

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 10, 2024**

A meeting of the Disability Advisory Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held via zoom on April 10, 2024. Chairperson Huchler opened the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Those present:

Lisa Huchler, Chairperson  
Cynthia Lang, Vice Chairperson  
Michele Williams, Secretary  
Abbey Yeatts, Member

Matt Ross, Supervisor Liaison- Absent

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 13, 2024 MINUTES**

Ms. Lang moved, Ms. Williams seconded, and the March 13, 2024 minutes were approved unanimously.

**OPEN POSITIONS**

The committee welcomed Ms. Abbey Yeatts to our committee. We are thrilled that she brings awareness and experience to our advisory committee for LMT.

Ms. Huchler stated that there is currently 1 open member position and 1 alternate position for the Disability Advisory Board (DAB). Please send a letter of interest with a current resume to township manager at [admin@lmt.org](mailto:admin@lmt.org). For further information, please email [dab@lmt.org](mailto:dab@lmt.org) or leave a message at the LMT main number at 267-274-1100. You can also reach out to any LMT Disability Advisory Board Member.

**Bucks County CIL Center of Independent Living (CIL)**

From their website-[www.buckscil.org](http://www.buckscil.org)

The Bucks County CIL's goal is to provide these 5 CORE Services, Information and Referral, Independent Living Skills Educational, Peer Support, Transition Services and Advocacy. They are the foundation of all our programs. We will continue to provide these services by phone, virtually or at an alternative location in the community. We will resume regular operations on May 1, 2024. Our new office is located at 3466 Progress Drive, Suite 111, Bensalem, PA 19020 on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. We will be open for in-person services by appointment Monday through Friday 8 AM to 4 PM.

## **FUTURE LMT COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Strolling for Service Dogs event will be held on 4/20/24 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. This event is a fundraiser to offset costs for support dogs.

It is too late for us to participate this year and we should probably attend to support their event and look to see if it is something we might want to do in the future.

## **LMT PROJECT UPDATES**

Several Parks and Rec projects were included in the ADA Transition Plan completed in 2022. The Disability Advisory Board (DAB) will review plans, work with Parks and Rec in any planning, suggestions and monitor as progress is made.

Parks and Rec Projects and other projects to follow up in 2024:

5 Mile Woods - Volunteers helped with the Five Mile Woods ADA Accessible path (710 linear feet of composite wood path to provide accessibility nature) on March 9, 2024. The parking is complete, and the path from the parking to the entrance pad is completed. Still need to fix the small lip to the bathroom which will be the only barrier. Lisa Huchler has met and worked with staff on proper signage.

Five Mile Woods Ribbon Cutting, Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 12:30 pm - Ms. Huchler updated everyone on the event and progress of the preparation of accessible path. It is wonderful to see residents, former DAB members and the many volunteers and township employees involved and invited to event. Hope to see everyone there.

Memorial/Secret Garden - Parks and Rec has reached out for quotes on shade structure and surfacing at Memorial Park and are considering using this new to us product called SofSurface which is a tile system. Monica Tierney shared the tile system with Ms. Huchler and it seems to be a very thick material. Ms. Tierney will reach out to others to see how it holds up to the outside elements.

Due to cost constraints and the expense of the new surface it is unlikely there will be funds to do the shade at the Secret Garden anytime soon.

Macclesfield Open House - Park & Recreation Department and the Macclesfield Park Steering Committee hosted a Macclesfield Park Open House on March 26, 2024. They are asking everyone to see website for survey for what is important or what you would like to see at the Park. Here is the link to the interactive feedback page for the Macclesfield Park Master Plan <https://lowermakefield-pa.civilspace.io/en/projects/macclesfield-park-master-plan>

No updates

Pool Bathrooms

Veterans Park

Community Center handicapped door and parking issues update. Seniors expressed need to have for community center.

Parks and Rec programming- reviewing the ADA transition plan; intend to focus on programming and how we can work with better accessibility. Discussed that Ms. Yeatts may be a perfect member to work with the ADA programming. Her educational background, work and personal experience will be beneficial to the Parks and Rec Department. Their department just hired a new program director and as soon as this project starts, we will see if we can offer our input.

## **BUILDING PLAN REVIEW**

Prickett Preserve – discussed updates and plans on new restaurant at barn and elevator and parking at Wegmans, in addition to parking and accessibility crossing to Shady Brook during events. Ms. Yeatts expressed traffic had been manageable and ADA parking at the Wegman’s was very good. Ms. William’s did express that traffic study or managing with all events may be in need.

Will continue to review plans as they come in for other retail establishments at Prickett Preserve.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Yeatts brought up that she attended the Phillies game and they had just installed adult size changing tables. This made it very easy to assist with the needs of her older child. This is something we ever thought of and should propose to Park and Rec for pool and other areas.

### Grants and Corporate Partnerships

Would like to start looking into grants or partnerships with local businesses. This may provide funds for projects like the shade at the Secret Garden at Memorial Park, etc.

### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Next meeting will be held in June 12, 2024. 6:00 pm via zoom.  
Meetings for May and July 2024 have been cancelled.

### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Huchler moved and Ms. Lang seconded to adjourn, approved unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michele Williams  
Secretary, Disability Advisory Board