

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – JUNE 11, 2013

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on June 11, 2013. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Those present: David Fritchey, Chairman
 Patricia Bunn, Secretary
 Dave Gordon, Member
 Andrew Newbon, Member
 Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director

Absent: Fran McDonald, Park & Rec Board, Vice Chair
 Dave Malinowski, Park & Rec Board Member
 Kristin Tyler, Supervisor Liaison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Newbon moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the April, 2013 and May, 2013 Minutes as written.

APPROVE REQUEST FROM LOWER MAKEFIELD FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION TO
INSTALL CROWD CONTROL ON MACCLESFIELD FIELDS E AND G FOR 2013
FOOTBALL SEASON

Mr. Steve Arbakov was present and stated this is his fifth year with Lower Makefield Football, and his third year as a Board member. He stated the organization has been growing each year.

Mr. Arbakov stated they have been changing some rules and other things that were done in the past, and they would like to discuss sideline control. He stated currently there is no control, and it is the referees and the coaches telling the parents and others to step away from the sidelines. He stated they would like to create a buffer zone between the playing field and each sideline on both football fields. He stated it would be 10' yards or more from the sideline to the area where they would create either a fence or cones with nylon roping. He stated they would put up a notice on their Website to let everyone know that it is to be players only inside the buffer zone during the game.

Mr. Arbakov stated the purpose is for player and spectator safety. He stated there are sometimes overzealous parents either yelling at the referees or their own children, and they wanted to give the players a "comfort zone" so that they can have fun playing.

Mr. Arbakov stated their original proposal was expensive which was mesh fencing. He stated in order to do that on each sideline it would cost approximately \$7,000 and would require a semi-permanent socket to be placed in the ground every ten yards; and at the end of each game, they would have to pull it up and put caps on the sockets. He stated this would be time consuming and very expensive, and is probably not necessary for their purposes. In the packet provided a picture was shown of this option. Mr. Wysocki asked the height, and Mr. Arbakov stated it is 4' high.

Mr. Arbakov stated the option they are interested in pursuing is cones and roping. A picture of this option was shown in the hand-out. He stated the cost is reasonable, and they would have cones every fifteen yards from end zone to end zone so it would probably be seven cones per sideline. He stated it is soft rubber, and the base would be a sixteen-pound rubber base. From each cone there would be roping. He stated they hope that this will serve as a deterrent to keep other than players out of this area. This would be on both sidelines on both fields.

Mr. Wysocki asked where they would be stored, and Mr. Arbakov stated they would be stored in the shed. Mr. Wysocki asked who would be responsible for set up and taking them down. Mr. Arbakov stated there is a home and away team; and the home team for the first game is required to set up each field, and the home team of the last game of the day is required to put everything back in the shed.

Mr. Arbakov stated the cone itself would be 49" high, and the bottom portion would be 7" in width. The rubber base is approximately 16 pounds so it could withstand some wind, but would also easily tip over if someone were to hit into it.

Ms. Liney stated she is not sure how much space there is between the out of bounds line and the parking lot. Mr. Arbakov stated there is enough room to rope it. Ms. Liney stated she would not want spectators being forced to stand in the parking lot, and Mr. Arbakov stated there is sufficient space.

Ms. Bunn stated she is concerned that kids will still be sitting under the roping, and Mr. Fritchey stated they will still be ten yards away from the fields.

Mr. Gordon stated for soccer they put both teams on the far side of the field and all the parents are then on the other side of the field. Mr. Arbakov stated he has never seen this done in football. He stated parents usually go down the field as the play continues. He stated they feel the cones and ropes will be the easiest way for them to do this, it is not permanent, and it will be put away after every game.

Mr. Arbakov stated they are not looking for help with funding, and they are only asking for permission to do this. He stated originally when they were considering the mesh fencing which would be more expensive they were considering doing some advertising. Mr. Newbon stated if there was someone sitting on the side, there might be an advertising banner obstructing the view, and what is now being proposed does not obstruct the view.

Ms. Liney stated she does not have a problem with the proposal provided it is not too tight with the crowds from the sidelines to the parking or on the other field where they would be pushing up toward Field F. Mr. Arbakov stated ten yards is not a definite, and they could go to seven yards; but even if they do the ten yards, he does not feel it would be a problem. Mr. Arbakov stated they also discussed having it at ten yards in the middle and then tapering it in going down to the end zone.

Mr. Newbon moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the proposal.

Mr. Arbakov discussed the numbers of those playing in their program. He also noted that 70% of the Pennsbury High School football players went through their program.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated a preconstruction meeting was held June 7 with the contractor, Ply Mar, for the upcoming Samost Tract project. The contractor will begin mobilization at the site the week of June 17. The contractor will close access to the area of the mulch fields, so parking for the Stoddart Complex will be in the Stoddart lot or the first row along Edgewood Road of the Pool parking lot. Ply Mar will be using three subcontractors – clearing, landscaping, and fencing. The first phase will be clearing and should begin by the end of June. Seeding is still targeted for September 1 through 15. The contractor will grade the field as requested by the Township.

Ms. Liney stated tomorrow evening kicks off the Annual PAA Fathers Day Fast pitch Softball Tournament in the Township. The feature game will be Thursday evening at the Fred Allan Softball Complex and PAA will award two scholarships at the ceremony before the game. Ms. Liney stated Mr. Fritchey will attend, and anyone else is welcome to attend on behalf of the Township.

Ms. Liney stated Musco lighting is in the process of repairing a faulty timer serving the four tennis courts and the basketball court at Community Park. She stated they expect repairs, which are under warranty, to be complete by the end of this week.

Ms. Liney stated the weekly Farmers Market and the Annual Veterans Flea Market fundraiser enjoyed electric service as of this week at Veterans Square. The Park crew will run electric to the light on the flag pole in the next thirty days.

Ms. Liney stated this past weekend Pool administration took pictures for the Membership ID Cards on Saturday at the Pool. Approximately twenty Pool members took advantage of this offering.

Ms. Liney stated registration for the Pool is ongoing, and they are hopeful they can continue to close the gap and hit the budgeted numbers in the coming weeks.

Ms. Liney recommended Tuesday, July 16th for the annual July Meeting and Road Tour of park facilities. She stated this third Tuesday in July would be more in line with the Board of Supervisors schedule in July, as they are not meeting the first Wednesday, but will meet July 17. She stated construction at the Samost Tract should also be further along at that time. It was agreed that the Road Tour would take place on July 16 as recommended.

Mr. Gordon asked about the Pool Membership, and Ms. Liney stated she feels they are seventy-one families off of the budgeted number at this point. She stated she is hopeful they will pick up thirty-five to forty more families. Mr. Gordon asked how many non-residents joined, and Ms. Liney stated fifty-three families joined. Ms. Bunn noted that the NAC is not ready, and Ms. Liney stated they might be able to pick up some additional members because of this. Mr. Gordon asked about lifeguards, and Ms. Liney stated they hired everyone who applied this year.

LEAGUE LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Gordon announced that the YMS Clash U-17 Boys won the Regional I Championship in New Hampshire and will be competing in Florida in July for a National Title. He stated there is a European custom that if a team wins a National Championship, there is a permanent star on the logo for every National

Championship won. He stated the YMS Thunder won a National Championship a few years ago, so YMS is altering their logo to include a star that will be there permanently representing that National Championship. He stated they are hopeful that they will get a second star in July.

There being no further business, Mr. Gordon moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary