

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on September 10, 2013. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman
Patricia Bunn, Secretary (joined meeting in progress)
David Gordon, Member
David Malinowski, Member
Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director
Kristin Tyler, Supervisor Liaison (joined meeting in progress)

Absent: Fran McDonald, Park & Rec Board Vice Chair
Andrew Newbon, Park & Rec Board Member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wysocki moved, Mr. Gordon seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of June, 2013 as corrected.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney reported that the Samost project continues on schedule. She stated drain installation is completed. Both infields have been sodded and are being watered twice a day. The 70 foot field has been fine graded, seeded, and fertilized. The 90 foot field will be seeded next week. Topsoil continues to be delivered for spreading in the outfields at this site. The embankment closest to the water tower has been seeded. Grading continues at the site for the parking lot and path system. Installation of the fencing has begun. She stated they had a meeting today with the contractor and Township engineer regarding the location of one of the rain gardens. Boucher and James will evaluate if that garden can be shifted a few feet to allow better access to the concession stand.

Ms. Liney stated Ply Mar gave an estimate of \$5,800 per field for remedial drainage work at the Fred Allan complex. PAA will partner with the Township and pick up 50% of the costs for improving the baseball and softball complexes in the Township, and has proposed one complex be addressed per year.

Mr. Fritchey asked where the rain garden is currently proposed to be situated, and Ms. Liney stated originally it was not located at the location near the concession stand, but when they had the recent rain storm, there was a lot of run off from the site, and they enlarged it and moved it closer to the concession stand. She stated now they are going to see about shifting it back again. She stated Boucher & James will look at this and get back to the Township about it. She stated Ms. Tyler had gone to the site with her to meet with them, and they then reviewed the Plans at the Township Building. She stated the original Plan does not show it at that location, and it does show the indoor batting facility at that location.

Mr. Fritchey asked about the remedial work, and Ms. Liney stated the estimate was \$5,800 per field which she feels is a competitive price. She stated they will dig up the infields on all three fields and put in drains 6" below the surface. She stated currently they are two feet deep. She stated they will pull off the clay and install their mix and then laser grade it. She stated currently it is totally flat, and it will be laser graded so that there is run off, and they will put in a outlet as well for the drains to go into. Mr. Fritchey asked how many they will do this year, and Ms. Liney stated she would recommend doing all three fields at the Fred Allan Complex since it is a competitive price particularly with PAA partnering with the Township.

Mr. Gordon asked if they are giving a good price because their equipment is here, and Ms. Liney stated she was told they would be back in the spring regardless but she does not feel they would have their earth-moving equipment at that time. Mr. Gordon asked if the price would hold for Stoddart if they do that next year, and Ms. Liney stated she was not sure. Mr. Gordon stated there may be an advantage to doing it all while their equipment is here. Ms. Liney stated they indicated they would do this work in November

Mr. Jason Simon asked if they can correct the erosion in the spring, and Ms. Liney stated they indicated that this would not be a problem. Mr. Simon stated he is concerned about winter months and melting. Ms. Liney stated she feels November should be okay since they have done field work in November before.

Ms. Liney stated the bike path installation at the Stoddart Complex will be completed by the end of this week. She stated once the path is paved, the Township will restrict vehicle access on it. The bike path resurfacing in front of the Fire House at Stony Hill and Heacock is scheduled to be completed this week.

Ms. Liney stated fall Permits for the Township user groups have been issued and play has begun.

Ms. Liney stated the Pennsbury High School Boys Varsity and JV soccer teams will play at Macclesfield next Monday, September 16th on the turf field. Both Pennsbury boys and girls soccer teams have games scheduled on the artificial turf field this season.

Ms. Liney stated the Lower Makefield Seniors hosted a Senior Health Fair today in the Township Building. The Fair was well attended and offered information on a variety of resources available for the Senior community.

Ms. Liney stated tomorrow the Township will remember the 9-11 attacks in ceremonies at the Garden of Reflection. To accommodate the wishes of all parties, two separate remembrance events will take place – one in the morning at 8:30 a.m. and one in the evening. Both ceremonies are open to the community.

Ms. Liney stated the Veterans Square Foundation has achieved IRS 501 C 3 status allowing the Foundation to move forward in the bid process for construction of the Veterans Square monument. The Committee has raised \$175,000 towards the estimated project cost of \$200,000. The Committee will informally bid the project in a few weeks for a better idea of project cost.

Ms. Liney stated the Park & Recreation Board members received in their packets a copy of the proposed Veterans Square Park Design Concept Plan presented to the Township. Ms. Liney stated the Township will be planting fifty buffer trees on the border area between the CVS and Veterans Square Park. She stated the Veterans Committee included in their Concept a Memorial grove with thirty ornamental trees in addition to the fifty buffer trees to be planted. She stated this addition needs to be vetted and reviewed by the Park Board with a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Concerns include whether this is the most efficient use of that area, the impact on the Farmers Market, camps, and other programs which also take place at that facility, and the increased ongoing maintenance and replacement costs associated with the orchard.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels that orchard would take up about one third of the area, and the Monument will take up a significant portion of the center or the area so he is not sure that the Farmers Market could continue to operate there or any of the other uses if they had a whole grove of trees. He stated the Environmental Advisory Council may also be concerned with the proposed ornamental trees as they usually want native species, and he is not sure what the Veterans Committee is planning so it may be in conflict with the philosophical approach of the EAC. He feels if these trees were installed, it would make this property a single-use facility and make it a Memorial only that is largely unusable for other purposes.

Mr. Gordon stated this is the first time he has heard about an orchard despite the fact that they have been discussing the Memorial for years, Ms. Liney agreed. Ms. Liney stated this was new to the Township and it may have been a result of losing the large oak tree. Mr. Fritchey stated with the oak tree and the Monument, there would still have been a significant amount of usable space. Mr. Gordon stated the plan was always to continue to allow this property to be used for a number of uses, and he does not feel it is disrespectful to the Memorial to want to bring people there. He stated he feels this is a good way to celebrate the Veterans and more people would be there to celebrate them if the property had other uses.

Mr. Wysocki asked the purpose of the buffer, and Ms. Liney stated it is to buffer the view of the CVS, and Mr. Gordon stated he is not opposed to that. Ms. Liney stated the Township is in favor of the buffer.

Mr. Gordon moved to advise the Board of Supervisors that the Park & Rec Board supports the installation of the buffer but do not recommend an orchard be planted there as it detracts from other activities they would like to continue at Veterans Square.

Mr. Michael Fox, 24 Keystone Avenue, Morrisville asked if they mean an orchard of fruit trees, and Mr. Gordon stated the orchard was proposed to be ornamental trees and they were using “orchard” and “grove” interchangeably.

Ms. Liney stated she believes that the buffer trees to be used are being reclaimed from another site.

Mr. Malinowski seconded and the Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Tyler joined the meeting at this time.

Mr. Gordon asked about the Pool, and Ms. Liney stated they had a successful season although the Membership was off 8% even with the addition of seventy non-resident families. She stated it has been recommended that they continue this program for next year. She stated members of the Newtown Swim Club did come over and expressed interest in joining through the Sponsorship Program. She stated the Movie Night was very successful, and next year they look forward to scheduling some other special events. Ms. Tyler stated she agrees with Ms. Liney that they should focus on family activities.

Ms. Tyler stated compared to last year, the feedback she got this year was more positive with regard to guard attentiveness. She stated there are still some things they will work on, and they will look for more feedback from the Pool customers through a questionnaire and survey she has been working on with Ms. Liney and Mr. Fedorchak. Ms. Liney stated they have an excellent safety record which is a credit to the staff.

There was some discussion about where the mulch piles will be located, and Ms. Tyler stated it is likely that it will be somewhere in the center fifty acres of the Patterson Farm that is not subject to the County easement although the staging area has not been set there yet. She stated this year she feels they will stage the operation at Patterson and Snipes. She stated on the Patterson Farm it would be between Janney and Satterthwaite. She stated they are also limited as to how much mulch they can put on Patterson Farm by virtue of the easements.

Mr. Simon stated when he was a Supervisor they wanted to stop this program since the mulch piles ruin the land underneath, and he hopes they are considering this. Ms. Tyler stated that is why there is preparation required before they can put the mulch down. She stated Mr. Fedorchak can speak in more detail about this since he and Mr. Kall have been working on this. She stated they are working with the Heritage Conservancy regarding the center fifty acres, and that may have an impact on what happens with the staging.

Mr. Wysocki asked if there is an existing access road to get to this location, and Ms. Tyler stated they have the road by Janney-Brown; but it depends on what happens with the Satterthwaite House and the Appeal. She stated this is why Snipes became a necessary tract. Mr. Simon stated he does not feel that the Township should be in the mulch business, and they should deal with the distribution of this waste as other Municipalities do. He stated at some point the tub grinder will require replacement or significant investment. Ms. Tyler stated they did get a good report on the tub grinder from the Public Works review indicating that it has another ten years. Mr. Simon stated they got a report prior to that on the same tub grinder that was not good, so they will see who is right. Ms. Tyler stated they have even been leasing out the tub grinder to other Municipalities to earn some additional funds. Mr. Simon stated he does not feel mulch should be on open space and it has been an eyesore at Samost and now the neighbors will get a tree line and ball fields and not a mulch pile.

DISCUSSION OF PARK & RECREATION CHAPTER OF THE UPDATED LOWER
MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

Ms. Lisa Wolff was present from the Bucks County Planning Commission. She stated for the last three to four months she has been meeting with the Township's Planning Commission. She stated the Township updates the Comprehensive Plan every ten years. She stated they met for the first time on this update in May, and they have presented different Chapters every month. She stated in July they presented the Draft Park & Rec Chapter which generated a lot of questions. She stated she did add to the Chapter a listing of the Park & Recreation facilities which was not in the current Comprehensive Plan and she had gotten this information from the Township Website. She stated when they made the presentation to the Planning Commission in July, she indicated to them that they would be meeting with Ms. Liney; and she did meet with her, Mr. Fritchey, and Ms. Tyler in August.

Ms. Wolff stated she had listed the Five Mile Woods as a Park & Rec facility, but it is really viewed more as Open Space. She stated in the Park & Rec Chapter there is an analysis on how much recreation land they have and how much they would need based on the population, and when you add the Five Mile Woods it takes the Township well over the requirement and does not reflect the true Park & Rec needs.

Ms. Wolff stated after she met with Township staff in August, she made some revisions based on the discussions and information she obtained. Ms. Wolff stated one of the questions she had was that she did not know what was the current Park & Rec Plan, and she learned that it was the Park & Rec Action Plan Update from 1997. Ms. Wolff stated Ms. Liney also provided updated information from the Road Tours. Ms. Wolff stated she has revised the Chapter based on this additional information.

Ms. Wolff stated from the beginning of the project they were told that this is an update of the Plan and not a complete overall. She stated a lot of the language is staying the same, and they are updating where numbers have changed and are addressing issues that have come up. She stated they also need to consider if there are different thoughts which need to be changed.

Ms. Bunn joined the meeting at this time.

Ms. Wolff noted Page 3 which is the listing of sites, and stated this has been added to the Chapter. It lists the sites, the facilities on them, and the age of the sites. Ms. Wolff stated in revising this chart, they no longer have Five Mile Woods included. She stated on Page 4 they have provided an explanation on the core recreation areas, and it indicates that Five Mile Woods is really considered as open space so it is not listed. She stated the Golf Course is also not listed since the Action Plan states that should be considered separately and is not used to determine the core recreation area. She stated adding the Park & Rec facilities including Snipes and Samost, they come up with 281.9 acres; but based on the standards that are generally used to determine adequate park land which is ten acres of recreation land per 1,000 people in the community, with a population of 32,059 which was the 2010 Census population, the Township should have approximately 326 acres of public park land. She stated the Township is short of this by approximately 44 acres.

Ms. Wolff stated the ten acre standard is an adopted standard that is in the Action Plan, and she believes that the NRPA now has a more complex way to determine adequacy which breaks it down into various types of parks such as neighborhood park, community park, and regional parks; and because of the complexity of this, a lot of Municipalities just use the general standard. Ms. Wolff stated the other more recent thought as to adequacy for a community is user wants and wishes by taking surveys of residents to see what types of facilities they want. Ms. Wolff stated when the Township updates their Park & Rec Plan they may want to consider this further in more detail.

Mr. Wysocki stated while he recognizes that she did not do the calculation using the more complex formula, he asked Ms. Wolff if she has a sense whether this would put the Township in better or worse shape. Ms. Wolff stated a lot of this involves surveys, having meetings, and getting a lot of public input to determine where the wants and needs are. She stated by looking at the types of parks, the NRPA bases this on size when they discuss neighborhood, community, and regional parks. She stated what they could do is look at the parks they have, and based on the size and use, try to categorize them. She stated she does not know if the Township would be over or under. Ms. Wolff stated she has heard that unless they are doing a full-blown Park & Rec Plan, communities do not really go to that extent.

Mr. Fritchey stated looking at the 281.9 acres on Page 3, the Snipes Tract is currently undeveloped and the Samost Tract which is currently listed as undeveloped is in the course of being developed at this time so they may want to change that to “currently under development and should be on line within a year or two.” He stated if they have 281.9 acres but 33 of it has not been touched, they are really at 248 acres which he feels is fairly significantly under the 326 acres recommended. He stated while it is true that they do have 285 acres in the Five

Mile Woods, if you were to apply the ten acres per 1,000 that in and of itself would account for 28,000 people and it does not serve the recreational needs of anyone although it is a nice amenity and a nice nature preserve which is very valuable to the Township. He stated he feels Five Mile Woods is rightfully not considered in the calculation. He feels they are probably at 70% of what they should have.

Mr. Gordon asked about the tennis courts at Revere and stated he assumes they are not open for tennis; however, Ms. Liney stated they are available, and they do crack fill it and people do use them.

Ms. Wolff stated another area new to the Park & Rec Chapter are the paragraphs on the walking/biking path system. She stated the Township has a fabulous system recognizing that there are gaps here and there. She stated the Township has a nice network in many areas of the Township where they link residential areas with the commercial areas, a lot of the Park & Rec areas, and the Township Complex. She stated the Planning Commission is very proud of this, and they wanted to pull this out a little so that it has more prominence in the Chapter. She stated this is why it was set up under its own heading. Ms. Wolff stated they do know about the difficulty completing the bike paths since it is hard to get them to connect especially in areas where there is existing development, and they did add acknowledgement of this in the Chapter.

Ms. Wolff stated there are also several paragraphs on the Bucks County Bicycle Master Plan which is a fairly new document adopted in early 2012. She stated there are several locations in the Township where there are suggested bike routes/paths that the County Plan talks about so there is potential for the Township to link into that County Plan.

Ms. Wolff stated the last major area where they added some language is under Greenways and Trail Planning on Pages 5 and 6. She stated the Bucks County Open Space and Greenways Plan was prepared and adopted in 2011, and in that Plan it identifies potential greenways throughout the County. She stated when you look at the area of Lower Makefield there are four specific areas that are shown where greenways go through and it is basically connecting the River to areas further in land, connection to Yardley, and to Brock Creek.

Ms. Wolff stated under Current Priorities and Future Needs and Recommendations for Action, it is basically the same although they have tried to update where they felt necessary. She stated on Page 9 where they discuss the bicycle and walking path, they added a second paragraph that talks about the need to consider maintenance of the existing path system. She stated while trying to get more paths is a very good goal, it is equally important to maintain what they have currently; and this is why they decided to add this noting that the Manager also felt strongly about this.

Mr. Fritchey stated this is what much of the Budget for bike paths goes to.

Ms. Wolff stated one of the last recommendations on Page 12 is Gift and Grant Policies, and the current Plan discusses establishing policies for accepting gifts and Grants; and she will check with the Township Manager to see if this has been done.

Mr. Fritchey noted Page 11 the paragraph on Memorial Park and suggested that where they note that there will be picnic areas, it should state "picnic areas with pavilions," since they do talk about building pavilions there in the Projected Capital Budget. He stated he feels it is important that they affirm that concept. He stated they should also include the arboretum, and Ms. Wolff stated she was not sure if this was still in the discussion stage. Mr. Fritchey stated this was something they wanted from the beginning. He stated the Garden of Reflection group then indicated they would have an arboretum surrounding the Garden of Reflection and they did get donations of trees many of which are ornamental, no-native trees. He stated the original concept was that there would be trees scattered throughout the park and not just in the area of the Garden of Reflection. He stated he feels that this needs to be reinforced so it is not felt that this has already been met by the arboretum at the Garden of Reflection.

Mr. Wysocki asked if they are still proposing to have the athletic fields and tennis courts at Memorial Park, and Mr. Fritchey stated they are not abandoning those; and he feels it is in the Capital Plan. Mr. Wysocki stated this seems to have been struck from this document, and it was agreed that athletic fields and tennis courts should be put back in.

Mr. Wysocki stated he is concerned with the existing shortage of acreage needed based on the population coupled with the fact that Snipes is about to be taken out of available park space; however, Ms. Tyler stated she does not feel that is a certainty. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel it is problem having mulch at Snipes at this time since it is not being used for anything currently. He stated he does not feel putting mulch there at this time impacts the potential for future use; and he would hope that if they have money to do something at Snipes, they would put the mulch somewhere else. Ms. Tyler stated this is what they did at Samost, and hopefully they will not have such a large storm which resulted in the excessive amount of mulch they had last year.

Mr. Fritchey stated a Plan has been adopted for the development of the Snipes Tract for soccer and a skate park.

Mr. Michael Fox stated when the Board discusses using only native species trees versus ornamental trees, native species are not always the best choice; however, Mr. Fritchey stated he should have that discussion with the Township's Environmental Advisory Council.

Mr. Wysocki asked the targeted completion date for the Master Plan. Ms. Wolff stated the revised Park & Rec Chapter has not gone to the Planning Commission yet. She stated they are trying to do a Chapter a month, and she feels the entire Plan will be done by May or June of next year.

There was further discussion on the calculation for the appropriate amount of recreation needed. Mr. Gordon stated if they used the Golf Course and the Five Mile Woods they would be significantly over, but if they do not use either they are under yet they are both facilities that are used widely by the Township residents for outdoor use. He asked if the information available indicates that those type of uses should be excluded. Mr. Fritchey stated he felt that they were always excluded based on the theory that they are not classified as parks. He stated Golf is limited, and you do have to pay for it and do not have free use. Ms. Wolff stated in both the 1995 and 1997 Action Plan they describe core recreation areas, and in some ways that is different from Park & Rec areas. She stated the core recreation areas as defined is "property intended for use as active recreation or land that is used as passive recreation adjoining active recreation areas and at a minimum serves as a buffer." Mr. Fritchey stated this would be like Memorial Park where they have some active venues but also have buffers and areas for passive recreation such as hiking, jogging, etc. Ms. Wolff stated she feels that description alone probably precludes Five Mile Woods. Mr. Fritchey stated he agrees since there is no active recreation in Five Mile Woods. Ms. Wolff stated it specifically states in the document that Golf Courses would not be counted.

Mr. Gordon asked about the Delaware Canal, but Ms. Bunn stated this is not owned by the Township. Mr. Gordon stated even though the Township does not own it, the Canal goes through the Township and is an area where Township residents fish, jog, bike, etc. He stated it is in the Township, and the residents have full free use of it. Ms. Wolff stated there is a gray area between active and passive. Ms. Bunn stated if they count the Canal, they should count Five Mile Woods since residents do walk in the Five Mile Woods. Mr. Fritchey stated if they were to take only the Canal and Five Mile Woods they would certainly have 326 acres of land in the Township, but no one would feel that if this was all the recreation land they had, that it would be appropriate.

Ms. Wolff stated they should consider whether it has to be active recreation in order to be counted. She stated she cannot really find anything that indicates that it would only be active recreation that should be counted. She stated NRPA suggested that the Park system be considered the core system of park land with a total of 6.5 to 10 acres of developed open space per 1,000 residents. She feels this would be considered to be active. Ms. Bunn stated the Canal is a man-made Canal which was developed and it does have a path. Mr. Fritchey stated he does not feel people consider that to be part of the Lower Makefield Park system. Mr. Fritchey stated he

feels what they have currently based on the numbers provided by Ms. Wolff is less than their objective so he feels they would like to have a document indicating that they are committed to having a full-fledged Park system; and while they are proud of what they have, they recognize that they need to expand and develop the Park system beyond what they have at this time. Ms. Bunn stated she also feels they should state that the Township has a mixture of passive recreation, and Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they do have that and part of that is in the 281 acres they have.

Mr. Gordon stated if there was a Township that had the amount of Park & Recreation Lower Makefield has now but did not have the Five Mile Woods, the Golf Course, and the Delaware Canal, that Township would not have nearly as much as Lower Makefield has. Mr. Fritchey agreed that they have a Park system that they are justifiably very proud of, but he also feels they want further development and completion of the Park system which they have been unable to complete because of lack of funds.

Mr. Wysocki stated when you go to Macclesfield on a week night in the fall and see that it is overflowing, you see that there is a need to develop Snipes. Mr. Fritchey noted the importance of YMS installing the turf field.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels everyone agrees that if they completed Samost, Snipes and Memorial Park as designed and approved, they would be comfortable with the system they have in place, and it would just be a matter of maintaining it.

Ms. Wolff stated she will make the changes discussed and take this back to the Planning Commission.

SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Tyler stated a number of activities are planned tomorrow for the 9-11 Memorial which will include a morning and an evening ceremony.

Ms. Tyler stated they are still discussing how to attract more members to the Pool and how to safeguard the existing residents and members from unreasonable intrusion in their enjoyment and use of the Pool. She stated they did not get any negative feedback this year regarding the Associate Memberships. She stated they are also concerned about safeguarding the discount period and not opening up the Associate Memberships until the discount period is concluded.

Ms. Tyler stated they are looking to get the Community Center started. They want to want to be sensitive to the placement of the Center on the tract. She stated they are looking to the engineer as to the placement so the impact to the surrounding community will be as little as possible.

Mr. Wysocki noted that there was a successful 9-11 Memorial Run this weekend.

LEAGUE LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Jason Simon, PAA, stated they are paying close attention to the building of the baseball fields, and he is glad to see that the slope problem that was previously undetected was addressed. He stated he wants to have continuing dialogue to get the water commitment completed as he understands that it was stuck from the Plans, and he is concerned that it is under construction now, and he would like to see it done when the place is dug up so that it is ready since when the water truck requirement goes away, they will still have growing seasons and want to make sure that it is playable. He stated he does not feel that they should go full schedule until the spring season of 2015 so that they can get two growing seasons, and they will need water on the fields. He stated he is also keeping an eye on the flow of construction and timing.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Liney the status of the water; and Ms. Liney stated the Township Manager had requested the ability to look into a well, and the Boucher & James representative had indicated that the lines would not go across the fields for installation of irrigation, and that can be installed at any time so there was no urgency. Mr. Gordon asked what will happen if the well does not work. Mr. Simon stated in his discussions with Mr. Stainthorpe, he indicated that the cost of tapping into the City line would be approximately \$24,000 and installation to a well would be about half of that. Mr. Simon stated he would like to have a commitment since Park & Rec and PAA talked about this extensively at the beginning of the project, and he is concerned that it was removed after the fact. He stated he has been requesting from the engineers and from the Township the final list of what was included in the final Bid, and he has not received that list yet. He stated he would like to see what the final work order included and did not include. He stated the Board of Supervisors made a commitment on March 19 that they would tap into additional funds to make sure the at the project was done right.

Mr. Michael Fox stated he does not feel that wells can be depended on.

Mr. Simon stated the Park & Recreation Board has spent years trying to get the project initiated, and he is concerned that certain things will not get completed appropriately. He stated currently they are using water trucks. Mr. Gordon asked how long the water trucks will be there, and Mr. Simon stated he feels it is until grass starts growing. Mr. Bunn stated it is usually based upon when the engineer agrees that there is a full stand of grass, and it could be the fall, spring, or summer depending upon how successful they are growing grass. She stated once the Township accepts it, there is no further commitment that the contractor has to continue to water. Mr. Gordon stated Mr. Simon is concerned that once the Township accepts it, if there is not water there it will be dependent on rain. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels it would be foolish if they did that, and he does not feel the Township would spend \$750,000 to build the fields and not be able to water them. Mr. Simon stated they are not spending this amount, and they are spending less than 60% of what the \$1 million Grant was initially to be spent on. Mr. Fritchey stated he still does not feel that would spend even a half million dollars and not water the fields. Mr. Simon stated his understanding is that they took the \$24,000 line item out of the final plan. He stated he cannot get a copy of the final plan despite asking for this repeatedly from the Township Manager. He stated he has also asked the Township engineer for this.

Mr. Malinowski stated he felt this item was left in when they discussed it at their meeting, and Ms. Tyler stated they pulled paving and they pulled water for the second phase after the season when they no longer have the obligation to seed and water. Ms. Bunn stated this was done with the understanding that a well would be put in. Mr. Wysocki asked if they have started to investigate if a well is possible, and Ms. Tyler stated Mr. Fedorchak is moving forward with hiring a geologist. Mr. Simon stated this only happened because he has phoned about this every day; however, Ms. Tyler disagreed. Ms. Tyler stated when water was removed as one of the line items, it was not removed because they were not going to do it, it was removed because they know they have the contractor's obligation to water the fields. She stated during that time, when the Township does not need to water as it is being watered by the contractor, they are investigating whether a well is feasible; and if not, they will have to take the course to the water tower. Mr. Simon stated he feels that this is incorrect. He stated he feels it is because of his involvement in this has triggered all of this. He stated he feels they are politicizing the delay of this; however, Ms. Tyler disagreed and stated there were discussions about the water previously.

Mr. Fritchey stated they need to be capable of watering the fields, and it remains to be determined if this can be done through a well and if not, they will make a recommendation that they tap into the water lines. Mr. Fritchey stated he briefly discussed this with the Township engineer; and his understanding is that the way

the fields are laid out if it turns out that they cannot have a well, according to the engineer there is sufficient space not on the playing fields where they could trench to the Municipal line and it would not be a problem. He stated he feels the tests will be done over the next few months, and they will then make a decision. He stated he does not feel they will spend a lot of money to build nice fields and then have dead grass because they are not getting watered.

Ms. Bunn stated it was always the intent to put in a well or tap into the water lines. she stated currently there is no urgency. She stated she feels that they have at least until the spring for the fields to be turned over to the Township. She stated they removed it from the bid because they did not have the money. She stated they were not being ignored; and since they wanted to get both fields in, they had to choose what items could be taken out. She stated while having a well would save the Township money, they may still have to tap into the water.

Mr. Simon stated while he appreciates this, this project was initially appropriately funded and taking out paving and water to save money now is of concern to him as a citizen because of the way they allocated the funds. Ms. Bunn stated the water will be there. Mr. Simon stated he does not feel Ms. Bunn can authorize that the money will be there since it comes from the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Bunn stated the Board of Supervisors assured them that they would find the money. Mr. Simon stated they assured him on March 19 that if they had to find up to \$150,000 to do the project right, they would; and after that they had them pull the water and the paving. Ms. Bunn stated they did not pull it to never do it. Mr. Simon stated he does not feel that they can state that in a certain amount of time that the parking lot will definitely be paved, and Ms. Bunn stated it would be less expensive to add that to a Road Program than to have the contractor do a small area. She stated the intention is to have it done. Mr. Simon stated the reason he is advocating for this and trying to keep it visible is so that it does not go away and if the Board of Supervisors changes over time, it goes away. Mr. Fritchey stated the parking could change depending on who is on the Board, but the water is a necessity. Ms. Bunn stated she will be an advocate for a paved surface so that there is handicap access. Mr. Simon stated those two items should not have been taken out.

Mr. Simon stated fall ball is up and running. Mr. Greg Caiola stated they had hoped to start a team for children with autism; and while they did not get the numbers they wanted, they will continue to work on for next year. Mr. Caiola stated he too agrees that they must have water on the fields. He stated the paving is not as important an issue, but there are issues with those who have trouble getting to the fields with a stone parking lot. He stated they really want to do everything right this time, and they have had good discussions with Ms. Liney and the Park crew about the fields. He stated PAA is willing to chip in, but they will not do this until they know that there is a 100% commitment from the Board of Supervisors

until they know that there is a 100% commitment from the Board of Supervisors to see this through. He stated he is glad that Mr. Simon has been so active with the Township the last few years and some positive things have gotten done.

Mr. Fritchey stated he was happy to hear that the grading seems to be going well on the fields, and that was a “good catch” by PAA about the slope of the fields. Mr. Simon stated this is a good example of why he is concerned, and if PAA had not had their own engineer look at the Plans, they would not have caught this problem with the slope. He stated this is why he is worried when things like this go all the way to the final architectural plans. Mr. Fritchey stated PAA alerted Park & Rec about this issue, and they raised it with the Supervisors. Mr. Simon stated before he told the Supervisors about this, they did not know. Ms. Tyler stated the Board did not have the plan. Mr. Simon stated this is why it is worthy of keeping an eye on these projects, and the Budget and economics do play a major role. Mr. Simon stated he feels the water is a necessity. He stated keeping it in public discussion is what helps get these things done. He stated the sweat equity he sees put in by the volunteers is a significant contribution. He stated he has also reached out to YMS about some potential arrangements with them at Macclesfield. He stated Lower Makefield has private clubs running the programs and other communities have community-run programs and the volunteers are taking on a lot of roles so that it is not deferred to the community. He stated property values are tied to a strong Park & Rec Program, and the Park & Rec Board does incredibly-important work protecting the property values.

There was further discussion about watering the fields, and Mr. Gordon asked about the growing season. Ms. Bunn stated the growing season traditionally ends November 15 and starts again March to April. Ms. Tyler stated the engineers told them best case scenario, they would be on the fields fall of 2014. Mr. Gordon stated he is more concerned about when the contractor will stop watering. Ms. Liney stated she is going to find this out. Mr. Gordon stated once they know this, they can see what they were able to accomplish over the fall and they can then put a plan in place to make sure that there is going to be water when the fields are released to the Township. Ms. Bunn stated what is considered an acceptable stand of grass will not be what most would consider a stand of grass since usually the specs are written that there has to be at least 75% coverage. She stated she feels they will want to turn the fields over in May or June, and Mr. Simon stated this is why this needs to be resolved before that time.

There being no further business, Mr. Malinowski moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary