

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2026

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on June 9, 2026. 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

Others:	Rob Vandegrift, Program Manager
	Judi Reiss, Supervisor Liaison

1. Approval of Minutes

It was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of April 14, 2026.

2. Eagle Scout Presentations

- a. Tarin Smylie – Five Mile Woods Boardwalk Classroom Connection
- Mr. Smylie explained his project to replace old wooden posts with six by sixes and rebar in the outdoor classroom area at Five Mile Woods Preserve. He provided details on the plan including transportation of materials, safety briefings, and disposal of old wood. Six to eight Scouts are estimated to help with the project which will start in July or August. The cost will be about \$700, and Mr. Smylie described how funds will be raised.

Mr. John Heilferty, Five Mile Woods Naturalist, stated the new boardwalk project funded by a PECO Green Grant will complement Mr. Smylie's work.

Mr. LaBar moved, Ms. Rock seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve Mr. Smylie's Eagle Scout project.

b. Brian Coogan – Overtopping Old Wooden Boardwalk

Mr. Coogan explained his project to refurbish a 300-foot section of the the Five Mile Woods boardwalk with textured fascia boards to improve traction. He discussed his plan to inspect and replace damaged boards, organize workdays, and supervise Scouts. The project is expected to start in August, and Mr. Coogan will pay all costs.

Mr. Blundi moved, Mr. LaBar seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve Mr. Coogan's Eagle Scout Project.

3. Liaison Reports

Mr. Mike Spillane, Pennsbury Athletic Association, reported on the baseball and softball seasons, upcoming tournaments, and the installation of new scoreboards. He noted the Gems 50th Anniversary celebration and the upcoming 50th Anniversary event.

4. Snipes Property Proposal

Mr. Krauss stated the proposal is for disc golf at the Snipes property. He explained the history of the Snipes property and previous proposals. He stated disc golf is a fast-growing sport with low start-up costs and minimal maintenance. The proposal includes 18 holes, tee pads, multi-tiered baskets, and wayfinding signage. He highlighted the benefits of disc golf including its low impact on the environment and the potential for community engagement.

Mr. Blundi raised concerns about parking and egress, and Mr. Krauss acknowledged the need for professional design. The designer would also take into consideration the existing landscape. Walking paths and picnic spots were suggested to complement the disc golf course.

Ms. Rock stated there will be significant clearing needed initially; and Mr. Krauss stated while volunteers could do it, it will probably be done by the Township or the Township would hire professionals.

Mr. Richard May, 1270 Creamery Road, stated he supports the idea but does have concerns about traffic and parking.

Mr. Bill Gaboda, Township resident, was in favor of incorporating walking paths to make the area accessible to those not playing disc golf.

Mr. Mike Laurendeau, 1537 Quarry Road, expressed strong support for the proposal and offered to help with clearing the area.

Mr. Mark Parolli expressed support for using the land, but noted his concerns about restricting disc golf to members only comparing it to the controlled access of pickleball facilities. It was noted that the pickleball courts at Memorial Park and Cardinal are open to the public outside of Club play.

Mr. Krauss confirmed the intent to keep disc golf open to all residents and not just members.

Mr. Blundi stated he would not be in favor of disc golf only and it should be part of a larger park development plan including walking trails, gardens, and other passive recreation. Mr. Krauss agreed and emphasized the need for a comprehensive plan that includes various recreational activities.

Mr. LaBar moved, Ms. Rock seconded, and it was unanimously carried to propose to the Board of Supervisors to look into a disc golf course, walking paths, and other passive uses for Snipes.

5. Park & Recreation Report

a. Capital Project Updates – Cardinal, Revere, Memorial Park

Mr. Vandegrift provided an update on the completion of Cardinal Courts and the shelving of the Revere project due to Budget overruns. He stated the Board of Supervisors approved the new design for Memorial Park which included more shading.

b. Pool Updates

Mr. Vandegrift highlighted strong attendance and the need for a new Olympic pool heater which is not feasible for this season. Swim lessons registration is on par with last year. A Pool open house is scheduled for June 11.

c. Program Updates

Mr. Vandegrift discussed the success of the Parkinson's dance class, which is full, and the need to ensure participants meet the program's requirements.

Mr. Vandegrift noted a strong interest in volleyball camp as well as cancellations of outdoor adventure and pottery camps due to low interest.

Mr. Vandegrift noted upcoming events including a trip to Ireland which has generated significant interest and a Parkinson's program that runs from June 25 to August 27.

Mr. Mark Parolli raised concerns about residents at Regency not being aware of programs, and Mr. Vandegrift discussed ways to improve communication through email and newsletters.

6. Senior Programs and Parking Issues

Ms. Reiss shared details about a successful Seniors event celebrating the 250th Anniversary which was well attended and featured patriotic songs by the Men of Song. She noted the Seniors' request for better parking due to high attendance at their events.

7. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

There was no one wishing to make public comment at this time.

8. Other Business

Mr. Krauss stated the Board does not typically meet in July, and it is possible that meeting may be cancelled. Whether an August meeting will be held will be discussed in the future.

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There being no further business, Mr. LaBar moved, Ms. Rock seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Rock, Secretary