

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
NOVEMBER 10, 2009

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

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman  
Dave Gordon, Member (joined meeting in progress)  
Fran McDonald, Member  
Andrew Newbon, Member  
Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director

Absent: Henry Carpenter, Park & Rec Vice Chairman  
Patricia Bunn, Park & Rec Secretary  
Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor Liaison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wysocki moved, Mr. McDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of October 13, 2009 as written.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO SUPERVISORS FOR 2010  
COMMUNITY POOL RATES

Ms. Liney reported that following the detailed annual review of the community Pool Fee structure by the administration, Finance Director, and Pool Manager she is presenting for the Park and Recreation Board's consideration the following modifications to the 2010 daily account fees collected at the Pool:

Full Day Senior from \$1 (which was effective 1998) to \$4

Guest After 4 p.m. from \$5 to \$7 (noting in 2009 there were 4,500 guests after 4 p.m.)

Weekly Swim Lesson Fee as suggested by Pool Manager from \$20 to \$25 for a 30 Minute lesson. The last increase was in 2007

Private Swim Lesson Fee as suggested by Pool Manager increase from \$10 for 30 Minute lesson to \$15 for 30 Minutes. The last increase was in 2007.

Ms. Liney stated they are also proposing to either eliminate weekly guest passes or modify them since they are extremely difficult to manage and are open for misuse.

She stated the first choice of the Pool Manager, Finance Director, and Parks Director would be to eliminate these weekly passes and replace them with a guest booklet which would be priced in the range of 7 full day passes for \$50.

Ms. Liney stated currently the number of guests is unlimited for a weekly family. She stated there were at least 100 weekly passes issued last year.

Park Board members felt that the booklets were a reasonable solution and that the weekly family and individual passes be eliminated.

Mr. Gordon joined the meeting at this time. He stated he is concerned that a member could have a family visiting them with three to four children. He stated he feels this would make it cost prohibitive for people to bring guests.

Ms. Liney stated last year they had \$50,000 in revenue in guest fees, but the Membership was down by 5%. She stated they sold approximately 100 family weekly passes last year which was a

significant increase. Mr. Gordon stated he understands that this means that people are using this as opposed to joining, and Ms. Liney agreed. Mr. Gordon stated it is also possible that by eliminating the weekly pass, the people will not come; and they will not get this revenue. Mr. Gordon asked if it is possible to buy a guest booklet at the door, and Ms. Liney agreed, and stated they would not have to buy it in advance.

Ms. Liney stated there are costs associated with guests that need to be factored in when they have large amounts of guests including staff, chemicals, insurance, etc. Mr. Gordon asked when is the Pool the fullest other than weekends, and Ms. Liney stated it is most full in June, and it then goes down in August which is why they have reduced rates in August to join for that month.

Mr. Gordon stated he does not have a problem with the concept, but he does feel he should be able to bring guests, and it should not cost \$100 to bring in a lot of guests.

Mr. Newbon stated if you go to a Movie it could cost \$10 and you would only be there for a few hours; but you could go to the Pool for a full day for \$10; and if you buy the booklet, it would only cost \$7. Ms. Liney stated there was earlier discussion about having six passes in the booklet, but she feels it may be better to offer more.

Mr. Gordon asked at what age they charge for guests, and Ms. Liney stated three years old is when they start charging for guests and for members. Mr. Newbon stated when his son was going to the Pool every day, he took three of his friends none of whom had memberships since it was less expensive for them to come in as a guest than to have a Membership.

Mr. Fritchey stated they want to do improvements to the Pool, and they need to have reasonable revenues.

Ms Liney stated there are 1,600 families and there were 100 weekly family passes sold last season. Mr. Wysocki stated he feels they need to protect the interests of the 1,500 family members who are not bringing in guests. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel they want to make it unattractive for guests, and there are some members that feel it is important to be able to reasonably pay for guests adding the Township does make money on this. He suggested that they raise the weekly family pass from \$45 to \$65, the individual pass from \$35 to \$40 and also offer the guest booklets. Mr. Newbon stated he does not feel charging \$7 per guest is unreasonable.

Mr. Gordon asked if there was a definition for “family” when using the weekly family pass; and Ms. Liney stated the weekly family pass was intended to be someone who was staying at a member’s home for one week, but what was happening was members were buying this and using it for a family group for one day and then for the rest of week, bringing in different guests. She stated there was no maximum on the number of family guests. Mr. Fritchey stated this is why he feels guest booklets make more sense. Ms. Liney stated it was suggested that they consider pictures for the weekly family guests, but this was cost prohibitive.

Mr. Fritchey stated they could also have multiple dimensions of guest booklets such that

there would be one booklet of seven for \$50 and ten for \$65. Mr. Gordon stated he would be in favor of this since he would not want to penalize the members who are using this legitimately.

It was agreed to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approving Guest Fees and Swim Lesson increases as recommended with elimination of the weekly family and individual passes and replacing them with booklets.

Ms. Liney invited the Board members to attend the Board of Supervisors Budget meeting immediately following this evening's Park Board meeting, when the Park and Pool Budgets will be discussed.

#### RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated the Township Park crew has begun winterizing sites. She stated the Pool, Garden of Reflection, and Roelofs are now winterized. She stated Stoddart, Kids Kingdom, and Macclesfield will be winterized by Thanksgiving. She stated port-a-pots will be available at most sites. She stated one project planned for this winter season with the Park crew is crack filling and re-stripping Macclesfield, and this is anticipated to begin mid-December.

Ms. Liney reported that the Township's recent Veterans Day Parade and fundraising auction was a success, and approximately \$18,000 was raised at the auction.

Ms. Liney stated they were approached by PAA about one grooming machine for \$15,000, and she will ask the Board of Supervisors if they will consider this in the Budget. There was also discussion about bullpens, particularly at Stoddart.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

David Fritchey, Chairman

