

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2010

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on September 14, 2010. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman
Henry Carpenter, Vice Chairman
Patricia Bunn, Secretary
Dave Gordon, Member (left meeting in progress)
Fran McDonald, Member
Andrew Newbon, Member
Dennis Wysocki, Member (joined meeting in progress)

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Newbon moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the June 8, 2010 Minutes as written.

RECOMMENDTION TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF A PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SAMOST TRACT

Mr. James Majewski, Township engineer, was present. Mr. Fritchey stated this tract has been discussed for a number of years. The Board of Supervisors have asked the Park & Recreation Board to make a proposal to them for their consideration. He stated if the Board of Supervisors approves a Plan, they can begin the development process. He stated this would also put them in a position to seek Grant money and other sources of funding in order to accomplish the project.

Mr. Majewski showed a copy of the proposed Plan. He stated the property is a 23 acres parcel directly behind the baseball fields on Edgewood Road. Currently this is where the mulch piles are located. Mr. Majewski stated the property goes around the water tower property off Oxford Valley Road, and the Township owns the land that surrounds the water tower and backs up to the existing girls' softball complex located to the south of

the parcel that is under consideration. Mr. Majewski stated the property is wooded in several areas including the western edge of the property which backs up to Grindan Drive. He stated there are also woods surrounding the Water Company property. He stated there are also a couple small streams and woodlands located within the woods on the western end of the property. He stated the property slopes from the water tower down toward Edgewood Road and also from the water tower property down towards the streams that flow behind the properties on Grindan Drive.

Mr. Majewski stated they are proposing to build recreational facilities; and due to the shape of the property and the constraints of the woods and stream, it is best suited for a few smaller amenities. He stated they are proposing a 90' baseball field to accommodate players ages thirteen and above and a 70' baseball field primarily used by ten to twelve year old players. Mr. Majewski stated there is currently some informal parking behind the tree row that separates the baseball fields on Stoddart from the area where the mulch piles are located, and they plan to formalize this parking by paving and striping the area. He noted the area where the existing restroom/concession building is located, and stated they will take that parking area and turn it to the south to provide additional parking. He stated they propose 95 parking spaces to augment the informal parking area. Mr. Majewski stated the entrance would stay in the same location opposite the exit from the Pool complex.

Mr. Majewski stated they have also shown on the Plan a proposed batting facility to be located directly behind the restroom/concession building. He stated this is a good area for that facility since there is existing electric.

Mr. Majewski stated they have looked at what can be done on the other parts of the property; and to the west of the water tower, backing up to the homes on Grindan Drive, there is not a lot of room to put anything. He stated they had at one time considered putting another baseball field in this location, but they would have had to remove trees and a lot of grading would have had to be done. Mr. Majewski stated they will leave the trees in this area, and this will act as a buffer. They also plan to leave all the trees around the water tower.

Mr. Majewski noted an area south of the water tower, north of softball field #3 which is the right size and shape to fit some other possible amenities. He stated the Park & Rec Board had considered installing four to twelve tennis courts in this area; but a final decision has not been made on the number of courts. Mr. Majewski stated up to twelve tennis courts could fit in this area or possibly some other type of courts could go in this area.

Mr. Majewski stated they would also propose to put buffering along the properties that are at the end of Waterwheel Drive. He stated at the end of Waterwheel Drive, there is a tree row that is adjacent to the property line for the last house on the south side of Waterwheel Drive, and behind that there is a cleared area all the way out to Oxford Valley Road. He stated they would like to plant trees in this gap to augment the existing tree row to provide a buffer from the adjoining properties.

Mr. Majewski stated they had also discussed taking the existing parking area at the girls' softball complex and have the road loop back out to Oxford Valley Road. He stated this would allow for additional parking to be proposed for the softball fields and to accommodate proposed tennis courts or other facilities. He stated it would also provide better access for public safety. He stated the Police Department likes to have a looped road system so that when they do the patrols at night, they can drive through the parking area to observe anything taking place in the park. Mr. Majewski noted on the Plan the area where they have proposed additional parking to provide for an additional sixty spaces, and this would provide enough parking for tennis courts and the softball complex and also help when there are tournaments.

Mr. Majewski stated in order to provide access to the park for spectators, they propose a paved trail running through the park from the parking lots in between the 70' and 90' fields. He stated this would also provide access for people with disabilities. He stated this trail can be looped around to the tennis courts and back out to the parking that would be added along the softball complex and possibly be extended further and looped around through the whole park in order to provide a loop for those wishing to exercise.

Mr. Majewski stated they also propose to have a buffer along Oxford Valley Road in the vicinity of the tennis courts and buffering along the edge of the 90' baseball field.

Mr. Majewski stated in order to construct the 90' baseball field, since the ground slopes down from the water tower to Edgewood Road, they would have to cut into the embankment on the high side of the hill, and fill in at the bottom of the hill to make a more level playing surface. Mr. Majewski stated they would also do the same with the proposed 70' baseball field.

Mr. Majewski noted the hatched-in areas of the Plan south of the proposed batting facility which are the proposed stormwater management facilities. He stated all of the water run off from the parking areas would be channeled into these facilities, and this would slow down the water before it is released out into the woods and into the existing drainage channels.

Mr. Maloney joined the meeting at this time.

Mr. Gordon asked if there would be a problem at the 90' field along the right field line if there were a left-handed power hitter. He asked the distance from home plate to Roelofs Road. Mr. Majewski stated the field dimensions for the 90' field are 325' down both foul lines, and 400' to dead center; and this would accommodate any level of play. He stated to get out to Oxford Valley Road is approximately an additional 90'.

Mr. Wysocki joined the meeting at this time.

Mr. Majewski stated due to the topography, the area along the outfield would have to be cut down somewhat, and the grade in that area would change by about three to five feet. He stated they could add some additional berming in the area with excess dirt to provide more of a buffer for the people who live across the street in Afton Chase, and they could put trees on top of the buffer.

Mr. Gordon noted the 70' field, and asked if there is a concern with the parking spaces and foul balls coming off this field down the third base line. Mr. Gordon noted an existing problem with this at Macclesfield A and B. Mr. Majewski stated they would put in a different type of backstop that is better able to handle the foul balls. He stated they have also pushed the parking further away from the field to help address this issue.

Mr. Newbon asked about the number of existing tennis courts in the Township, and Ms. Liney stated there are a total of fourteen in the Township – eight in Yardley Hunt (four at Schuyler and four at Revere), four in Community Park, and two at Heacock. She stated there are four planned for Memorial Park. Mr. Newbon stated he assumes the courts proposed for Samost would replace some of the existing courts which are in poor condition. Ms. Liney stated the Park Board had discussed allowing the Revere Courts to go back to green space.

Mr. Majewski stated the lay out of the Samost Tract is conducive to having four courts up to twelve courts. He stated they would not have to use all of the courts for tennis, and some could be used for basketball, roller hockey, or some other court-type amenity. Mr. Gordon stated they would also not have to all be put in at once, and Mr. Majewski agreed. Mr. Newbon stated he assumes the new court materials would last longer. Mr. Majewski stated they have never rehabbed the existing courts, although they have filled in the cracks and resurfaced them with a surface coating; however to rehab the courts, they would have to grind up the paving, lay down fresh paving and then reset the posts and fencing. He stated the approximate cost to do that would be \$25,000 to \$30,000 per court. He stated in order to build a new court the cost would be approximately \$50,000. He stated this would include moving dirt around to level out the area, provide for drainage, and provide parking. Mr. Carpenter stated he assumes there would be economies of scale depending on the number of courts installed, and Mr. Majewski agreed. He stated this is typically why when court-type facilities are constructed, they are constructed in groups of four.

Mr. Newbon stated four of the courts in Yardley Hunt would be difficult to fix because of the water running underneath. Mr. Majewski stated he does not feel they have ever confirmed exactly what the problem is at Revere, although they know there is a problem that is probably not easily fixed. Mr. Maloney stated he feels it is questionable whether those courts are long-term viable given their location.

Mr. Newbon stated he feels it is appealing to centralize the tennis facilities since currently there are pockets of courts throughout the Township. Mr. Majewski stated there is value to having courts placed throughout the Township which is why they have proposed courts at Memorial Park since there are no courts up in that area of the Township.

Mr. Wsocki asked if the proposed court lay out is final or would the final configuration be altered, and Mr. Majewski stated the basic configuration is as shown. He stated there is not a lot of room to move the courts around in that area because of the tree row on the south side and trees on the north side. He stated the topography slopes away from the property line where the tree row is down into the Water Company property. He stated keeping the courts together would help with maintenance as well.

Ms. Amy Friedman, 600 Grindan Drive, stated she lives where the tennis courts are proposed, and she is concerned about lights for the tennis courts and ball fields. She stated she is also concerned about people walking through the area which is already taking place, and people parking on the cul-de-sac. Mr. Fritchey stated there is no current plan for lights. Mr. Fritchey asked who is walking in the area now, and Ms. Friedman stated she has seen people going through the area who are walking to the synagogue. She stated she is not in favor of trails in back of her home. Mr. Majewski noted the location of this area on the Plan. He stated there is a barricade at the end of the road; and while there are trees in the area, you can get through. He stated the intent of the buffer would be to cut back visually and for noise but would not prohibit anyone from walking through. Mr. Newbon stated the idea of public space is to allow people to use it.

Mr. Maloney stated he feels there is a valid concern about parking on the street. Ms. Friedman stated her driveway is on the side of the house at the dead end area; and if there were cars parked there, she could not get out of her driveway. Mr. Maloney stated he feels they could adjust the traffic laws in that neighborhood and set up no parking zones with enforcement. Mr. Fritchey stated while they could make a “no parking” zone on Waterwheel once you pass Grindan, the trade off would be that it would have to be enforced; and if they prohibit other people from parking there, when the residents have guests, they would not be permitted to park there either. Mr. Majewski stated they are adding additional parking behind the softball complex in order to make sure that people who want to use the tennis court facility will not be parking at the end of Waterwheel.

He stated they have added more than enough spaces to accommodate not only the courts, but ball field parking as well. He stated they propose adding approximately sixty spaces. He stated they are not proposing any pedestrian connection from Waterwheel to the tennis courts.

Mr. Newbon noted an area on Oxford Valley Road where they have proposed to have the road coming in between the tennis courts and the outfield, and stated there is a bank of parking spaces shown. He asked how many spots are in this location, and Mr. Majewski stated there are twelve to thirteen in that area. He stated they could expand this.

Ms. Nina Litvak, Waterwheel Drive, stated there are other courts at the middle school that could be resurfaced; but the Board noted these are owned by the Pennsbury School District. Ms. Litvak asked if they could not work with the School District. Mr. Maloney stated the School District has not been cooperative, and he specifically noted the condition of the School baseball and soccer fields. Ms. Litvak also asked that they consider an ice rink so the children do not have to wait for Afton to freeze rather than having these twelve tennis courts. Mr. Newbon stated they have tentative plans for Memorial Park to have roller hockey. He stated a frozen surface would be very difficult to maintain and you need a method to resurface the ice because it gets chopped up and it is a very costly proposition.

Mr. McDonald stated the Township and the user groups have been trying for years to expand and improve the playing surfaces for the youth in the Township. He stated the Plan being considered has been discussed for a number of years, and they want to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to move forward with these Plans. He stated they want to push this forward to meet an immediate need for those playing in PAA.

Ms. Litvak asked the approximate cost for this project. Mr. Majewski stated for the two baseball fields, the roadway and the parking, and the stormwater management facilities, not including the batting facility, the cost estimate is \$575,000. Adding in eight tennis courts would increase this by another \$400,000 to \$500,000. If you add in the extra parking loop, it would cost another \$200,000.

Mr. Fritchey stated this evening they are only trying to come to a consensus of what they want to recommend to the Supervisors for planning purposes. He stated if the Board of Supervisors adopts a Plan and pushes it forward through the planning phase, they will then consider how to fund it and whether to phase the project. He stated they would then be in position to seek Grants or other sources of funding. He stated frequently parks throughout the Township have been constructed in multiple phases.

Mr. McDonald asked what the cost for the batting facility would be. Mr. Majewski stated he has not done estimates for this and currently they have just shown a 100' by 60' area for an indoor batting facility. He stated what amenities are proposed would drastically impact the cost. Mr. Bo Birkhead, representing PAA, stated he would be willing to speak to this.

Mr. Michael Fluke, 1188 Waterwheel Drive, asked if there is a plan to finish off the area of the dead end. Mr. Maloney asked if the Township owns the property immediately adjacent, and Mr. Majewski stated the Township does own the area just past the dead end. He stated there would be the opportunity to put in a cul-de-sac so there is a definite turnaround. Ms. Bunn stated the Plan indicates there is a utility easement there. Mr. Majewski stated there is an underlying easement, but there is nothing that would prohibit them from putting a roadway on top of the easement. Ms. Bunn asked if they would be able to curb it off, and Mr. Majewski stated they would have to look into this. He stated in order to put a turnaround area there, they would have to cut down a lot of trees. Mr. Fluke stated he was just asking if they could curb it. Mr. Majewski stated whenever there is a dead-end, for liability reasons, PennDOT requires that there be a barricade at the end. He noted the existing barricade is unsightly, and he could look to see if there was something else they could do.

Mr. Fluke also asked if consideration has been given to car/pedestrian traffic on Edgewood Road. Mr. Majewski stated the entrance will stay where it is currently. He stated the speed limit is 25 miles per hour. He stated there is a pedestrian crossing to the west with flashers. Mr. Majewski stated they could look into brick paver markings as well.

Ms. Friedman asked the plans for the mulch piles, and Mr. Fritchey stated no final decision has been made about this. Mr. Maloney stated approximately one year ago there was a presentation on this matter; and they do not have the facilities to continue the yard waste recycling program for financial reasons and space limitations. He stated they do not have enough space to collect all the leaves they expect to have to collect over the next ten years. He stated the Public Works Director has been asked to consider other options, although he feels the better option is probably to get rid of the program.

Mr. Bo Birkhead, PAA, provided information this evening on the proposed batting facility. He stated they have found that they have 150 to 160 registered players per field. He stated in addition they have Yardley-Morrisville Junior Legion, Yardley-Morrisville Legion Prep, and two adult teams that use Macclesfield A. He stated in addition they have eleven travel teams that are comprised of the registered players. He stated there are an additional seven to eight travel softball teams that they did not enter in with the 80 to 90 girls per field. He stated PAA registered enrollment is approximately 1,210 and does not include the additional 200 children and 25 teams that are using the fields.

Mr. Birkhead stated other organizations in the State have an average of approximately 70 players per field. He stated with the two proposed fields, this will bring them down to 110 players per field which is still a huge gap.

Mr. Birkhead stated the support of the Township and specifically Ms. Liney and her crew has been phenomenal. He stated the Opening Day Ceremony created a lot of interest in the organization, and he feels PAA will continue to grow. He feels in three years, there will be 1,800 in their organization.

Mr. Birkhead stated PAA plans to pay for the indoor facility. He stated they have a commitment for the initial \$50,000 although they have not yet secured it. He stated they will fundraise or secure a loan for the additional \$50,000 to \$60,000 needed. He stated they will charge PAA and Lower Makefield residents \$100 to \$125 for the year to use the indoor facility. He stated there are other facilities in the area, and they pay \$125 to use those facilities for one or two sessions.

Mr. Birkhead stated he has visited the Bensalem Ramblers indoor facility, and they put the facility together last year in seven weeks. He stated they have approximately 500 players in their organization. Mr. Birkhead stated he would like to put the same facility in place in Lower Makefield. Mr. Birkhead stated he would like Mr. Fedorchak and Mr. Majewski to visit the Bensalem facility with him. He feels they could construct the facility in six to seven weeks and have it ready by Opening Day 2011. Mr. Birkhead stated the fields being discussed this evening will not be available for two to three years; and he would like to offset the lack of practice facilities with this indoor facility so they can pitch, hit, and refine their skills.

Mr. Birkhead stated the Bensalem facility is 7,200 square feet – 90' by 30', 14.5' high. He stated the steel used for the pole barn is forty year steel, and it is a twenty to twenty-five year building. He stated costs include concrete for the foundation. He stated at the Bensalem they used 4" blacktop. He stated pole barns are generally used to house large commercial trucks which requires thick concrete. He stated they will be putting the grooming machine in the facility which is approximately one thousand pounds.

Mr. Birkhead stated he will get more detailed pricing and will work closely with Mr. Fedorchak and Mr. Majewski to understand the limitations.

Mr. Fritchey asked about HVAC, and Mr. Birkhead stated he will provide this detail adding that he has been talking to a number of companies one of whom is interested in donating services for HVAC. He stated while they are a non-profit organization, if they

have to secure a loan, there is a lot they can do as far as building revenues. He stated they will invite the schools to come to the indoor facility although they are going to focus on the Township residents. He stated they need the indoor facility so that the Township players can practice as currently there are so many teams and scheduled games, that they cannot practice during the season.

Ms. Bunn stated the Plans show that the facility will be 60' by 120' as opposed to 90' by 30' as noted by Mr. Birkhead previously. Mr. Majewski stated he feels it is 55' by 100'. Ms. Bunn asked if PAA plans to pay for everything, and Mr. Birkhead stated PAA will pay for everything except the land. Mr. McDonald asked Mr. Birkhead if he can discuss the \$50,000 start money; and Mr. Birkhead stated an individual lost his son and they have had discussions about memorializing his son since he loved baseball.

Mr. Newbon stated the proposed facility is more than a batting cage, and Mr. Birkhead stated they will have four Major League sized tunnels. He stated the poles come down the middle, and nets run with the tunnels and are retractable. He stated they can do an infield session within that space. He stated there will also be an astro-turf area, and they could install a big screen television and have parties as well. He stated all PAA meetings will be held in the facility. He stated there is also a tunnel with a Little League distance pitching area. He stated they will also purchase four \$1,500 portable pro mounds for the four tunnels. He stated they will also purchase a higher level batting machine for one of the tunnels at a cost of \$3,500.

Ms. Bunn asked if the facility will be used by all players or just the elite players. She stated she has a problem with the way YMS handles the turf field since they just allow their elite players to use that facility. Mr. Birkhead stated every player from age five to twenty-two will have use of this facility.

Mr. McDonald asked if they are ready to share their business plan, and Mr. Birkhead stated they are still working on this.

Mr. Wsocki stated this point they only need to insure that there is space on the Plan to accommodate this, and the details can be worked out later.

Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel the indoor batting facility was part of the Master Plan for this tract, and Mr. Fritchey stated they did not yet approve a Master Plan for this tract.

Ms. Litvak asked where the building is proposed to be built, and it was noted it proposed to be build behind the concession/restroom facility at Stoddard.

Mr. Newbon stated Bensalem and Morrisville have had great success with their indoor facility, and he feels it is the right thing to do in Lower Makefield as well.

Mr. Carpenter moved, Mr. McDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Plan for the development of the Samost Tract as proposed including accommodating the indoor batting facility.

Mr. Birkhead was thanked for the work he has done for PAA and the Township.

DISCUSSION OF PRELIMINARY 2011 PARK AND RECREATION AND POOL OPERATING BUDGETS AND RECOMMENDATION FOR FEES

Ms. Liney stated she included in the Park Board packets the summary pages of the preliminary draft of the Park and Recreation and Community Pool Operating Budgets for 2011, with the intent to propose recommendations for revenue adjustments that would be made to the Board of Supervisors for 2011. She stated both Budgets are currently under examination by the Finance Director and the Township Manager, after which they will be forwarded to the Citizens Budget Committee and the Board of Supervisors for review.

Ms. Liney noted that new in the Park and Recreation Budget for 2011 is the inclusion of the Five Mile Woods Preserve revenue and operating expenses.

Ms. Liney stated in light of the fact that user fees have not increased in six years, and recognizing that we want to continue to provide service and facilities at a level reflective of the residents' expectations, she is recommending increases to \$15 a resident and to \$30 a non-resident for seasonal user fees. In addition she would propose adjusting the special event field fee to \$250 per field. Ms. Liney stated that while the Township is always sensitive to fee increases, following a detailed review of the fee structure, she believes that these adjustments are warranted, and she asked the Park & Recreation Board to support them in a recommendation to the Supervisors for including in the 2011 Budget.

Ms. Liney stated that she also enclosed the summary pages of the initial draft of the Community Pool Operating Budget for 2011. As with the Park & Recreation Budget this document is being examined by the Finance Director and the Township Manager and will be forwarded upon completion to the Citizens Budget and the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Liney stated that no tax dollars support the Community Pool, and Pool revenues need to keep pace with the costs of operations.

Ms. Liney stated that after examining Pool fees, she would not recommend adjusting the membership rates for 2011. She would propose increasing the guest booklets from the 2010 introductory rate to a price of \$75 per booklet for the 10 full day passes. Ms. Liney stated she would also recommend an increase to \$30 for the three-week swim lesson program offered at the Pool.

Ms. Liney stated there are other options to help bridge the gap between revenues and expenses for the Pool which can be considered, if necessary, such as an inter-governmental agreement with a neighboring Municipality for their residents to be eligible to join the Pool. Consideration could also be given to opening a limited number of family memberships, such as 200, to outside community members with the requirement that they would need to be sponsored by a family who is already a member of the Community Pool.

Mr. Wysocki asked what the cost was last year for the guest booklets, and Ms. Liney stated it was \$65. Mr. Maloney stated this was the first time they offered the ten-day booklets, and Ms. Liney agreed. Mr. Maloney stated he understands they were very popular, and Ms. Liney stated they sold all but five of 500. Mr. Maloney asked if there is any reason to believe that this impacted people joining as members, and Ms. Liney stated membership was down; and while the economy has probably been an impact, people could also have chosen use of the guest booklets instead of memberships. Mr. Newbon stated the booklets have to be bought by Pool members and those using the pass must be with a member when they come in, and Ms. Liney agreed.

Mr. McDonald stated there was some question as to whether or not the user fees were going into the General Fund or into Park & Rec, and Ms. Liney stated user fees have always gone into Park & Recreation revenue.

Mr. Newbon asked if there is any reflection of how Ms. Liney's proposed changes would impact the Budget. Ms. Liney noted the Revenue Page for Park & Recreation, Item #367. This year they are projecting finishing at \$105,000, and next year they are projecting \$132,000 based on the adjustments. This would equal about a \$25,000 increase.

Mr. Gordon asked if they should consider increasing the swim lesson fee even higher since they have been at a very low rate for a very long time. Ms. Liney stated she does feel some people join the Pool for the lesson program and the swim and dive teams. She stated the lesson program is \$30 for three weeks, thirty minutes a day for four days and a make-up day. Mr. Gordon stated he would not have a problem increasing this to \$40. Mr. Fritchey asked how many take lesson each year, and Ms. Liney stated she would have to check this with the Pool Manager and report back to the Board in October. She stated she feels it is significantly more than 100. Other Board members felt \$40 was very reasonable. Mr. Carpenter asked if they charge a lesser amount if a family has more than one child in the program, and Ms. Liney stated they do not. Mr. Carpenter stated they may want to consider this. Mr. Gordon stated they could consider \$40 for one child and \$30 for additional children from the same family. Mr. Maloney asked when the cost of lessons was last increased, and Ms. Liney stated last year they were increased to \$25.

She stated the point of offering lessons is that they do want the children to learn to swim for safety reasons. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel this increase will cause people to stop getting lessons for their children. Ms. Liney stated she could discuss this with the Pool Manager and come back to the Board with more information in October. Mr. Maloney asked if they are overcapacity in terms of lessons, and Ms. Liney stated she believes that there are waiting lists. Mr. Maloney stated possibly they should be hiring more instructors, and Ms. Liney stated she feels it is more an issue of water space. Mr. McDonald asked how the Pool lesson costs compare to the amount charged by others in the area; and Ms. Liney stated it is her understanding that Lower Makefield is the most reasonable, although she could discuss this with the Pool Manager as well.

The Park & Rec Board agreed that \$40 for lessons was acceptable and \$75 for the guest pass booklet. There was further discussion on the proposed user fees, and Mr. Fritchey stated when they were working on this issue with the Supervisors, PAA found that the Lower Makefield fees are the highest of any Municipality in the area, but feels what is proposed is acceptable. Mr. McDonald stated the users do like to see that they are getting something for their user fee; and he feels this increase is acceptable since user fees have not been raised since 2004. Mr. Fritchey stated the organizations paying the user fees get a priority of usage for the facilities.

Mr. Maloney asked that further consideration be given to the cost for the special event field fee. He stated there are waiting lists to use these facilities. It was noted this fee has not been increased for fifteen years. The recommendation is to go from \$150 to \$250. Mr. Maloney stated they may want to consider if this increase is high enough. Ms. Liney noted for the Coleman Tournament, PAA pays \$150 for seven fields for the weekend. Mr. Maloney stated it appears that Tournament is bringing the Township less than \$1,000 in revenue. She stated they also pay for any manpower. She stated this was always viewed as helping the user groups offset their costs. Mr. Gordon stated there are also tax dollars brought into the Township by bringing in people from the outside using the hotels and restaurants. Mr. Maloney stated he feels they should consider this not as taking money from what the user groups are generating, but whether or not they can raise their fees. Mr. Birkhead stated he will discuss this with PAA representatives. He noted another group that was charging \$450 to \$500 per field six years ago and another organization that charges \$900 per field. Mr. Maloney stated they also need to discuss this with YMS.

After further discussion it was agreed to recommend \$250 per field and continue to do an analysis on this. Mr. Maloney stated in the future, he would recommend that they increase the special event fees as opposed to the user fees.

Mr. Gordon left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. MacDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to increase the user fees to \$15 for residents and \$30 for non-residents, \$250 per field for special events, \$40 for three-week swim lessons, and \$75 for Pool guest booklets.

SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Maloney stated they wanted to adjust the Samost Plan in minor ways in consultation with the Disabled Persons Advisory Board, although he does not feel Mr. Majewski should put in a lot of time on this until the concept is approved; and Ms. Liney stated she planned to forward this information to the Disabled Persons Advisory Board.

Mr. Maloney stated they have deferred some of the road resurfacing programs since revenue is tight, although debt is “cheap” at this time. Mr. Maloney was asked about the status of Elm Lowne, and Mr. Maloney stated they have been revisiting this with a third party to get them involved in different marketing programs. Mr. Maloney was asked about the potential for the horse veterinarian at Patterson Farm, and Mr. Maloney stated they are going through legal work at this time to consider different structures for either a lease or purchase.

RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Liney reported that the 9-11 remembrance ceremony this past weekend had a nice turnout and everything went well. She stated the Township was able to have the lights operating due to the ongoing hard work of the park leader during the weeks leading up to the ceremony.

Ms. Liney stated that fall permits have been issued to the user groups. Again, as in years past, the Township receives multiple use requests for its limited resources. Three of the largest user groups have agreed to share time on Field H at Macclesfield in an effort to accommodate field needs. She stated the Township does request, to help reduce confusion in the parks and maintain safety, the organizations adhere to their permitted times and fields.

Ms. Liney stated that Yardley Makefield Soccer has recently requested and been granted permission to install a recycle paper bin at Macclesfield which they will be monitoring for cleanliness and collection. She stated they are delighted to support the user groups with their efforts to encourage recycling in the community.

Ms. Liney stated Pennsbury High School boys and girls soccer teams are scheduled for play on the turf field next week, September 20 and 22. These competitions are always well attended and the Township looks forward to hosting them.

Ms. Liney noted several upcoming special events which the Township will be assisting with. The Farmers Market is entering the fall season and has approximately four weeks of operation remaining. The park crew will slit seed that property the end of the month. The Veterans Committee is hosting a jazz concert this Sunday, September 19 at the Veterans Square Park from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The concert is free and promises to be an enjoyable time as well as a fundraising opportunity for the Committee. The Lower Makefield seniors are organizing a bazaar flea market for Saturday, October 2 at the Township Building as a fundraiser for a senior center. The Special Events Committee is organizing a parade for Veterans Day on Sunday, November 7 at Veterans Square.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. McDonald seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary