

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – JANUARY 14, 2014

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on January 14, 2014. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. calling for a moment of silence for Greg Caiola.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman  
David Gordon, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Bunn, Secretary  
David Malinowski, Member  
Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director  
Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor Liaison

Absent: Fran McDonald, Park & Rec Board Member  
Andrew Newbon, Park & Rec Board Member

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER, 2013 MINUTES

Mr. Malinowski moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the October 8, 2013 Minutes as written.

REORGANIZATION OF PARK & RECREATION BOARD

Mr. Malinowski moved that the present Officers continue to serve in their positions for 2014. Ms. Bunn stated that Mr. McDonald, the current Vice Chairman, has been unable to attend a number of meetings over the past year. Mr. Malinowski withdrew his Motion.

Mr. Malinowski moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded that Mr. Fritchey serve as Chairman, Mr. Gordon as Vice Chairman, and Ms. Bunn as Secretary.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels Mr. McDonald serves a useful purpose on the Board, but agrees that it would be good to have someone who is able to attend more regularly serve as Vice Chairman.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### YARDLEY MAKEFIELD SOCCER CLUB

Mr. Ty Stevens, YMS Facilities Director, was present. He stated the shed at Macclesfield Park has limited space, and they have acquired some large pieces of equipment they would like to lock up. He stated they would like to add two walls of a chain link fence. Pictures of what they are proposing had been provided to the Board in their packets. Mr. Stevens stated there is an existing fence behind the shed and the height of the chain link fence they would add would be 8' the same as the existing fence. He stated they would install green slats in the front.

Ms. Liney stated they checked with Zoning, Inspection, & Planning today who pulled the Permits YMS had for the shed; and it is not in the floodplain area. Ms. Liney stated Ms. Frick did not feel there would be a problem. She stated they will go through the Permitting process.

Mr. Gordon moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the plan as presented by YMS.

Mr. Wysocki reported on two former YMS players who will be part of the upcoming MLS Draft this week. Mr. Wysocki also noted that one of the YMS Coaches was recognized as National Coach of the Year.

#### SUPERVISOR LIAISON'S REPORT

Mr. Stainthorpe stated he is happy to be back as Liaison. He stated they have a meeting tomorrow with Boucher & James to discuss the all-inclusive playground. He stated they have also met with the architect on the Community Center, and he is happy with the architect's vision; however, he added it will be a challenge to find the money to make it as good as it can be. He stated they could probably do the building using only the \$1 million Grant; however, Mr. Stainthorpe stated it feels it would be better if they could do it right the first time rather than having to come back one to two times to expand it.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated they have applied to the County for an Ag Preservation Easement for the Patterson Farm, but it was tabled. Mr. Stainthorpe stated he met with Commissioner Loughery today, and he feels they are back on track. He stated typically they do not approve these Easements for Townships; but they made their case that the Patterson Farm is located off of I-95 and a future Board that needs money may decide to sell off the Patterson Farm or change the Zoning to Commercial, and they want to stop that from happening. Mr. Stainthorpe stated they want to make sure that it is preserved as a farm, and Commissioner Loughery

seems to be in agreement with this. Mr. Stainthorpe stated they will also be discussing Quiet Zones at the railroad crossing as they work with CSX and SEPTA on their project to build a third track in the Township so that SEPTA and CSX do not have to share the tracks.

Ms. Bunn asked the status of the Budget for the Garden of Reflection. Mr. Fritchey stated the Park & Rec Board was concerned when they saw the Budget, and it looked like there would be a \$60,000 deficit. Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Garden of Reflection Committee is supposed to pay for the maintenance, but they need to work out some issues with the Garden of Reflection Committee. He stated there are funds available. Ms. Bunn stated she was concerned that people are writing out checks to Lower Makefield Township for the Garden of Reflection, but it is going into an account not controlled by the Township and the funds are not going toward the maintenance. Mr. Stainthorpe stated there are some legal issues that need to be revisited.

Mr. Fritchey stated the Memorial has been built on land owned by the Township so it is actually owned by the Township, and the Township is ultimately responsible for it. He stated if promises have been made that the proceeds of fundraising will go on to the benefit of this Township-owned facility, and money is not going for the maintenance and preservation of the Memorial this is of concern. He stated if there are deficits due to the Township paying for the maintenance of the Memorial which creates deficits in the Park & Recreation Budget, this takes money away from other things that the Park & Recreation Budget should be paying for. Mr. Fritchey stated this is a situation that they cannot tolerate remaining unclear. He stated there needs to be some clarity as to who is collecting money, who has authority to do this, and where the funds are going. He stated this does need to be addressed in a positive, non-accusatory fashion. Mr. Fritchey stated he is concerned that money is being collected for the maintenance of the Memorial, and it is not going to the Township. Ms. Bunn stated she is concerned that money is being collected and held, and the Township is paying the bills.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated he feels this matter will be clarified over the next few months.

Mr. Malinowski asked if there should be an endorsement by the Park & Recreation Board to name the baseball facility in honor of Greg Caiola, and Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Board of Supervisors is going to discuss this. There was a discussion about the practice of naming facilities after individuals, and Mr. Stainthorpe stated he feels moving forward a policy on this should be developed.

## RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REORT

Ms. Liney stated the infields, outfields, and perimeter turf areas of the Samost Tract will be over seeded this spring by Ply Mar Construction. The infields will be fine tuned with additional grading in the spring. The backstop on the 90 foot field will be completed in the spring. The rain gardens also need to be completed. No play is recommended by the Township engineer on these fields in 2014.

Ms. Liney stated Ply Mar will return in early spring to fine tune the grading on the infields at the Fred Allan Complex.

Ms. Liney stated the specifications are being finalized for the Memorial Park inclusive playground.

Ms. Liney stated Boucher & James is working on an estimate of the site costs to be submitted to the architect, Clark, Caton & Hinz for the Community Center.

Ms. Liney stated Park & Recreation is coordinating facility use applications for the spring. Every request is considered and reviewed in accordance with Township guidelines, and the Township tries to accommodate as many requests as they can. She stated the Township will process over several hundred facility requests this year working closely with the volunteer groups to service the needs of the community.

Ms. Liney stated the three man Park crew transfers to snow and ice detail when the weather is inclement. Snow and salt related equipment is installed and removed on the Park trucks by the Park crew. Bike paths are cleared by the Park crew following snow removal on the roads.

Ms. Liney stated that despite the wintry weather to date, the Park crew has been able to move forward on several planned projects. This week they continue installing Trex in the Kids Kingdom playground, renovating several sections of worn pieces. They are also working in the Pool concession stand repairing ceiling tiles as requested by the County Board of Health. Ms. Liney stated that next week they will work with a contractor installing a paved path and landing at the turf field at Macclesfield. The Park crew has completed shed work at the Fred Allan and Stoddart ball fields.

Ms. Liney stated all Park Board volunteers have had their annual membership in the PA Park & Recreation Society renewed for 2014.

Ms. Liney stated the Seniors are hosting their annual AARP free tax return preparation in the Township Building on Monday mornings beginning February 3 and ending April 14. This service is heavily used by the community, and all slots will book as tax season progresses.

Ms. Liney stated registration for 2014 membership to the Lower Makefield Community Pool is underway. The early discount rate of \$395 per family will end Friday, March 7, at which time the regular family rate of \$440 for the season will be in effect. She noted that the current fee structure is based on individual or family membership and not a head count of members in the family. Ms. Liney noted a special request made by a resident regarding membership, and after discussion it was agreed that Ms. Liney will handle this matter.

Mr. Malinowski asked if they will have water when they over seed the new fields in the spring, and Ms. Liney stated they will. Ms. Liney stated Mr. Fedorchak has also had preliminary communication with Del Val Soils about a well, and there is good well capability in the area. Ms. Bunn stated the contractor is required to water the fields until the Township accepts them. Mr. Malinowski stated he is concerned that they will have new fields with no ability to water them; however, Mr. Stainthorpe stated while there will not be a sprinkler system, there will be a water tap although they are not sure at this time whether or not it will involve a well.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Malinowski seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary