

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – JUNE 10, 2008

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on June 10, 2008. Vice Chairman Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board:                    Henry Carpenter, Chairman  
   Patricia Bunn, Secretary  
   Fran McDonald, Member  
   Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others:    Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager  
   Donna Liney, Recreation Director  
   Steve Santarsiero, Supervisor Liaison

Absent:    David Fritchey, Park & Rec Chairman  
   David Gordon, Park & Rec Member  
   Andrew Newbon, Park & Rec Member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. McDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the April, 2008 Minutes as written.

RECOMMENDATION TO EXPAND DISCOUNTED HOURS FOR AFTERNOON GUESTS AT LMT COMMUNITY POOL

Mr. Ethan Shiller stated he is a member of the Township's Finance Committee. He stated when they review the Budget they look for cost savings or being able to provide more benefits without impacting the Budget. He stated they reviewed the Pool Budget and would recommend making a modification to the current part-day guest Pool hours. He stated currently the price for a guest is \$10 and after 5 p.m., they pay \$4. He stated they feel there would be no Budget impact if they moved the hour from 5 p.m. to 4 p.m. He stated this would be a benefit to the children of the community since they would not have to wait the extra hour and could come to the pool as a guest at 4 p.m. He feels this could be a marketing incentive because children coming to the Pool as a guest may encourage their families to join the following season as members. He stated an alternative could be that they move the hour back to 4:00 but also raise the cost to \$5.

Mr. Fedorchak stated this recommendation being presented by Mr. Shiller was supported by the Citizens Budget Commission last year; but because they were working on a number of other items, they became sidetracked and did not advance this recommendation at that time.

Mr. McDonald asked if there have been comments expressed from the public that this was an issue, and Mr. Shiller stated there have not, and the Budget Commission was just looking at ways to improve the services provided to Township residents provided there was no revenue impact.

Mr. Carpenter stated he would want to make sure that this would not have an impact on the membership base, although it does not appear that it would given the presentation. He asked if they could put this in place as a trial.

Mr. Wysocki asked how they track the guests coming into the Pool, and Mr. Greg Stoloski, Pool Manager, stated when guests come in, they are recorded in a ledger book that is kept at the front gates, and at the end of the day, they total out the number of guests that come in at \$10 which would be prior to 5:00 p.m., the number of guests after 5:00 p.m., the number of Senior guests, and the number of family weekend guest, etc. and this is sent to the Township and the money goes to the bank. He stated with the new system, they will still keep the same ledger books as they slowly integrate the new computer system. In addition as you go in with your card and scan in, when you bring in a guest, the gatekeepers have a card that they scan in that indicates that that person brought in a guest so the number of guests being brought in will also be recorded by the computer and they can then see when guests are being brought in and how many are coming in on a given day. He stated every card is time-stamped when you come in. Mr. Stoloski stated he can check on a daily basis how many guests come in prior to 5:00 and how many come in after 5:00. Mr. Wysocki asked when most guests arrive, and Mr. Stoloski stated generally they have a large rush earlier in the day and they taper off around 4:00 because at that point people are waiting until 5:00 understanding that they would then get the discount, and it would not make sense to pay the extra \$6 for one hour.

Ms. Liney stated the print-out from this past weekend shows 150 people coming in after 5:00 p.m. for the four-day period. Ms. Liney stated she and Mr. Shiller discussed this matter earlier today and it is a balancing act as they do not want to erode the membership as one definitely does affect the other; and if there is too liberal a guest policy, it will impact the membership.

It was noted if the Board is in favor of this they should make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to move the discount hour back to 4:00 p.m. Mr. Wysocki asked if this recommendation would include increasing the fee to \$5. Mr. Shiller stated while he did indicate this as an alternative, he would recommend that they just move the hour at

this time. A number of Board members felt that since this is a trial, they should keep the fee at \$4 at this time. Mr. Wysocki stated he felt that if they increased the part-time fee, they would have something to tell the Membership if they were indicating that it was now too crowded at 4:00. Ms. Bunn agreed it may be simpler to pay \$5 than 4 \$1 bills. Mr. Carpenter stated it could be felt that they were now penalizing those who were coming at 5:00 because they will now have to pay \$5 to get in. Mr. Shiller suggested they change the hour on a trial basis and keep the fee as it is. Ms. Liney stated the fees are already in the Newsletter.

Mr. Shiller stated they could track the statistics this year and generate a report at the end of the season to determine how much impact the extra hour had and next year they could make the determination if they want to keep the extra hour, and the rate could go to \$5 at that time along with the other rate increases which may be proposed for next year.

Ms. Bunn asked if this will be effective immediately or beginning July 1; and it was noted it could not be enacted until after the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mr. Stoloski stated his only concern was whether this would erode the membership and people may decide that based on the costs it may make more sense for their child to go to the pool as a guest and pay as they go as opposed to having a family or individual membership; but provided this is a trial period to see the impact, he does not have a problem with proceeding.

Mr. Wysocki asked if there is a stated limit as to how many guests can be brought in over the course of a season; and Mr. Stoloski stated there is no limit as to how many guests anyone can bring in and it is at the Manager's discretion on a daily basis as to the number of guests that can be brought in. He stated the Pool rules do state that the Manager has the ability on an overly crowded day to deny the ability of people to bring in guests although he has never seen this happen during the time he has been involved at the Pool. Ms. Liney stated there is a Public Bather Code which limits the total number of people permitted in the Pool.

Mr. Santarsiero stated it is possible that people who paid a certain amount based on the Fee Schedule may be concerned about this change. Mr. Wysocki stated since this is a trial only, if there is a problem and too many guests are being brought in or many of the members express concern with the change, they could go back to 5:00. Mr. Santarsiero stated possibly they could wait to do this in August. Mr. Carpenter suggested they put it in place now and if it is a problem, they could stop it since it is a trial program only.

Mr. Wysocki asked how this will be marketed, and it was suggested that it be advertised at the gates and on the Township website and television channel.

Mr. Wysocki moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of Supervisors expanding the discount hour from 5:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. as proposed by the Citizens Budget Committee effective for the period July 1 through August 6 with the possibility of extending it after that time.

#### SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Bunn asked the status of the sewer system, and Mr. Santarsiero stated it was voted down because they were not convinced that they had reached all the potential bidders and they wanted to do more investigation regarding some of the pricing issues. He stated they will look at the Budget with respect to the sewers and the rest of the Township and try to formulate a longer-term plan for the Township as to capital needs and expenses on a going-forward basis and then revisit the sewer issue. He stated if they decide to proceed with this in the future, they will investigate Municipalities that have sold their systems and look at the potential bidders; and if they were to re-bid from whom the Township would reasonably expect to get a bid.

Mr. Santarsiero stated Midnight Madness at Macclesfield Park has been re-scheduled to Friday, July 11 through Saturday morning, July 12. Ms. Liney stated 150 families were registered to camp out.

#### POOL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Stoloski stated they opened for the season on Memorial Day weekend and hours are now full time at 12 to 9:00 p.m. during the week and 11 to 9:00 on Saturdays and holidays. He stated the new computer systems have been installed at the gate which help with accounting and reports. He stated they re-gelled the slides and upgraded several of the speakers so that announcements are clearer. He stated they have also replaced a number of umbrellas and bases. He stated there were a record number of people signing up for the Pool this year. He stated the pools were repainted this year and all of the motors were serviced over the winter.

Mr. Stoloski stated there have been a number of reports in the papers about water-borne bacteria outbreaks which have been experienced at some pools, and the Bucks County Health Department decided to reformat their regulations dealing with water sanitation. He stated the changes they have made to the policy are changes the Township has met since prior to their existence. He reviewed the systems in place at the Pool. Ms. Liney stated Wallover will be installing additional technology with the planned renovations to the tot and intermediate pools.

Mr. Stoloski was thanked for the good job he is doing at the Pool.

## RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated the warm weather appears to be impacting this year's Pool enrollment. Over 1500 families have registered to date for this year, not including August families. The Township continues to do everything they can to process cards as quickly as possible. She stated new Pool health guidelines at the County level were approved the end of May. She stated they are dealing with a limited amount of information regarding these guidelines and have put in a request for more details. The Township does not anticipate this to be a major issue in that Pool safety and sanitation are one of the Township's strengths.

Ms. Liney stated an upcoming opportunity to catch some great softball will be this week with the annual Pennsbury Art Coleman Memorial Softball Tournament featuring 80 of the best softball teams throughout the entire United States and Canada. This event kicks off Thursday, June 12 at 8 a.m. with a clinic showcasing the player's skills in various softball drills. This event will host a feature game on Thursday evening at 5:45 p.m. at the Lower Makefield Softball complex on Roelofs Road. All Park Board members are invited and PAA will be presenting their annual scholarships at that time.

Ms. Liney stated the Township engineer reported the Advertisement to Bid for the construction of the planned softball field at Memorial Park will be published in the paper next week. Plans have been submitted by the low bid contractor for Permit approval to the Township for the installation of the lights at Community Park.

Ms. Liney noted the Township's Farmers Market will be returning for a second year at the Edgewood Village Park starting June 5<sup>th</sup> and continuing every Thursday through September. Judging by the success of the Market last year, and through the efforts of Lower Makefield's Environmental Advisory Council, the Market promises to be even better with entertainment and special offerings. Park & Recreation has lined out parking spaces at the site to assist with safety in the area.

Ms. Liney noted the Township's Special Events Committee has rescheduled the Midnight Madness event for Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. The big screen movie, sleepover, and the majority of the activities will be offered. Ms. Liney stated planning has begun for this year's Community Pride Day which is scheduled for Monday, Labor Day, September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Special Events Committee and Park & Recreation are looking forward to building on this already successful event with exciting new additions such as a pet fair, soap box derby display, craft display, antique cars, roller derby exhibition and more.

Ms. Liney stated in the next few weeks she will be planning the Agenda for the Park Board's annual July Road Tour which is scheduled for Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 p.m. from the Township Building. She asked that the Board let her know if there are any particular sites Board members would like to see.

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## LEAGUE REPORTS

Mr. Wysocki stated YMS is hosting a 3 by 3 Tournament, and Mr. McDonald stated there are 150 teams currently registered. He also stated 216 teams participated in the EPIC Tournament which took place over Mothers' Day weekend.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. McDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary