule as proposed with the exception of the Pool Fees which will be Tabled to the next meeting.

Ms. Tierney stated given the comments made this evening, she will look into ways to generate Revenue other than the Discount Period, and she will come back to the Park & Recreation Board with a full analysis.

Recommendation of “Pathway to Zero Waste Plan” to the Board of Supervisors

Ms. Tierney stated over the last year and a half she has partnered with the EAC in discussing a recycling plan as part of CAPRA. She stated that while they did come up with a plan, it would have cost around \$200,000 and there was no resolution on this. She stated recently the EAC came to her with the idea of

“carry in/carry out;” and while initially she did not feel this would work, after a lot of research and reaching out to colleagues who do carry in/carry out, every agency she spoke to indicated that they “loved carry in/carry out.” Ms. Tierney stated most recently she spoke to the Maintenance Foreman at Plumstead Township who has done this for five years, and he indicated that it has freed up the maintenance staff to be able to focus on other things. Ms. Tierney stated our Township’s maintenance staff spends about twenty hours on a Monday during the high season just removing waste alone from the parks. She stated they also spend time every day at the parks doing light removal.

Ms. Tierney stated she understands that there is going to be a lot of education and buy-in needed on this from the Leagues and communication by the Leagues to their participants/visitors; however, she does not feel that this is impossible. She stated she feels we can learn from others who have done this. She noted that other Townships had provided waste bags and dog waste bags and people just left the filled bags in the parks instead of taking them with them so we would not want to provide bags. Ms. Tierney stated her concern was that there would be more trash on the ground; however, the Foreman at Plumstead indicated that people who litter will continue to do so, and people who would be looking for a trash can would be more willing to take their trash with them with proper signage and knowledge of what is going on. She stated their litter did not get any worse, and Plumstead had a great experience with carry in/carry out.

Ms. Tierney stated the concept has been changed from “Recycle” to “Pathway to Zero Waste.” She stated if we had implemented the recycle plan it would have cost \$200,000, but if we implement the Pathway to Zero Waste Plan, we could reuse the waste bins that we are going to eliminate from certain areas and use them in other areas where there will still be waste bins. Ms. Tierney stated the Zero Waste Plan will identify opportunities for waste reduction within the parks and create a plan to empower park users to participate in social responsibility for personal waste reduction. She stated there will be a lot of education about how to reduce waste. She stated we will provide a schedule for taking the steps necessary to achieve compliance, provide opportunities for a re-allocation of Township resources (primarily staff resources), and provide a marketing and education plan for implementation.

Ms. Tierney stated that the Board was provided with the Plan. She stated one of the most important pieces is education and marketing, and we would need signage in the parks, a social media campaign using our social media and

community outreach program, and outreach to all of the Leagues and User groups. She stated there would also be a bi-annual community engagement opportunity, once in the fall and once in the spring, which would be a volunteer opportunity for a whole-park clean-up. She stated we could provide resources including sign-ups for different organizations to work in different parks twice a year.

Ms. Tierney stated a concept that we were talking about in the original recycle plan was to pair every trash can with a recycle bin. She stated we will still have some waste stations which would be a trash can and a recycle bin; however, there would only be thirty-six waste stations throughout the parks. She stated she had provided a graphic as to how waste stations will be reset from location to location.

Ms. Tierney stated the only station that will stay the same is the Pool, adding a waste station will have a trash can and a recycle bin.

Ms. Tierney stated we would move from 111 trash cans and 20 recycle cans to 36 waste stations across the entire park system. She stated they hope to start this next year, and after the first year, they will have a review including surveying the residents and getting quantitative and qualitative data. She stated she will also track staff time to do a comparison and an analysis as to what needs to change, etc.; and there will be an evaluation annually over the first three years. Ms. Tierney stated on the fourth year we could decide whether we would continue with this since by the fourth year we should be through any “potential pain points” and education, and everyone should understand that our parks are zero waste.

Ms. Tierney stated the outcome will be that we are engaging the community in waste reduction, reducing staff time spent on waste removal, reducing pests within our waste system, reducing overall waste removal costs, providing education to the community, increasing volunteer opportunities, and lessening the overall cost of potential recycle implementation.

Mr. Wysocki asked what are the volunteer opportunities, and Ms. Tierney stated it is the two park clean-up days one in the spring and one in the fall. Mr. Wysocki asked what the waste stations would look like, and Ms. Tierney stated it would be a trash/recycle combo. She stated instead of purchasing new equipment, we will re-use what we have, re-identify with stickers or painting of the bins, and pairing them together so that every trash can has a paired recycle bin. Mr. Wysocki stated currently at the baseball fields

there are seven trash receptacles and one recycle bin. He stated he understands they would leave the bathrooms as they are. He stated under the Pathway to Zero Waste Plan, there would be one waste station, and he asked where that would be relative to the existing seven trash receptacles. He also asked the capacity relative to the existing seven trash receptacles. Ms. Tierney stated there would only be one trash bin/one recycle bin at the concession stand. She stated there would be signage throughout the park saying “waste bins have been removed, please bring your waste with you when you leave.”

Mr. Wysocki stated he does not feel carry in/carry out is going to work in this situation because if they are buying something there, they are not carrying it in. Ms. Tierney stated that is why they have the waste station near the concession stand. She added we may have to add a second if one waste station is not enough at the concession stand, and that is why we will do an evaluation annually. She stated we might also look at this throughout the season as well.

Mr. Krauss asked how this will impact dumpsters; and Ms. Tierney stated with time the idea would be to reduce the number of dumpsters if there is that ability so that our waste costs are reduced. Ms. Tierney stated at this point the dumpsters will stay in place.

Mr. Krauss asked if Plumstead has similar facilities and organizations to Lower Makefield as he believes Plumstead is a smaller, more-rural town than Lower Makefield; and he asked if it is a fair comparison. Ms. Tierney stated while Plumstead is smaller, they do have Leagues and a soccer complex. She stated she followed Plumstead’s model so Macclesfield Park would have a few waste stations along the soccer and football fields. Ms. Tierney stated she also looked at State and County parks which also have Leagues situated within them; and with education and time it seems to have gone well. She added that she was at a park where there were no trash cans at all, and it was carry in/carry out; and it was very clean at the end of the day after soccer and football games because people were not throwing trash on the ground. Ms. Tierney stated she believes that this is possible recognizing that there will be a learning curve and difficulty in the office initially answering questions. She stated the staff will be trained to be ready for this.

Mr. Wysocki asked Ms. Tierney if she got feedback from any residents of the Townships where this was done. He stated he understands that the Townships were in favor of this, but he asked about the people having to live with the program carrying trash out. Ms. Tierney stated she did get

feedback from the Townships about their phone calls; and in the beginning they had a lot of callers trying to understand what was going on, but now they get no phone calls. She stated she did not reach out to residents, but she could see if there is data/surveys on this.

Mr. Krauss asked why the Pool is not being changed relative to the other parks. Ms. Tierney stated members pay to go to the Pool and paying for the service of having the trash removed. She stated we kept the same number of containers because we did not want people walking away from their children while they are swimming to try to find a trash can somewhere else in the facility. She stated people are also there all day and there is food and concessions. Mr. Krauss stated it could be argued that people pay to play soccer and baseball and expect there to be trash receptacles as part of that as well.

Mr. Wysocki asked if any of the User Fees are directed to waste clean-up, since it they are, this might afford a potential reduction in the User Fees as a result of this program. Ms. Tierney stated waste clean-up is not, and she usually counts in mowing hours and field maintenance. She stated she does not count waste clean-up in the hourly count for staff for User Fees.

Mr. Brody stated he read about Wilton Township which implemented this in 2017 at all of their parks except for their main athletic parks. He stated currently his experience at baseball and football is that there are two trash cans for trash that is created at the venue, not brought in. He stated there are also vendor trucks coming in as well as the concession stand. He questioned if his players are going to have clean up not only their own dugout which he does now but also have to clean up the visitor's dugout and have bags for the trash from the visitors and take it home with him. He stated he would be in favor of this for Five Mile Woods, Veteran's Park, and most of Memorial Park although he feels there should be a waste station by the pickleball courts. He stated he does not feel this make much sense at Macclesfield or at the baseball and softball complexes. Mr. Brody stated he also feels there should be something at Kids Kingdom/the gaga court given the vendor trucks that come to that location. Mr. Brody stated there is already a tremendous trash problem at baseball with the existing number of trash cans, and he does not see how this will work having even fewer.

Mr. LaBar stated we are trying to get to zero waste, and this should be projected out to the vendors; and they should have to take the waste out if they are bringing food in. He stated the vendors should be doing something with the trash

that they are creating. He stated the Leagues should be advised that this is something the Township is doing, and a visiting team should not be leaving their trash there. He stated he does not feel that this is a “big deal.”

Mr. Brody stated he is having difficulty with this for areas where we are creating food waste trash. He stated he would prefer there be a way to ease into this than going into this fully.

Mr. Krauss stated we could indicate that we are moving into Zero Waste with Phase 1 being certain parks, and the public would then start to be aware of this. He added we should communicate to the Leagues that this will be the eventual expectation, but that there would not be an immediate impact in year one for those groups. Mr. Krauss stated with regard to the Pool, he could argue that since it is a closed facility, it would actually be easier to get them to carry in/carry out because they are the members and are the only people that we would have to speak to versus visitors at a park who are not regulars. He stated we might be more successful reducing waste at the Pool. Mr. Krauss stated he is concerned how much burden is going to get shifted to the User groups in year one.

Ms. Tierney stated we may be able to reduce costs at the Pool if there is less staff removing waste. Mr. Krauss stated guests at the Pool would have to be with a member; and the members would be advised when they sign up that the Pool is a zero-waste facility, and whatever trash you bring in, you would take out although by the snack bar there would still be receptacles.

Ms. Tierney stated with regard to the Leagues, when she goes to other parks with her son, she knows if she can bring her dog, if there are bleachers, etc. She stated our Leagues could communicate with in-coming teams that they should be prepared that there is a zero-waste policy, and they will have to take their waste with them when they leave. Mr. Brody stated they could send out that information.

Mr. Brody stated if everyone feels this is important, it should be done for the Pool as well. He stated he is concerned that the one facility that is run by the Township and not residents would not be required to follow this policy. He stated he is concerned that the facilities already have the amount of trash they have.

Mr. Wysocki stated he is in favor of trying to get to zero waste, and asked if it would be best to start with the less-challenging locations and then expand it or is it better to do it all at once. Ms. Tierney stated she believes others who have done it have done it all at once. Ms. Tierney stated given the comments she feels we could do everything as discussed, but give the Leagues more time for education and give them until 2024. Mr. Wysocki asked the consequences for visitors who do not comply at the fields. Mr. Krauss stated especially after a big event at a park, even if there are trash bins, the trash overflows around the waste receptacles. Mr. Wysocki stated when he was involved, they had volunteers take that trash to the dumpsters.

Mr. Brody stated at the playing fields at Wilton, CT where they have carry in/carry out anything that is carried in is to be carried out with the exception of fields that are listed which have trash cans and are only carry in/carry out if the trash cans are full. He stated he assumes the recycling would be the same way, but if the trash can is full someone who does not want to litter will just put the trash in the recycling bin.

Mr. LaBar stated the “Delaware path” has no trash cans, and people use it all the time and they take their trash in and take their trash out. He stated he does not feel it is a big deal, and we need to be encouraging this. He stated he feels there could be a year transition. He stated he agrees with Mr. Brody that if it is being done it should be across the board and include the Pool. He asked why our maintenance crews should be cleaning up trash from visiting teams when we can change the way things are done, and visiting teams can bring trash bags with them and take their trash out.

Mr. Wysocki stated if it does not work, it will still fall back on the Township staff to clean it up. Ms. Tierney stated she asked those who had this policy if they had more litter than they had before zero waste, and they indicated that it was not any worse. She stated that the people who litter will continue to do so, and those who would be looking for trash cans would be willing to take their trash with them as they are more conscientious about what is going on.

Mr. Blundi asked when the maintenance staff goes to Macclesfield on Monday and they have forty-seven trash cans to empty, are they also cleaning up the fields; and Ms. Tierney stated they do have to clean up any litter. Ms. Tierney stated they are at every park every day anyway to mow. Mr. Blundi asked if it will save twenty hours on a Monday, and Ms. Tierney stated she feels it may save sixteen hours of the twenty. Mr. Blundi stated he is not looking at this as

zero waste since there will still be waste, but we are asking the people to take their waste with them. He stated it will eliminate the service that we have now. Ms. Tierney stated when they looked at a recycle plan for the parks, the staff would have had to sort through it and make sure that everything in the recycle bin were recyclables since if there is a contaminant in a recycling bin, they will not take it. She stated if people are taking their own stuff to their home, it is easier for a resident to recycle their own stuff as opposed to our staff spending time going through recycles versus non-recycles which costs the Township time and more money in bins. Mr. Blundi asked what would go into the recycle bin, and Ms. Tierney stated we could do it however we decide we want to. She stated currently bottles or cardboard could go in, but a lot of people throw everything in there and it never gets recycled anyway because her staff does not have the time to be able to go through and sort. She stated if we leave this on the residents and educate the residents about it they would recycle and compost at home, and it is more controlled as opposed to the parks where it cannot be controlled.

Mr. Blundi stated at Macclesfield there are 48 trash receptacles and 17 recycle bins, and we are going to go to 8 waste stations which would be one trash bin and one recycle bin, and Ms. Tierney agreed. Mr. Blundi stated at Fred Allan there are 7 trash receptacles, and they are going down to one waste station. He stated he is concerned that the trash receptacle will fill up, and then people will contaminate the recycle bin with trash which defeats the purpose. Ms. Tierney stated it could go both ways since the recycle bin could get full fairly quickly with all the disposable water bottles.

Mr. Wysocki stated the plan was to re-label existing containers, and Ms. Tierney agreed. Mr. Wysocki stated a trip to clean a small trash can is still one trip, and he asked if there were larger receptacles to avoid the situation where trash is overflowing, and it would still be one trip. Ms. Tierney stated she feels we need to see if there is an overflow situation before we decide to spend money on bigger containers.

Ms. Rock asked if the Townships which have done this successfully followed the same process of having one container. She asked if they had overflow problems. Ms. Tierney stated a lot of them had fewer waste receptacles or none at all, so there are not overflow problems because there is no trash bin. She stated there is signage and education. Ms. Rock stated she feels having one trash container may be worse than having none, because if there is one, that is when people start over filling it versus if there are none, people will take everything with them.

Mr. Krauss stated he feels we do need to move in this direction, and the Park Board needs to consider if they want to recommend the Plan as it is or have a phased-in approach particularly for the three busiest facilities. He stated he feels everyone agrees that we want to reduce waste and minimize the work that our volunteers already do as well as reduce the time and money that the Township spends from a labor perspective so that money could be spent on park improvements and other things that we want to do.

Mr. Krauss asked if this Plan has already been presented this to the EAC. Ms. Tierney stated she presented this to the EAC, and the EAC is going to write a letter and recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the Pathway to Zero Waste as it is now proposed. Ms. Tierney stated if the Park & Recreation Board would like to make an amendment to the Plan, that would have to be made known when it is passed onto the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Wysocki stated while initially he did not mind the Pool being excluded from this, after discussion he agrees that there should not be any exclusions if the idea is to get to zero waste. Mr. Krauss stated he feels this would be the easiest to implement at the Pool given that they are all members going to the Pool; and if they bring in a bag, it would be easy for them to carry out. Mr. Blundi stated he takes the opposite position on that since he feels if you are a Pool member, you are paying for this service, and there should be trash cans there. He stated the Pool staff is cleaning the trash every night, and it is not the same as the Township maintenance workers going to the parks and emptying the trash bins and recyclables. Mr. Krauss stated it is still resources and dollars and having to pay the Pool staff to do that when they could be doing other things or may not have to work as long as there would not be as much to clean up. Mr. Blundi stated he feels there will still be cleaning needed to be done including the bathrooms. He stated they are also generating food there. Mr. Blundi stated Pool members are paying a lot for a family of five, but Mr. Krauss stated it would be the same amount that a family of five would pay for baseball or soccer. Mr. Blundi stated he feels that there is a difference. He added that he also does not feel we should proceed with this at all of the parks, and we should just do a few to start and see what happens during the first year and give people a year to get accustomed to this.

Mr. Brody stated he is frustrated that this is going from the EAC straight to the Board of Supervisors without Park & Recreation Board input; however, Ms. Tierney stated it has not gone to the Board of Supervisors yet, and the

Park & Recreation Board is providing their input now. Mr. Brody stated the EAC is still presenting it as they have regardless of whether the Park & Rec Board makes a change. Ms. Tierney stated it will not get to the Board of Supervisors until the Park & Recreation Board has evaluated it. She added the Board of Supervisors did see the draft, but the Park & Recreation Board can change it. Mr. Brody stated while he understands this, he would have liked to have had more input with the EAC so that it could be presented together rather than having the EAC present their opinion on how they should change the parks.

Mr. Brody stated he would like to know what heavier users of Macclesfield feel that they need. He stated he would like to see Fred Allan get two more and the baseball complex get three more. He stated he also feels that there should be an evaluation mid-season. Ms. Tierney asked if Macclesfield and the baseball and softball complexes should wait until 2024 for implementation with a year of education for the Leagues; and Mr. Brody stated he would be in favor of that. Ms. Tierney stated the Township staff will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the program as well. Mr. Blundi stated he feels people will get annoyed when trash cans are not readily available. Ms. Tierney stated people expect more and more trash cans to be available; and we would take the stance that there are not trash cans in the parks and it is expected that people take their trash out with them.

Mr. Krauss stated for the Leagues even if we do change the number of receptacles at this time, if we start telling people that the Township is moving to carry in/carry out, there will be people who will adopt that even if there are sufficient receptacles and will take it with them so there might be less trash.

Mr. Wysocki asked Ms. Tierney what was the lag between when the Townships that she spoke with adopted the Plan and starting implemented it taking the receptacles out of the parks. He stated maybe this should be a 2024 program and all of 2023 would be spent communicating/educating the public. Ms. Tierney stated she feels that everything other than Macclesfield, Fred Allan, and the baseball fields could be done now. She stated even at Memorial Park there are not many trash receptacles. She stated already those renting our pavilions are told to bring their trash bags with them. Ms. Tierney stated she feels the hardest part will be the heavy-use parks.

Mr. Krauss asked how special events such as Veterans Day, Community Pride Day, and 9-11 would be handled; and Ms. Tierney stated those would be handled differently because of all of the vendor trash, and there will have to be waste bins out for those special events.

Mr. Brody stated Community Park and Memorial Park have the same number of trash receptacles and have similar usage, and it would be interesting to change one and not the other to see which one performs better. Mr. Krauss stated the size of these parks is much different and Memorial Park is much more spread out. Ms. Tierney stated the issue would be how to educate the Township as we are equipped right now to reach out to the entire Township, but she is not equipped to reach out to only Memorial Park users.

Mr. Brody stated he would not have an issue with delaying this for a year since he would like to see more data on how it is working elsewhere to see if we want to do this. Mr. Brody stated after the discussion, he agrees that we should leave the Pool as it is. Ms. Tierney stated maybe the Pool could be included in the one-year delay and they could start educating the members in the first year. Ms. Tierney stated she feels this is a great way to try to reduce waste in the parks, and she does not see harm in trying to do this.

Mr. Wysocki moved and Ms. Rock seconded to recommend to the Board of Supervisors adoption of the Pathway to Zero Waste Program as presented excepting Macclesfield, Fred Allan, the baseball fields, and the Pool with those to be deferred for one year.

Mr. Krauss stated the Motion is to adopt the Plan as presented with the exception of Macclesfield, Fred Allan, the baseball fields, and the Pool with a one-year phased-in approach.

Ms. Tierney stated in the Plan it is written that this would be reviewed every year for the first three years.

Mr. LaBar stated we are not reducing anything at the fields, and we are just phasing it in for a year, and it will be reviewed every year for the next three years with education being done this coming year, and Mr. Krauss agreed.

Mr. Blundi asked why we would not indicate that we will start with every park except the ones that we are excluding and then evaluate it after the year. Mr. Krauss stated the program would get evaluated after one year. Mr. Blundi stated it should be evaluated whether we are going to stay with the plan or not. He added the Motion indicates that we are going to stay with it and implement it in the three other parks that we are “not going with.” Mr. Krauss stated he feels that they always have the opportunity

to say that we are going to cease the program because it is not working or we could change it. Ms. Tierney stated we can always re-evaluate. Mr. Blundi stated what he objects to is we are going to delay the other three parks a year, and he asked why they would not just say “we are going to do these parks and not Macclesfield, Fred Allan, and baseball.” Mr. Brody stated if we are going to support the Pathway to Zero Waste, we should try to put as much of the full force of our Board behind this initiative. He stated while he agrees with Mr. Blundi and he would rather wait, he feels that we do support this and plan to get there. He stated he hopes this will be successful although he has his doubts, but he feels it is better to put it out there in a way that we feel it will work. He stated if within a year it is “awful” he will not be willing to proceed and will be raising all of the points that he is raising today. Ms. Tierney stated during the year there will be the opportunity for education; and if we decide after a year we are not going to do it, it would be a “waste of time that we did the year of education,” so we should be committed to at least trying it. She stated after year two when it has been implemented, if it is not where we want it to be, we can re-evaluate it.

Mr. Blundi stated if we say that we are doing the Pathway to Zero Waste in these parks for a year and see how it works out, he feels that says we are committed to it, but we are “being measured” in how we are approaching it.

Mr. Krauss stated he does not feel a one-year commitment is really a long-term commitment, and he feels it is short-sighted especially if we have to spend a significant amount of dollars educating the public.

Mr. Wysocki stated he believes that the annual process already builds in the opportunity to change or cease the program. He stated he understands that we are going to plan for success, but recognize that the program itself has a clause in it that allows us to review it annually and change the course if we have to.

Motion carried unanimously.

Rain Barrell Program Presentation

Ms. Tierney stated we are looking to offer this program at a cost of \$76 a barrel. She stated the EAC indicated they would be willing to assist with any volunteer efforts for the distribution. She stated Rain Barrel Solutions is able to do all of the back-end ordering and delivery. She stated she is looking into

the possibility of using a Grant from Aqua that we already have to offset the cost by \$20 a barrel. She stated we could offer one to two barrels to Township residents at a subsidized rate of \$56 a family; and if someone wanted to buy any additional barrels, they could be purchased at the full rate. She stated those from out-of-town could buy them at the full rate, and the subsidized rate would only be for Township residents. She stated there would be a five-month turn-around; and if we were to notify Rain Barrel Solutions that we want to participate in that, it would be five months from now that we would get the barrels which would be April or May as a potential distribution day. She stated this helps with the Township's MS4 requirements with regard to stormwater.

Ms. Tierney stated she does not feel the Park & Recreation Board or the EAC needs to make a recommendation, although she would like to get buy-in from the Park & Recreation Board and to help with getting the word out and volunteering.

Mr. Krauss asked if the Township is buying any of these or is it strictly for the Residents, and Ms. Tierney stated it is not for Township buildings at this time. She stated it is for residents, and there would be an education piece that the EAC would help with. Ms. Tierney stated residents would order directly from Rain Water Solutions and pay them directly. She stated the rain barrels need to be pre-ordered and residents have to pre-pay. She stated there would be a cut-off date. She stated the barrels are usually cost about \$130 a barrel so this is a great rate even at the \$76 price. She stated if we are able to subsidize it even further, we will do that too. She stated Park & Recreation would be involved with making sure the distribution goes well. She stated the EAC will help provide manpower.

Mr. Blundi asked how people would order them and when would they have to order by. Ms. Tierney stated that would depend upon our delivery date; and once we communicate that we are going to proceed with this program, we would be given a sell-by date and the Township would have to get all of the information out through our channels. The cut-off date would be given at that time. Mr. Blundi asked if they will ship a few barrels so that people could see them, and Ms. Tierney stated she could look into that. Ms. Tierney stated they will do education ahead of time, and Penn State Cooperative Extension has agreed to help us provide education about the use of the barrels and the benefits.

League Policy Discussion

Codes and Ordinances Review Discussion

Ms. Tierney stated while these are not ready to be discussed at this time, we should review them at some point. She stated our Codes and Ordinances have not been updated for many years, and we should be reviewing these and making modifications and updates. She stated she has some feedback from some Park Board members; and If there is any additional feedback on the Codes and Ordinances or the League policy, she asked that it be provided to her soon. She stated she will start contacting the Leagues individually to sit down and review with them any questions or concerns they have about the League Policy since they will have to implement it.

Ms. Tierney stated that moving forward there are two things that are not in there that she feels should be included one of which is a Township-wide Code of Conduct that the League participants sign/review before games. She stated she also feels there should be communication about Pathway to Zero Waste and their implementation of it.

Mr. Krauss asked Ms. Tierney if she has examples of a Code of Conduct from other Townships. Mr. Krauss stated he knows that Leagues sometimes put in their own individual Code of Conduct, but if the Township has this, we would need to understand who is enforcing it and the consequences. Ms. Tierney stated a lot of times it is education of what our expectations are. She stated we are having some issues in some of our organizations right now with “adults not getting along with adults.” She stated we want to make sure we have something, and we could discuss what the recourse could be if people do not follow the Code of Conduct. She stated this is also a CAPRA item, and we did pass the Code of Conduct piece so that there is a Code of Conduct for certain things; but having one that is parks-wide is something that CAPRA commented that we need to have. She stated before an activity starts, we should review the Code of Conduct with the participants and our volunteers.

Mr. Krauss asked if this is adult-specific recognizing that there are a number of youths in the Leagues. He asked if there would be two separate Codes of Conduct. Ms. Tierney stated for the Leagues it would be parents and kids. She stated we can make it general enough so that it would apply to all ages.

Mr. Brody stated there is a Code of Conduct for all of the Leagues. Mr. Blundi stated soccer has a Code of Conduct which has to be agreed to as part of the Registration Agreement. Mr. Krauss asked that copies of those be provided to Ms. Tierney to see if she can find one that will work for the Leagues and any general classes that people sign up for. Mr. Krauss stated he assumes the Pool has a Code of Conduct; and Ms. Tierney stated there is one for the staff but not one for the Pool members. She stated there were some draft documents they worked on which were a combination of the different documents that we have which she will bring to the Board soon, but how that is implemented and what our expectations are needs to be discussed. Ms. Tierney stated she would like to have any feedback by November 25 so that it can be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Ms. Tierney stated she has started to draft League Agreements, and she will coordinate with the Leagues to discuss those. She stated the Swim Team could be included in these formal League Agreements as well.

Mr. Brody asked if the document is in line with what other Townships do; and Ms. Tierney stated it is, and it is also in line with the CAPRA requirements for how we interact with our Leagues. Mr. Brody noted the section Rules and Exceptions Governing Sanctioned Organizations #3, and he asked if that could potentially lead to a re-distribution of field space amongst existing user groups and “non-existing user groups.” He asked if “any organization meeting the sanctioning criteria will be given fair and equal treatment in gaining access to scheduling of the playing facilities” is a step toward Play For All. Ms. Tierney stated she feels Mr. Brody is reading more into that than she anticipated. She stated this is what the Park Board helped edit before. Mr. Brody stated this was written pre-Play for All. Ms. Tierney stated we do need to consider the Play For All Plan as we review these policies.

CAPRA Update

Ms. Tierney stated every year we will have a CAPRA report which will show that we are living up to everything that we set forth as part of the CAPRA process. She stated she will be getting information about what our report should contain adding that we continue to constantly evaluate what we are doing as a CAPRA community. She stated we continue to operate at this high standard.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Brody stated the Oxford Valley path looks very nice with the grass growing in. Ms. Tierney stated the ADA ramps should be going in shortly. She stated Schuyler is moving forward, and Memorial Park is getting the updates that it needed.

Mr. Blundi stated he appreciates the recaps that Ms. Tierney is doing after the events as well as the weekly report that is sent to the Park Board which is very helpful.

Mr. Brody thanked Ms. Tierney for all of her efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one from the public wishing to speak at this time.

There being no further business, Mr. Brody moved, Mr. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Rock, Secretary

