

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2010

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on April 13, 2010. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman
Henry Carpenter, Vice Chairman
Patricia Bunn, Secretary
Dave Gordon, Member
Fran McDonald, Member
Andrew Newbon, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director
Greg Stoloski, Pool Manager
Matt Maloney, Supervisor Liaison

Absent: Dennis Wysocki, Park & Rec Member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Newbon moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of March, 2010 as written.

DISCUSS PROPOSAL FROM LOWER BUCKS YMCA FOR JOINT USE OF LMT POOL

Mr. Paul McKenzie, Trowbridge Drive, was present and provided information on the proposal from the Tri-Hampton Y for use of the long course pool for local USA and YMCA Competitive Swim Teams. He stated the Township has invested in tremendous aquatic facilities but they are only utilized from late May to early September.

Mr. McKenzie stated a number of area teams including THY, PAC, Spirit, and NRG utilize facilities outside of Bucks County requiring them and their parents to drive over forty minutes to Princeton University and the Philadelphia Aquatic Club which charge fees for the same activity Mr. McKenzie is proposing for Lower Makefield. He stated parents of teenagers are concerned with them driving these distances, and it is a significant hardship for them balancing school and activities. He stated swimmers at this

level are in the pool four to six hours per day which is difficult while in school and adding in the driving distance. It is also a significant cost to the teams which they are looking to defer.

Mr. McKenzie stated the proposal is for the Tri-Hampton YMCA and Lower Makefield to partner to allow access to the 50 meter pool pre-season and during weekend off hours for local teams. Mr. McKenzie stated the Tri-Hampton Branch of the YMCA will coordinate the recruitment of teams for practice session and collect the fees. The Y proposes to split the revenue generated with Lower Makefield 50/50 which should generate revenue of \$15,000 to \$30,000. He stated this would be for two lanes for two hours at \$75 rental fee plus two to three long-course meets where money can be made off of entries.

Mr. McKenzie stated the Y is willing to pay any additional costs the Township experiences prior to the revenue split such as costs for staff, chemicals, etc. He stated all the USA and YMCA Teams are insured for National programs and have insurance certificates which will remove any liability of LMT for use of the Pool. He stated all teams have certified coaches.

Mr. McKenzie stated the proposal has three distinct portions – a pre-season which would be May (as early as possible) recognizing that it is April already and there is time required to start up the pool. He stated the Y is willing to help with this and volunteer time. He stated they are also looking for use Saturday and Sunday mornings prior to the Pool opening and to have two to three meets which would be outside of Pool hours. He stated long-course metered times are the most difficult to get in the local area because of the limited number of pools. He stated this is what the Olympics swim at and are what major college coaches look at. He stated if they manage this proposal together actively, he feels they will have no impact on the general membership at the Pool. He stated he is requesting a pilot program; and if they impact the membership, they would not be able to continue the program.

Mr. McKenzie stated during the pre-season, they are willing to work with the Township to get the long-course Pool ready; and if it is only open a week or two before Memorial Day, they would be happy to have access at that time.

Mr. McKenzie stated he is aware of the public safety monitoring issues required by Bucks County, including reporting of ph and chlorine; and the Y is willing to do this with their professional staff noting they have multiple pools in the area. He stated they will also provide all the chemicals and the testing at their expense to support the proposal. He stated all coaches are certified guards as required by YMCA and USA swimming. He stated if the Township felt more comfortable, the Y would also pay for a certified guard to be present. He stated the number of guards that have to be present during a

Swim Team practice is significantly reduced, and it is actually one in the Bucks County Guidelines because you do not have to cover the square footage of the pool area and only have to cover with one certified guard in the public water safety guidelines.

Mr. McKenzie stated they recognize that pool availability due to start-up is a problem since the Township has to clean, paint, fill and chlorinate the pools; but noted all the pools are on separate systems so that they could start up the pools in a sequence. He stated if they did damage to any lane lines, etc. they would take care of any damage.

Mr. McKenzie stated he feels his proposal benefits the Township, the Y, local competitive teams, and the community. He stated he feels it is important to support these young people who are in the pool four to six hours per day, six days a week. He stated there will be revenue for the Township, snack bar, local retail, and teams can do fundraising through the practice and the meets. He stated the Township has done a tremendous job with the Pool complex which is self-funded; but since money is tighter, he is proposing this as an opportunity to make additional revenue with no cost or burden on the Township and any costs associated will be covered by the YMCA and the money raised from this proposal. He feels all issues can be resolved with an active partnership. He stated this would be similar to how the Township currently works with YMS, PAA, and the Pennsbury High School.

Mr. McKenzie stated as a resident, parent, and youth sports advocate, he feels this proposed use of the Pool makes sense and is expandable. He stated they could make additional money through use of the Pool by opening up the use of the Pool to the general membership beyond the months they use it now, and use the Pool during off hours for other activities such as water polo.

Mr. McDonald asked about the percentage of Lower Makefield residents in the groups he has noted, and Mr. McKenzie stated the Tri-Hampton Y is probably 60% and Pennsbury with 210 swimmers is approximately 60% currently swimming for LMT in the summer. Mr. McDonald asked that the Board be provided information on all of these percentages.

Mr. Newbon asked Mr. Stoloski if he would be comfortable with someone outside of his staff adding chemicals to the Pool. Mr. Stoloski stated a lot of time it is not just adding chemicals since the chemicals are actually set in automatic feeders that are monitored by the managers on staff. He stated the person coming in, were it not himself, would be responsible for monitoring equipment including chorine pumps and tanks, the pumps themselves, back washing those pumps, and monitoring the UV disinfectant systems.

He stated the Township would need to decide if they would be comfortable with a significant amount of expensive equipment being monitored, adjusted, and handled by outside individuals. Mr. McKenzie stated if this is not acceptable to the Township, they would be willing to pay the difference and pay for Mr. Stoloski's time for a few extra weeks in the year. He stated pool equipment is fairly standard equipment; but he appreciates the Township wanting it to be done by Township employees, and they would be willing to partner with this.

Mr. Carpenter asked about the request for use pre-season and asked what type of access they would ideally want. Mr. McKenzie stated they would like to have use daily and on the weekend as well. He would recommend that they access through the back gate near the lap pool, and they would not need the bathrooms or need to open up any other access. He stated they would rent a port-a-john to be placed at the back gate which could be locked and only the coaches that have passed the certifications would have a key to the back gate. He stated the access to the Pool at this time would be to coaches and swimmers only and not to parents. Mr. Carpenter asked if all the Pools are on separate systems so that they could start just the one Pool, and Mr. Stoloski agreed that they are all on separate systems.

Mr. McDonald asked the process to get the Pools ready and asked how this proposal will impact where they are now in this process. Mr. Stoloski stated prior to opening, all the pools are drained and cleaned. Plumbing is inspected and sometimes pipes or filters need to be replaced, and sand needs to be added. He stated currently the pools have been drained, cleaned, and are in the process of being painted. They have one coat, and once that dries, another coat needs to be put on. He stated once they are dry, they will be filled. Once filled, they will test all the filters and make any adjustments and make replacements if necessary. Filters are then again tested and back washed. They then start work on the heaters which can take a long time especially if parts need to be replaced and monitored. He stated this can take a significant time to make sure the heaters are working properly, and Mr. Copson spends a significant amount of time on this. He stated the Pool then must be chlorinated and monitored to make sure it is running properly for a long period of time. He stated they also need to work on the rest of the facility, including the restrooms, deck, lawn, etc. He stated the lifeguards will start cleaning the facility this coming Saturday and will work every Saturday until the Pool opens. He stated work is also done week days and week nights as well.

Mr. Fritchey stated this seems like a long period of time to get the Pool ready. Mr. Stoloski stated if you include the time the pool servicing company is working there, it takes about six to seven weeks to get the Pool ready. Mr. Fritchey stated he assumes they are also dependent of the weather; and Mr. Stoloski agreed and stated it also depends on any additional projects that need to be done, and if they do not start early things may arise which may delay the process. Mr. Fritchey stated there are also people participating in this preparation process which have other duties within the Parks system including

Bob Copson who is also busy working on fields as well. Ms. Liney agreed and stated they also use contractors. She stated they drain the pools by April 1 and they cannot get the piping on too much earlier than that because of the potential for freezing. She stated once the pools are drained, they are power-washed, cleaned, and prepped for painting. They caulk and address cement at that time. They then paint the tanks, do the lines and targets, and these have to dry between coats. She stated it takes one week to fill the pools. She stated they cannot turn the heaters on until the pools are filled. She stated they have to run all the water through the heater for one week so it is a seven week process. She stated she would like to be able to accommodate this proposal, but she does not think that they can get the whole process done any quicker than the week before they open Memorial Day.

Mr. McKenzie stated he feels “money makes things move,” and if they talk to the pool service company, he feels things could be accelerated in a sequenced order. Ms. Liney stated she disagrees. She stated this is the thirtieth year of operation of the Pool, and there is machinery and filters that have to be addressed. She stated last year they were still working two days before opening because they had Federally-mandated drains they had to install, and they were not able to paint the Olympic pool. She stated this is a complex, large facility which requires a lot of compressed maintenance in a short period of time.

Ms. Liney stated they have an accomplished Swim and Dive Team with long-standing requests for additional water time and Pool members who have requested additional lap and fitness time pre-season. She stated there are also commitments they have made to have lifeguard competitions and fundraising certifications which they would not want to short change or compromise. Ms. Liney stated you must be a resident of Lower Makefield or Yardley Borough to join the Pool. She stated it is a proprietary Budget, and no tax dollars go into the Pool. She stated the Olympic pool is the most expensive pool to operate in the complex since it is the largest pool and has the highest bills for heating and uses two-thirds of the chlorine used at the complex.

Ms. Bunn stated they do not allow non-members to sign their children up for swim lessons, and she feels this proposal would be difficult for the Township to accept. She stated there a lot of residents who would like to make use of the services; but unless they join the Pool, they cannot.

Mr. Fritchey stated he is sympathetic to what Mr. McKenzie is trying to do as he believes in athletic excellence, and what Mr. McKenzie is proposing is necessary to achieve the goals he is looking to achieve. He stated undertaking something of this magnitude would be akin to running a mill for an extra shift, and he questions how this proposal would impact the facility and infrastructure at the Pool as well as whether or not they have enough staff to do this without having to hire additional people or significantly expand

hours beyond what the people currently doing it are able to do it which would necessitate people stepping down or being replaced with others they had not previously hired. Mr. Fritchey stated he is also concerned with the numbers involved in this program since he understands that one of the area swim teams is not really interested in using the Township facility so this would take out one of the four teams named by Mr. McKenzie.

Mr. Fritchey stated he is also concerned about public relations since the Pool Complex was built with a particular concept in mind which was to provide families of people living in Lower Makefield with a nice complex to go to in the summer. He stated while the facility is owned by Lower Makefield and the Township is responsible for it since they own the land, the Complex was built largely through individual memberships so it is almost a private club. He stated he would like to know what the members would feel about doing something like this since he feels it would substantially change the character of the Pool Complex as it is currently. He stated historically in the past proposals of this nature have arisen and been rejected by the Pool membership.

Ms. Beth Ann Menard was present who was a past President of the Pool Board. She stated there are two very competitive teams swimming at the Pool now in the summer. She stated adults are also in the lap lanes constantly, and in fact would like to have more lanes added for swimming laps. She stated she does not feel a port-a-pot would work as the swimmers would also want to be changing out of wet clothes.

Ms. Menard stated she also believes that it is included in the Pool By-Laws that no profit can be made off of the Pool, and she suggested that someone review the information from when the Pool was first constructed to look into this. Mr. Gordon stated there are different ways to look at profit. He stated they have identified some very necessary improvements needed at the Pool which are expensive; and if there are ways to generate revenue that are not necessary making a profit but are going back into the Pool, he feels this should be a consideration. He stated he would be willing to review the By-Laws to see how they read. He stated the revenue would then be used for the benefit of everyone such that the yearly dues for the membership could remain the same and the money would go back into the Pool for renovations. Ms. Menard stated her concern is that this other group would also be making money, and she does not feel this is permitted. She stated the guards are only paid their hourly pay when they are teaching; and they are not allowed to use the Pool to teach whenever they want and set their own rates. Mr. Stoloski stated lifeguards who give swim lessons are restricted to running Pool-sanctioned swim lessons at the prescribed rates, and the guards cannot conduct their own business using the Pool facilities for profit at another rate.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels what Mr. McKenzie has presented is a creative idea which could help add revenue and make use of a facility that is not being used at certain times.

Ms. Menard stated she is not opposed to the idea but feels if they are going to open the Pool up at other times, it should be opened up to the members as well. She feels there are a lot of members who would very much like to be able to be in the Pool at 6:00 a.m. swimming laps.

Mr. Carpenter stated he agrees with Ms. Menard and feels the Pool is open when it is open for a reason. He stated they have had members come to them previously asking that it be opened earlier so they could swim laps, and they indicated they could not do this because they needed to do maintenance, etc. at those times. He stated now there is an outside group coming in asking for something they would not agree to for the Pool members. Mr. Maloney stated part of the reason they would not open it up in the morning was that they could not create enough revenue to offset the costs of being open for longer hours, whereas if a group is willing to pay a premium by the hour or per person, etc. he feels this changes the economics of the situation; and if the premium paid is high enough to pay for the additional costs, they may want to consider this.

Mr. Carpenter asked what they would say to a Pool member wanting to use the Pool at this time as well since it is now open to this group. He stated those Pool members may be willing to pay a premium to use the Pool at that time as well. Mr. Maloney stated they need to consider if it makes sense to open the Pool for longer hours for some premium cost. He stated they should also consider if they are comfortable with a second organization running this other program. Mr. Carpenter stated if an organization indicates they are willing to pay a certain amount of money this is a financial decision the Board needs to make. He stated he does feel if they are going to do this, they will need to address the issue of who is going to be able to pay that premium; and if they agree to this proposal for this organization, he also feels they need to open it up to the Pool membership as well that have been requesting this for some time. He stated they would have to consider how much additional they would charge Pool members who want to have access to the Pool at these additional times.

Mr. Fritchey asked when the decision was made not to expand the hours the Pool was open to members, was this based on economics or some other basis. Ms. Menard stated she feels it was logistical since there are Swim Lessons every morning except one, as well as on Saturdays. She stated on Sunday they do maintenance, and they have a lot of work to do prior to the Pool opening at Noon on Sunday. She stated this is the day they do a lot of lawn maintenance and she questions how they could be running additional practices and still getting everything done they need to do at the Pool.

Mr. Stoloski stated during the season on Saturday mornings the Olympic pool, which is the pool Mr. McKenzie has been discussing using, is used almost all of the summer with their alternative lessons which are lessons offered Saturday mornings for parents who work and who cannot bring their children during the weekday lessons. Mr. Stoloski stated that pool is used on Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for this alternative program. He stated Sunday is the day that they do the lawn maintenance, and they bring

in staff to do lawn maintenance, additional maintenance work, and vacuum the pools. He stated the pools cannot be vacuumed with their equipment when people are using the water space because of safety regulations so Sunday morning is one of the few times during the week that they can do this since on a daily basis, there are people in the water at 8:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m. running lessons, and they close at 9 p.m.

Mr. Maloney stated if the funds received from the program are sufficient to pay someone to come in and do lawn maintenance at night, they might want to consider this. They would have to look at the economics to see if this works out.

Mr. Newbon stated they need to consider the additional wear and tear on equipment, if any, adding additional bodies to the water. Mr. Stoloski stated during the summer it would not be as big of a conflict since the pools are up and running, and during that time it would be more of a logistical concern. He stated during the pre-season besides the issues about getting the pools up and running, you really need someone at the Pool on a regular basis monitoring the pools and the chemicals in order to have them open for swimming. He stated the Bucks County Health Department requires that the pools are chemically tested; and the company that comes in will come in randomly and test the water for number of bacteria, and if the test were to come back positive, they could have to close until they are permitted to be reopened. He stated during the summer this is one of the main duties of the Manager to be regularly checking the water, and they check the water and adjust at least once an hour for ph and chlorine. He stated during the pre-season, while there would be a lower bather load, they would still need someone in there regularly checking and adjusting the chemicals. He stated there is concern that someone from management would need to be there during the week. He stated if the pools are going to be opened, they have to have someone who is not only lifeguard certified but also pesticide certified either within the facility or within five minutes driving of the facility anytime someone is using it. He stated he works at Pennsbury High School and lives in South Philadelphia, and he would not be within those time parameters when this group is proposing to use the facility. He stated the additional pre-season times are something he personally would not be able to handle. He stated they do open the Pool Memorial Day, and this year Pennsbury School District is not done until June 23 so it would be difficult for him to put in the hours necessary to meet these additional demands for this proposal.

Mr. McKenzie stated he feels they can work on all these issues if they are a partnership. He stated they need the Township to decide if they would like to work on this as he does not feel the issues raised are insurmountable. He stated this is a different way to generate revenue than has been done historically; and as a resident, he feels this is a positive change to generate more revenue for the Pool. He stated what they are offering is a contained package because they are bringing in people who do not add expense as they are self-trained. He stated the Y runs a significant number of pools and is offering to

partner with the Township to balance the extra workload that would come to the Township. He stated he does not feel it will impact the general membership since the swimmers in these programs are in the pools at 6:30 a.m., and he does not feel that there would be that many general members who would want to get into that water temperature at 6:30 a.m.

Ms. Heather Jorris, 1131 Lily Pond Lane, stated she is a Lower Makefield Township Swim Team Coach, a THY coach, and past PAC coach. She stated they are only talking about using one pool. She stated the Lower Makefield Swim Team did pilot doing Swim Team practices on Saturdays, and they ran three last year and four two years before that. She stated they were not heavily attended because the LMT Swim Team is different because it is a summer League program and not as competitive as the year-round USA, YMCA teams are doing; and they did not have a problem with the Swim Lessons as they did not use the competition pool for that. She stated she herself is also a lap swimmer and agrees that if there were extra times she could come in, she would be willing to pay a premium rate to come in and swim. She feels they could also put in more lap lanes during the day for members since that pool is not heavily utilized by the children. She stated she feels many of the things being brought up are things which could be easily worked out.

Mr. Newbon stated he wants to make sure he understands all the potential impacts to the membership.

Mr. Gordon stated it seems that from a pre-season perspective for this year, it would be very difficult to accommodate them in the pre-season given it is already mid-April. He asked what they would propose minimally for the other months in order to start this pilot program. Mr. McKenzie stated he would look for use of the pool June and July Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. which would give them time to get everyone out before the general membership is permitted to enter. He stated they would agree to put in port-a-john facilities that did have changing capabilities. He stated the revenue would not be the same as what he previously indicated, but they could do this as a pilot program which would generate some revenue. He stated they could do it on a rental basis if this makes everyone more comfortable.

Mr. McDonald stated he agrees that it would be difficult to accommodate the pre-season program this year. Mr. McKenzie stated if they could keep the Pool open to the general membership on weekends in September, which is what a pool he previously managed did, this would allow for his program to use the long-course during the week in September after School.

Ms. Menard asked if they could also open the lap pool for members who are swimming laps if they are opening up the long-course pool during these additional times. Mr. Gordon stated he feels they may have to pay something a little beyond their membership such as a flat fee of \$5 or \$8 to come in and do this. Ms. Menard stated she feels there would be people who would be interested in doing this, but they would have to hire at least two guards or more for the lap swimmers. Mr. Maloney stated they would have to identify if there is a demand for this and then consider the costs. Mr. Maloney stated Mr. McKenzie is indicating that they would be willing to pay a tremendous premium well above the costs for this service. Ms. Liney stated in the letter from the Y it looked like the proposal was to pay \$75 for two lanes for two hours, and she does not feel this would cover the costs for the operation on an hourly basis for the Olympic pool. Mr. McKenzie stated at Princeton they do pay \$90 an hour and at Pennypack they pay \$75 per hour per 90 minutes; and he was trying to be conservative with the numbers he presented to the Township. Ms. Liney stated they do have preliminary figures for the operation of the Olympic pool, and the heating of that pool, staffing with those who have the proper licenses, miscellaneous costs, etc. would be more than \$75 per hour. Mr. McKenzie stated he feels they are paying this anyway while the pool is sitting there empty; and they should consider if they want to make some money against this or not. Ms. Liney stated the bather load would be different. Mr. McKenzie stated the proportion bather load is small. Mr. Maloney stated the way they would do this calculation running a business is to consider the marginal costs, and fixed overhead should not be part of the calculation.

Mr. Fritchey asked if the alternative swim lesson program which was offered on Saturday mornings would be terminated if they agreed to Mr. McKenzie's proposal, and Mr. Stoloski stated they were running swim lessons from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. using the Olympic pool, which is the pool Mr. McKenzie would like to use, as well as the intermediate pool. Mr. Gordon asked if this could be moved to the lap pool, and Mr. Stoloski stated certain aspects could be moved but not all of them since some of the higher level lessons (4, 5, 6, and 7th level) require that they be in water that is over their heads. Mr. Gordon asked if it could be in the diving area, and Mr. Stoloski stated part of it could be moved there but some of it would still have to occur in the Olympic pool and there are lessons which occur in the shallow end of the Olympic pool as well. He stated if these were moved to the competition pool, this would impact anything Ms. Menard was suggesting bringing in other members to swim laps. Mr. Newbon asked Mr. McKenzie if it would impact his program if they were in the diving area, and Mr. McKenzie stated it would not. He stated they could also limit four of the six lanes to his program and leave two lanes for lap swimming by members.

Mr. McKenzie stated they do not need all of the overhead expenses for his program because the competition teams can run without the presence of the lifeguards since there are already certified lifeguards there. He stated if they want to open the pool up to the members at these times, this would result in additional expense. Mr. Maloney stated he feels Mr. McKenzie's group should pay the marginal costs for what they are adding and the membership should pay for the marginal costs for what they are adding; and if there are additional lifeguards needed to provide for use of the pool by the membership, then the membership should be paying for this additional expense.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels it would be difficult from a "political" point of view if they were to rent the pool to a non-member group and not open up the Pool to members at the same time who wanted to swim. Ms. Bunn stated it will be difficult opening it up to non-members at all since there are a lot of residents who cannot take advantage of swim lessons at the Pool because they are not members, and they would now be opening it up to a whole group who are not members. It was noted that some of the people in this group are members of the Pool but there are also those who are not members.

Mr. Newbon stated Ms. Jorris stated they did try to open this up to the current LMT Swim Team members previously. He stated competitive swimmers are at a different level than regular Swim Team members, and they are therefore willing to use the pool very early in the morning at cold water temperatures. Ms. Bunn stated her point is that they would be allowing non-members in the Pool to be there when historically this has not happened, and you have not been able to get swim lessons unless you were a Pool member. Mr. McKenzie stated they would be doing this at off hours. Mr. McDonald stated he does feel that they need to look into this and consider if Township residents should be able to get swim lessons at the Pool if they are not a Pool member. It was noted that this is also true with regard to membership on the Swim Team and only Pool members can be on the Swim Team. Ms. Jorris stated she feels Township residents should be able to join the Swim Team without joining the Pool because they use the Pool during off hours, and she has suggested this in the past. She stated she also feels that residents should be able to get swim lessons without joining the Pool. She stated they could consider that non members pay a higher rate to get swim lessons or be on the Swim Team.

Mr. Fritchey stated Mr. McKenzie has provided information estimating revenue could be \$15,000 to \$30,000 and asked the basis for this. Mr. McKenzie stated this was based on two hour increments for lane rentals so it would be \$75 for two hours for two lanes. He stated there are six lanes so there would be the opportunity to rent three times in a two hour period. He stated this also includes the Meet revenues which is \$5 per event and since USA limits them to four hours, you could only get a maximum of four events per individual times \$5 an event times approximately 200 swimmers. He stated in Invitational Meets you can generate \$10,000 to \$15,000 easily by running them over two days. He stated what he has provided are conservative estimates. He stated he does have

an Excel spreadsheet which he could make available. Mr. Fritchey asked what he would estimate if they do not use the Pool pre-season, and Mr. McKenzie stated the pre-season would drop this down significantly.

Ms. Menard stated two nights a week in June and July there are LMT Swim Meets and this limits the membership coming to the Pool between parking and pool availability; and even though the Pool is not closed to the Membership, it does limit the membership.

Mr. Newbon stated he still feels they need to get feedback from the current Pool membership about this. Mr. Fritchey stated they may also need to revisit how Township residents get services from the Pool. He stated he feels it would be difficult to rent the Pool to non-member groups without opening the Pool for members to swim during these same off hour periods. He stated to the extent that members may want to do this and be charged something extra, this would be a potential additional revenue stream; and he feels they need to know how many members would be interested in taking advantage of this opportunity if it were available. He also feels they should poll the membership to get their feedback on Mr. McKenzie's proposal. Ms. Menard stated she feels people who really swim are very supportive of programs that work with youth, but there are a number of issues to look at to see what needs to be worked out with the maintenance people, Mr. Stoloski's schedule, and overstressing the staff. She stated she does feel that the membership would appreciate the opportunity to have the Pool available to them at off hours.

Mr. McKenzie stated he would be willing to work with a Board member and could craft another proposal based on a rental so they are not getting into the issue of another agency profiting off of the Pool; and whatever teams he could recruit would pay a rental, and they could work out an incremental cost and write out a proposal that would leave a certain number of lanes open to the Township. He stated he could also consider swim lessons for residents who are not Pool members and Swim Team membership for residents who are not Pool members. He stated this would all generate revenue. He stated he would write this all up as a single-page proposal partnering up with someone from the Board, and they could send this out to see what people think.

Mr. Fritchey stated he also does not want to impact the alternative swim lessons being offered on Saturday.

Mr. McDonald stated he feels the issue of non-residents being able to get Swim Lessons is a separate issue. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they need to look at the documents which are the basis for operating the Pool and there should be a comprehensive review.

Mr. Maloney stated he feels Mr. McKenzie can be involved in reviewing the business component and revising his figures and work with Ms. Liney to see what the marginal costs would be. He also feels the Park Board along with Mr. Stoloski need to do a policy/By-Laws review.

Mr. Fritchey stated he is not comfortable with the numbers that have been presented recognizing that one of the teams listed is not really interested in using the Township facilities, and he is not really sure the other teams are interested or not and to what degree all of this would impact utilization. Mr. Fritchey asked if THY would completely utilize the capacity, and Mr. McKenzie stated it would not. He stated he has talked to Spirit and NRG representatives and has an e-mail exchange with the coach from PAC. He stated he only assumed 50% utilization. He stated he is not sure if the Board has a revenue figure in mind to make this work. Mr. McDonald stated they need to be more comfortable with what they are proposing and how it will effect the membership.

Mr. George Keefe, 293 Springdale Terrace, stated he is President of Penn Aquatics, and they have over 200 swimmers 60% of whom are Lower Makefield residents and swim on the LMT Swim Team. He stated they are very interested in this idea. He stated Mr. McKenzie did not make this known to them until two days ago. Mr. McKenzie stated he did not find out about this being on the Agenda until Friday afternoon. Mr. Keefe stated his group has already secured a place for the spring and summer, but going forward they would love to be involved in this. He stated he feels what Mr. McKenzie has put together is a great proposal. He stated while he has his own pool, he had to join the Lower Makefield Pool so that his child could swim on the Swim Team. He stated as a resident the one part of the proposal that he is uncomfortable with is THY taking half the money that the program would generate. He stated there is a need for a place where the children can swim, but he does not feel anyone should profit from this. He feels all the money after expenses should go to the Township, and Mr. McKenzie agreed with this. Mr. McKenzie stated he did have to “sell” this to the Y as they would be paying for the chemicals, etc.; and he agrees that it would be better if the Township were to take this on, provide it as a service, and run it; and he is willing to volunteer and do this on behalf of the Township. He stated there is a lot that can be done with the Pool to generate revenue. He stated to convince the Y to pay for chemicals and send their staff over to the Township Pool, he had to show some benefit; and this was why this was the initial starting point.

Mr. Gordon stated the issue is how much extra chemicals, etc. would be needed than what would normally be used. Mr. Stoloski stated chemicals are more an issue during the pre-season, but during the rest of the year, they could base the costs on usage/bather load as this does effect levels in the Pool. Mr. Gordon stated he feels bather load would be less when there are five swimmers in a lane as opposed to fifty to sixty children playing

in the pool non stop. Mr. Stoloski stated it depends on a lot of factors adding working out in a pool does increase the number of things that need to be oxidized, and he feels there is probably a way they could calculate this.

Mr. Carpenter suggested that they get additional information and review this again at next month's meeting. He stated he feels they could at that time, if the numbers make sense, make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors so that when the Pool opens, something could happen this year.

Ms. Bunn stated she would not want to make any recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for anything until they hear from the Pool membership. Ms. Liney stated they do have e-mail capability with the Pool membership. Mr. Fritchey stated he would like to have numbers by next month and contact the Pool membership to get some sense of how they receptive they are to these concepts. Mr. Maloney stated he is concerned about how a polling question would be worded. Mr. McDonald asked that they get hard numbers and more information before they poll the membership.

Mr. Fritchey asked Mr. Stoloski if he perceives that it would be feasible to do Saturday and Sunday mornings if they cancel out the pre-season part of the proposal. Mr. Stoloski stated they must consider the costs of employing probably three lifeguards and one Manager based on requirements. He stated they would also need to see if they could accommodate their swim lesson students in the other pool recognizing that this depends on the number of students they have. He stated while they do not have swim lesson sign ups for some time, he could look at past numbers. He stated they must also consider pool maintenance since if they are going to do this on Sunday morning, they would need to hire an outside company to come in and mow and vacuum at night.

Mr. McKenzie asked why they could not mow the lawn when the children are practicing since they would be in the pool. Mr. Gordon stated they would have to limit the children to the concrete deck, and Mr. McKenzie stated this would not be a problem. Mr. McKenzie also suggested that they look into other technology since almost every other pool gets vacuumed at night by a machine and does not require labor. He stated possibly with the revenue stream generated, they could introduce this technology and perhaps reduce staffing numbers in the future. Mr. Stoloski stated they have looked at automatic vacuums in the past, and the original setup for that Pool had one of those which did not work very well. He stated the ones they used since then were problematic and not effective so they moved to a manual vacuuming system since it was more usable for their purposes. He also noted they invested in a vacuum in the past two years which was a significant cost that they put out.

Mr. McKenzie stated there may be someone would be willing to donate the difference to the Township. Mr. McDonald asked the cost for these systems, and Mr. McKenzie stated he does not feel it could be more than a couple thousand dollars. Mr. Carpenter stated this is the type of information they would like to get from Mr. McKenzie. Ms. Bunn stated she feels they need Mr. Stoloski to provide the information to them on what a pool vacuum would cost for the Township pool since he is the one who knows the pool and what equipment will work.

Ms. Bunn stated she will filibuster the proposal unless they agree to open up the Pool for swim lessons and the swim team to residents of the Township and Borough who are not necessarily members of the Pool. Mr. Carpenter stated he is in favor of opening up swim lessons to all Township residents whether or not they are members of the Pool. Mr. Stoloski stated there are logistical concerns with this as there are times when they have to tell Pool members that there is not enough space at particular levels so this could be a “nightmare.” He stated if they are looking to make more money, the Pool charges about \$40 less for a session of swim lessons to their members than any other facility in the area. He stated they currently charge \$25 and other facilities are charging \$60 to \$80 for a session of swim lessons. Mr. Carpenter stated this space concern is the type of information he needs to know, and he now understands why they have not opened up swim lessons to non Pool members. He stated he does not have a problem with limiting membership on the Swim Team to Pool members; and if you want to be on the Swim Team, he feels you should be a member of the Pool. Mr. Newbon stated possibly they could consider charging \$80 for Swim Lessons to non-members; and Ms. Bunn stated she would not have a problem with paying more or putting her name on a waiting list, but would like the opportunity to have the lessons for her children. Ms. Menard stated oftentimes members have to be put on a waiting list for swim lessons because there are so many members of the Pool.

Mr. Stoloski stated with regard to running the Meets Mr. McKenzie had discussed at the Pool, the slides currently protrude into the lanes they are looking to occupy so the slide would have to be partially disassembled at the bottom in order to allow swimming in those lanes. Mr. McKenzie stated they ran a Meet last year at the Pool, and this was not a problem and it still met the requirements of USA Swimming.

Mr. McKenzie stated he feels there are ways to make what he has proposed happen, and he would like to work with the Township to take advantage of this facility. He stated he can provide the revenue estimates and letters of support. He stated PAC has indicated that they have already spent money to rent a pool somewhere else. He stated the incremental costs to do what he has proposed are extremely low in season and in September. He stated he is in favor of the idea to open up a couple of the lanes to Pool members at these additional times, and they could use the extra money generated by his proposal to give more access to residents.

Mr. Fritchey stated they need to have a more detailed and concrete schedule of the costs and the utilization and resultant revenue streams. Mr. McKenzie agreed to provide this. Mr. Maloney asked that he work with Ms. Liney and provide different options – just the summer, adding May, adding September, etc. Mr. Newbon stated he would also be interested in getting Mr. McKenzie's estimates on incremental costs, and they could work with the Township staff on this. Mr. Fritchey stated they also need to find out what documents there are regarding the running of the Pool, and they may want to look at these and discuss if there should be some modifications to them or not. He stated they should also poll the membership in some fashion.

Mr. Fritchey asked if they want to form a Committee to work on this; and Mr. Newbon, Mr. Gordon, and Ms. Bunn agreed to work on this Committee. Mr. Gordon stated he does not agree with the necessity to poll the Membership, but Mr. Fritchey stated he feels strongly about this since some of the members have been paying a membership for thirty years, and he does not feel the Township should proceed with what the members may see as a radical change without asking the opinion of the members. Ms. Menard stated polling the members shows the members respect. Mr. Newbon stated they could send the members an e-mail and allow them to respond and invite them to a Park & Rec Board meeting.

DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF PARK & RECREATION PROJECTS

Mr. Greg Caiola, Supervisor, was present and stated he and Mr. Stainthorpe met with Mr. McCloskey and Mr. Fedorchak about one week ago to discuss the status of various Park and Recreation projects. Mr. Caiola stated in January they had discussed the Samost and Snipes Tracts with all of the groups, and he has been trying to continue to work on this. He stated at the most recent meeting they primarily discussed the Samost Tract. Mr. Majewski indicated it would cost an estimated \$575,000 for two fields (one 90 and one 60) which is what they feel is needed the most by PAA and would be most acceptable to the public. He stated they are trying to put in place engineering for those fields. These are proposed to be located where the mulch piles are currently located. He stated they hope to be able to shift money for this year in the Budget for engineering so that they can get the project started.

Mr. Caiola stated with regard to Snipes, there was a discussion with representatives from football, soccer, and lacrosse about the need for lit fields at Snipes. He stated both he and Mr. Stainthorpe were in favor of this. There was discussion about whether lacrosse would come back to be part of this equation. Lacrosse asked for six fields but were advised this would not be possible, and they advised them that four fields were a possibility; and they would be multi-use fields that both football and soccer would also be able to use at different times. Mr. Caiola stated football would have been taken from Macclesfield to Snipes, and Macclesfield would be for baseball and soccer. He stated all

the groups were in favor of this. Mr. Caiola stated they have since received no feedback from lacrosse despite a number of people reaching out to them as to whether or not they are interested in coming back to the Township. He stated since they have not responded, he assumes they are not interested if they cannot have six fields as well as having to pay the user fees; and they will remain where they are currently. Mr. Caiola stated if and when they do build at Snipes he feels it will be strictly for football and soccer as well as recreational purposes if they choose to build some smaller fields.

Mr. Caiola stated with regard to the user fees, while he does feel they should charge more to non-residents, he does not feel they should have to pay an exorbitant amount. He stated they must consider the costs to construct the fields at Snipes if they only have two of the three groups that would be paying into it.

Mr. Caiola stated these issues will be discussed with the entire Board of Supervisors, and he hopes that they will be able to start the engineering for the Samost Tract and they can start building the two ball fields.

Mr. McDonald stated he is the liaison with the Citizens Budget Committee and at the end of last month when they met, the Chairman of that Committee indicated that he is committed to doing what Mr. Caiola has discussed which is at least doing the engineering for the two fields at Samost. Mr. Gordon stated this would be for Samost only and not Snipes. Mr. Caiola stated while a lot of the engineering has already been done for Snipes; they need to consider how they would pay for those fields with one of the three users no longer involved. Mr. McDonald stated he is not clear at this point that the entire Citizens Budget Committee is as committed to the Samost project as the Chairman is. He stated he also feels the Citizens Budget Committee may want to move forward with the user fee issue, and there is a disparity as to what people are looking for as to the increase. He stated no specific numbers have been discussed at this time. He stated he is concerned that there is going to be a recommendation from the Citizens Budget Committee that the difference between what it costs to maintain the fields and what the user groups are currently paying should be made up by the user groups, although they have not specifically said this yet.

Mr. Maloney stated a number of the Supervisors are waiting for a recommendation from the Citizens Budget Committee on this issue.

Mr. Newbon asked where the recommendation would go regarding the user fees, and Mr. Caiola stated he feels the recommendation from the Citizens Budget Committee will first come to the Park & Recreation Board for support before they go to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Newbon stated the Park & Recreation Board has been working on Master Plans for ten years, and this is the first time he has heard about the proposal for two fields across the street. Mr. McDonald stated the process that Mr. Caiola has reported on with regard to the fields did not include the Citizens Budget Commission. Mr. Caiola stated they had this meeting because nothing was happening, and he, Mr. Stainthorpe, Mr. Fedorchak, Mr. Majewski, and Mr. McCloskey met with the user groups for about two hours and then came up with what they felt might work to get to the next phase where part of the Plans developed by the Park & Recreation Board could proceed. Mr. Caiola stated their intervention was not to circumvent the Park & Recreation Board and was just to keep the process going.

Mr. Caiola stated they did want to consider lights at Snipes since all of the user groups felt that lighting was important to move their programs forward. He stated he has received feedback from others that it had been indicated some years ago that lighting was not going to be considered at Snipes. Mr. Caiola stated he feels they will have to discuss Snipes further with regard to the costs as he would not want it to be so expensive for the user groups that they could not use the fields. He stated he is still a strong supporter of Snipes, but he does not feel they have a sufficient number of votes on the Board of Supervisors to proceed with Snipes as this time.

Mr. Caiola stated they are trying to come to a compromise to try to get something accomplished in the way of fields. He stated he feels that when people see that things are getting done, and it is only costing them an extra \$3 a year, they will not feel it was worth fighting against something that is so badly needed in the community.

Mr. Gordon asked if the plan is to add a 90' field and take Field H at Macclesfield Park out of circulation; and it was noted this is not the plan – it is to add a third 90' field. Mr. Caiola stated Field H is usually not available in the fall because soccer uses this area. He stated it also opens up opportunities to run better tournaments if there is a third 90' field, and this will bring in additional revenue. The plan is also to add an additional 60' field at Samost. Mr. Caiola stated they also know that the School fields are not maintained after a certain point of the year, and he does not feel the School District would agree to continue to maintain them for the Township.

Mr. Gordon asked if there was a feeling from PAA that there was more of a need for a fourth 60' field or if there is more of a need for another 75' field, and Mr. Caiola stated no one at the meeting they had asked for an additional 75' field, although they could ask them if they would prefer a 75' field or the 60' field. He stated at the current time this is only a conceptual Plan. Mr. Gordon stated they should also consider the condition of the Afton field even though this is a School District field. Mr. Gordon asked if there is sufficient parking if they add two new fields at Samost, and Mr. Caiola stated Mr. Majewski is going to consider this in the Plan he is putting together.

Mr. Gordon stated he understands that they are not considering adding the tennis courts at this location at this time, and Mr. Caiola agreed. Mr. Gordon asked if the land is being saved in the area where the Park & Rec Board had proposed tennis courts, and Mr. Caiola stated if this is the will of the Board, he feels they should make sure that Mr. Majewski leaves this open. Mr. Caiola stated he felt that tennis courts were proposed at Memorial Park, and Ms. Bunn stated the courts at Memorial Park were not meant to be Permitted.

Mr. Caiola stated he feels the Plan from Mr. Majewski should come to the Park & Rec Board first. He stated he is going to lobby the Board of Supervisors to budget money to do the engineering for this proposal.

Mr. Bunn stated she feels it was always their intention to have lights at Snipes, and Mr. Caiola stated he agrees that they should light those fields; and he does not feel it will impact the surrounding homes as the lights would be further away from those homes than the lights are at Macclesfield Park to the Rivergate Homes. Mr. Gordon stated use of those fields would be too limited in the fall if those fields were not lit.

Mr. Caiola stated the intention is to move football to Snipes so that more fall ball games could happen on Field H at Macclesfield. He stated they feel this will help maintain the fields. He stated they are trying to do something that would have a long-term positive impact where everyone has a spot to play, and there is not too much use in any one area.

Mr. Fritchey asked if they need to address the user fee issue in order to accomplish proceeding with the engineering for Samost. Mr. Caiola stated if the Citizens Budget Commission is going to make a recommendation on user fees, it should come to the Park & Recreation Board first. Mr. McDonald stated he has been in attendance at only two of the Citizens Budget Commission meetings. He stated their last Meeting Minutes are from October, 2009; and they do not have readily available Meeting Minutes like the Park & Recreation Board has. He stated his understanding based on his discussion with the Chairman, Joe Menard, is that they plan on putting together some kind of recommendation for user fees that they will present to the Park & Recreation Board, and they will be looking for the Park & Recreation Board's "buy in" on this recommendation. He stated he believes that there is a group on the Board that wants to significantly increase user fees, and he feels this will be part of the recommendation. Mr. McDonald stated Mr. Menard is very interested in having what Mr. Caiola has discussed go forward and to find a way to get that done.

Mr. Caiola stated the Board of Supervisors could move forward with the engineering for Samost even if the user fee recommendation comes at a later date. Mr. Caiola stated they will have to consider how to pay for the construction of the fields at Samost since they have not budgeted or borrowed the \$600,000 necessary to do this.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they should be setting up a Committee to review the Plans at a public meeting.

Ms. Bunn stated if they are going to do anything with the user fees, they need to give the user groups warning of this so that they are aware of what the user fees will be when they begin their registrations. She stated this is not what happened the last time the user fees were increased, and this caused significant problems. Mr. Caiola agreed and stated when the Citizens Budget Commission comes to make their presentation to the Park & Rec Board, he feels representatives from the user groups should be in attendance as well to have input and discuss the impact to their organizations. Mr. Caiola stated it was only his intention to have an increase that would help pay down the debt, and not that the fees should be increased to the point where they would be paying the entire debt. He stated as a community he does not feel that they should expect just the user groups to pay for the entire cost of field construction since other than the user groups do make use of the fields.

APPROVAL OF 2010 COMMUNITY POOL CONCESSION STAND MENU

Ms. Liney stated the Food Services Agreement to operate the snack bar at the Community Pool requires the Park Board to approve the menu pricing for 2010. She stated M.L.E. Enterprises continues to work with the Township in addressing the cleanliness of the eating areas, upgrade menu offerings with more healthy and varied options, and respond to the concerns and needs of the Pool membership. As discussed last year, the contractor has rounded the pricing on some items to facilitate transactions.

Mr. Newbon moved, Mr. Carpenter seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the menu.

COMMUNITY POOL DISCUSSION

Ms. Liney stated the Community Pool will be opening for its thirtieth season on May 29. Full time hours for the Pool will begin the week of June 14. The Township offers three sessions of swim lessons, the first two sessions will be three weeks each, and the final session will be five days for two weeks. Families joining the Pool for the month of August are eligible to enroll in the third swim lesson season. She stated the Newsletter and Pool Rules have been written by Mr. Stoloski.

Mr. Gordon stated there had been previous discussion about whether or not members could use their Membership cards at the concession stand, and Ms. Liney stated the Finance Director is looking into this, and they are targeting this for 2011. She stated there are bank fees associated with this, and they may need to adjust the fees a minimal amount to cover those. Mr. Gordon asked if there is still a flat fee paid by the concession stand operator to run the snack bar, and Ms. Liney agreed stating it is below \$4,000.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney reported on a very successful PAA Opening Day celebration this past Saturday, with more than 1,500 players, coaches, and guests participating. She stated this event would not have been possible without the coordination efforts of the volunteer parents in the Pennsbury Athletic Association, and she thanked PAA on behalf of the Township and the children.

Ms. Liney stated the Township EAC volunteers planted 24 donated shade trees at the Roelofs softball complex on Saturday. She stated the trees are approximately ten feet high, 1 caliber, and look very nice.

Ms. Liney stated the Park crew activated the fountains at the Garden of Reflection the first weekend in April. Pennsbury High School Frisbee Team recently concluded two successful tournaments at that site, giving the Township a plaque in appreciation of the Township's accommodation.

Ms. Liney stated the Township will be opening bids for the electrical work at the Garden of Reflection on Monday, April 19. A mandatory prebid meeting was held at the site last week with three contractors attending.

Ms. Liney stated the Board of Supervisors recently granted Pool memberships to all the active Yardley Makefield volunteer firefighters. The Township was given the eligibility list by the Fire Department and has sent instructions for registering of the 23010 memberships. She stated the Pool is happy to be able to offer this membership to these dedicated volunteers.

Ms. Liney stated the Swim Team has requested water space to host the League Championships the end of July at the Township Pool. She stated the Pool Manager will coordinate this event for the Township.

Ms. Liney stated Pool staff has been identified and will begin working at the complex this Saturday.

April 13, 2010

Park & Recreation Board – page 22 of 22

There being no further business, Mr. Carpenter moved, Mr. McDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary