

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – OCTOBER 9, 2007

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on October 9, 2007. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Those present:

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

Others: Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager
 Donna Liney, Recreation Director

Absent: Henry Carpenter, Park & Rec Vice Chairman
 Fran McDonald, Park & Rec Member
 Andrew Newbon, Park & Rec Member
 Steve Santarsiero, Supervisor Liaison

DISCUSSION OF PRELIMINARY 2007 OPERATING BUDGETS

Mr. Fedorchak stated Ms. Liney has been working very hard trying to keep expenditures down. He stated currently the Park & Rec Fund is 1.53 mills. He stated he and Ms. Liney have met a few times with the Finance Director, and they feel that the operating expenses closely match operating revenues. He stated he plans to take the capital items they want to put in and put them in the Capital Reserve Fund for 2008. He stated by doing this they will have to compete with other capital needs of the Township.

Mr. Fedorchak stated he has had discussions with Mr. Majewski with regard to the Snipes and Samost Tracts and it seems that there is still a considerable amount of engineering to be done in order to move these projects forward. He stated here is also a lot of work left related to the Land Development Plan so he does not feel they would be able to get approval from the Planning Commission, hold Public Hearings, and get Board of Supervisors approval and approvals from the various State agencies before August or September of 2008. He stated they are putting in the Capital Budget more engineering and other soft costs.

Mr. Fritchey stated he does not feel this would apply to another phase of Memorial Park. Mr. Fedorchak stated he is trying to put in a number for the softball field at Memorial Park which would probably be between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

Ms. Bunn joined the meeting at this time.

Ms. Liney stated the Budgeted number for Snipes was \$2.5 million, and Mr. Fedorchak stated this number will not be in the 2008 Budget.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the Board of Supervisors will have to look at all the recreation projects and other non-recreation capital improvements. He stated they may have to consider a Bond issue so that they can move forward on these projects. If this were to occur, it would be the latter part of 2008. Mr. Fedorchak stated money will be in the Budget for engineering and planning for Snipes and Samost.

Mr. Wysocki asked if they have done a Bond Issue for Park & Recreation items in the past, and Mr. Fedorchak stated they have done Bond Issues in the past and funds for Park & Recreation were included in this along with funds for other items.

Mr. Fedorchak stated there is also discussion about doing more in the way of open space acquisition, and they will look to see how the County Bond Issue does at the next Election. He stated if this passes, the Township may consider doing something similar in the spring of 2008. He stated if the Township were able to be successful in putting out a \$5 to \$7 million Bond issue for more open space acquisition this would be a good time to add \$2 to \$4 million for Park & Recreation.

There was discussion on the Community Pool Budget. Mr. Fedorchak stated they are in good shape and do not foresee the need for a Fee increase. They plan to proceed with whatever is recommended by Mr. Wallover and anticipate construction after the close of next year's Pool season. Mr. Fritchey stated they are proposing to do approximately \$1.5 million in Pool improvements including a 40% expansion to the intermediate pool, re-doing the tot pool, and making the Olympic pool ADA compliant. Mr. Fedorchak stated he would recommend that these improvements be phased in over two to three years. Mr. Fedorchak stated he would prefer that not too many projects are going on at one time so that the architect is not "spread too thin." Mr. Fedorchak stated a fee increase would not be needed to proceed with a Phase I project.

Mr. Wysocki stated the tennis court re-surfacing done recently was very good. Ms. Liney stated these cracks will re-open in the winter, and in the spring they will have to re-fill them again. It will be an ongoing process until they re-do the courts or move them.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER, 2007 MINUTES

Mr. Wysocki moved, Mr. Gordon seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the September, 2007 Minutes as written.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Ms. Liney stated the Township is anticipating some unavoidable traffic congestion resulting from the upcoming closing of Black Rock Road October 15 for pipe repair work. Suggested alternate routes would be Yardley-Langhorne Road, Lechworth Road, or Ferry Road. Pennsbury Boys Varsity and JV Soccer Teams are scheduled for games at Macclesfield Monday October 15, and they have been alerted.

Ms. Liney stated the Yardley Makefield Soccer Club artificial turf installation project on Macclesfield C continues to move forward. The Board of Supervisors approved the Lease Agreement. Applications for the necessary Permits have been completed, and it is anticipated that work will begin the end of October. The Township Park & Recreation and Public Works crews will be working with YMS during the installation process, and the targeted completion for this project is the end of December.

Ms. Liney reported that the Township recently conducted an electricity usage audit of facilities including the Pool Complex. Based on the recommendations of the firm Suntechnics, the Township should be in a position to move forward with planned heater equipment replacement this year with units that would represent upgrades in efficiency as well as providing energy savings at the Pool.

Ms. Liney stated the Township recently enjoyed another successful Yardley Makefield Soccer Columbus Day Tournament. This Tournament has evolved to be one of the finest in the Northeast region, and would not be possible without great facilities and dedicated volunteers to coordinate the event. Upwards of 6,000 people participated in this Tournament, and Ms. Liney stated she believes it reflected well on the Township and the YMS organization.

Ms. Liney stated the Township is looking forward to honoring Veterans next month with a parade on Sunday, November 11 beginning at 1 p.m. The parade will stage at Whitehall and Edgewood Roads and continue down Edgewood approximately 1 mile to the Edgewood Park. The Special Events Committee has scheduled several guest speakers including Congressman Murphy, and this promises to be a great event.

Ms. Liney stated as the mowing season winds down the Park crew will be scheduling improvement projects to a number of area Park sites. Dugout roofs, bocce courts, and electric lines are a few of the enhancements at the complexes that will keep the Park crew busy.

Ms. Bunn asked if Yardley Borough has been alerted about the road closures noting that Lechworth Avenue has been closed this week during the morning rush hour. Ms. Liney stated the Township engineer and Public Works is working closely with the Borough.

There was discussion about the pipe break at Macclesfield Park this weekend, and Ms. Liney stated Mr. Copson, the sewer employee on call, and another crewman were able to get the restrooms back in operation within two hours.

LEAGUE LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Greg Mauro stated the PAA spring season ended very successfully, and they are looking forward to next year. Enrollment was slightly above last year. They have recently picked most of their Travel Teams and Fall ball will be completed in a few weeks. He thanked Ms. Liney for all her help.

Mr. Gordon stated the size of the new Macclesfield B was very appropriate for the age of the children using that field. Mr. Gordon stated Cal Ripken decided to go to the middle size field, and it has worked out very well for that age group.

Mr. Wysocki stated the Columbus Day Tournament was very successful. He stated 2,100 hotel rooms were booked in the area as a result of the Tournament and the other area businesses also do well during this weekend. He stated the crews at the Park were very responsive and field preparation was excellent. He stated Mr. Copson's response to the pipe situation was excellent and reflected well on the Township.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Gordon seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary

