

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – JUNE 10, 2014

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on June 10, 2014. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman
David Gordon, Vice Chairman
Andrew Newbon, Member
Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager (left meeting in progress)
Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director
Dobby Dobson, Supervisor
Kristin Tyler, Supervisor

Absent: Patricia Bunn, Park & Rec Board Secretary
David Malinowski, Park & Rec Board Member
Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor Liaison

TABLING APPROVAL OF MAY, 2014 MINUTES

Because the full Minutes were not provided to the Board in their packet, they were tabled at this time.

GARDEN OF REFLECTION DISCUSSION

Mr. Fritchey stated the Park & Recreation Board was concerned when toward the end of last year they were looking at the Township Operating Budget, and they reviewed the Memorial Fund Revenue and Expenditures. He stated it appears that they started off with a substantial fund balance which as of 2012 was over \$128,000, and they are drawing down on this each year; and according to the 2014 Budget it appears they will have total Expenditures projected of \$61,300 which will be \$61,200 in excess of Revenues resulting in an ending fund balance that will exhaust the current I/I Fund and put them in a deficit of \$36,299 according to the Township Budget.

Mr. Fritchey stated they were concerned about this because it is trending in a bad direction, and there is a question as to what revenues are being generated and where those revenues are going. He stated they are in a situation where this is compromising the Park & Rec Budget, and it also raises questions as to how they will take care of things that need to be done to keep the Memorial in proper upkeep.

Ms. Grace Godshalk, Ms. Judy Reiss, Ms. Rossa Steiner, Ms. Joyce Anderson, Mr. Michael and Ms. Samantha Chirchirillo, Ms. Tara Bane, Ms. Susan Jones, and Ms. Ellen Saracini were present.

Ms. Godshalk stated she went over some of the figures she was provided for the last three years, and she feels that the costs are for items that are enjoyed by the entire community such as the water; and she does not see why the family members who have been raising the money for the Memorial should be expected to raise the full amount of money for water which serves the bathroom. She also noted PECO costs for all the lighting in the Park since the Park is lit up at other times. She stated there are going to be other activities there. She also noted the grass services. She stated the Committee has discussed this previously, and they are being charged for the entrance where the tall trees are which they contributed. She stated this is the entranceway to the Park, and she does not feel this should be the responsibility of the Garden of Reflection Committee. She also noted the oak arboretum which was added through donations acquired by the Committee, and she does not feel they should have to pay for the maintenance and cutting of that area. She stated if they raise money, she feels it should be for just within the Memorial itself for the time being.

Mr. Gordon asked what she feels the Garden Committee should be responsible for in terms of maintenance. Ms. Bane stated they were trying to help with the preservation. She stated she suggested to Mr. Fedorchak that they are willing to help offset any of the costs since it is clearly an expense to maintain the Garden; but this is Township property, that the Township enjoys.

Mr. Fritchey stated this was a devastating event to the families in particular and to the community in general, and he feels there were a lot of "semi-understood understandings" that may perhaps have never been clearly resolved in a businesslike way; and they need to come to grips with some of those things since now they are at a point where there are critical financial decisions that will have to be made. He stated the Township is going to have to decide whether it is going to be underwriting the Memorial with tax dollars which up to this point it has not been doing.

Mr. Fedorchak asked Ms. Liney if any of the utilities are separately metered, and Ms. Liney stated the water is separately metered. Ms. Liney stated she is not sure about the PECO bill; however, she noted that there is no electric there other than the lights at the Memorial. She stated everything that would be electrical would be for the Garden of Reflection. She stated there is no other lighting at this point other than the lights in the restroom.

Ms. Godshalk stated there was a water bill for January, February, and March of \$1,200 when the water was not working. Ms. Liney stated she did discuss this with American Water, and this is the minimal charge for that facility. She stated she advised them that it was shut down; however, they assured her that this is the minimal charge that they can assess for the facility. She stated possibly someone could appeal this. Ms. Liney stated that even though everything is shut down, they indicated that there is still a charge; and this is the minimum charge. Mr. Fedorchak stated they could look into this further.

Mr. Newbon asked about Contracted Services, and Ms. Liney stated this is for the landscaping services. Ms. Liney stated it is more than just cutting the grass as there is a lot of detail to the Garden that the Township staff would not be able to provide.

Mr. Newbon stated he recalls that when they originally discussed the design of the Garden, and they were approached with the idea of installing swales; and they made it clear that the Township would not be able to cut and maintain that property with those swales because of their equipment. He stated it was discussed at that point that the Garden would pay for these maintenance costs. Ms. Godshalk stated having the swales actually cuts down on the maintenance. She stated it was discussed at great length that there were a lot of people coming in and using green areas in the Township for soccer games, and they felt the swales would keep out unauthorized soccer players. Mr. Newbon stated he recalls the discussion that if they were to have swales, the Township would not be able to cut or maintain the property itself.

Mr. Fedorchak stated with regard to landscaping, he asked about the circle with the flag, and he asked if that is charged to the Garden; and Ms. Liney stated it is. Mr. Fedorchak asked about the Arboretum, and Ms. Liney stated it is charged to the Garden. Ms. Liney also noted the entrance avenue, and the weed whacking, mulching, and maintenance of the trees is charged to the Garden. Ms. Godshalk stated this is the entrance to the Township Park.

Mr. Fedorchak stated if they considered the scope of landscaping to the Garden itself, this would be all the trees that surround it and some of the grassy area as you come to the walkway. He stated they could exclude the arboretum, the circle, and the area coming in; and he asked if this would satisfy the Committee. Ms. Godshalk stated it would for the time being.

Ms. Saracini stated the Garden of Reflection has been paying for all this maintenance that is the Township's Park since 2006. She stated she did come to a Supervisors meeting, and the Supervisors agreed that while inside the Garden it was too hard to maintain, the rest of it was the Township's. She stated they did do the oak garden, but this was a gift to the Park. She stated this Park was supposed to be a 50/50 passive/active; but it really was an active park, and there was not a lot of passive. She stated there was to be a softball field, playground, and soccer field right next to the Garden where the oak garden now stands. She stated everyone agreed that they could take the area of two and a half acres and make it into a passive area which would add to the passiveness of the park; but that was a gift from them to the Township. Ms. Saracini stated there was an issue with the berming because that was going on the other side of the ball field so that was going to protect the area from balls. She stated since 2006 the Garden of Reflection has been paying for all of this maintenance that was Township maintenance as it was the Township-owned part and not the Garden of Reflection. She stated they should look at how much they have been paying since 2006 and put it back into the Garden of Reflection account since it never should have been their cost. She stated they have approached the Township multiple times bringing this up, and it was never resolved.

Mr. Fritchey stated he does not see in the Budget that it appears that there is any Revenue coming other than interest earnings of less than \$200 and private contributions which total less than \$6,000. Mr. Fedorchak stated the most significant revenue sources over the years has come from the golf outing fundraiser which is approximately \$50,000 a year and the Run which would net approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000. He stated starting about four years ago this \$65,000 a year from the most significant revenue sources went into the 501C3 which Ms. Saracini created as opposed to previously when they went exclusively to the Township for the Garden. Mr. Saracini agreed. Mr. Fritchey asked how the expenses are being paid for if the Township is not receiving these funds. Mr. Fedorchak stated they have been living exclusively off the fund balances so that the monies that had been raised over the years prior to about four years ago had been accumulated, and they have been drawing down on those fund balances. He stated there is one other "pot" of money which is available which they can apply to operating expenses, and this is approximately \$55,000 that the Township has within their own 501C3 – the Lower Makefield Township Community Foundation. He stated they started to put money into that Foundation started by the Board of Supervisors because that assured

contributors that their contribution would be tax deductible. Mr. Fedorchak stated currently there is approximately \$25,000 in the Township Government fund and approximately \$55,000 in the Foundation so there is approximately \$80,000.

Mr. Gordon asked if the Foundation is intended to be just for the Garden of Reflection, and Mr. Fedorchak stated the Foundation itself has multiple purposes; and they have segregated the 9-11 Funds that they have so they have accounted for that independently. Mr. Wysocki asked if that is approximately \$55,000, and Mr. Fedorchak stated it is approximately about that much.

Ms. Godshalk stated the family members knew that there was going to be problems; and since they did not have access to the other money held in Ms. Saracini's 501C3, they decided to form a group called the Garden of Reflection Preservation Committee, and they had a fundraiser where they raised \$13,000. Mr. Gordon asked where that money is being held, and Mr. Fedorchak stated it is in the Foundation. Ms. Godshalk stated they gave it to Mr. Fedorchak, and it is in the Community Foundation earmarked for the Garden of Reflection. Mr. Gordon asked if other than Ms. Saracini's Fund, do the other family members have any money in any place other than with Mr. Fedorchak; and Ms. Godshalk stated they do not.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Saracini how much money is in her fund, and Ms. Saracini stated it is approximately \$250,000. She stated this money was separated into a 501C3 after the Township started their own 501C3. She stated the money in her 501C3 was earmarked so that it could create an endowment so that in the future that would be there to support the Memorial. She stated there were discussions held with the Board of Supervisors, and there was plenty of money in the other account; and the separate account is set up so that it would not be drawn from so that it would create enough money so that eventually it would support the Garden in perpetuity.

Ms. Bane stated they were not all privy to what was happening with this.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Saracini if money has been added through the years, and Ms. Saracini stated it has. She stated it has gone from zero four years ago, and is now at \$250,000. Mr. Gordon asked the funding sources, and Ms. Saracini stated it comes from the Golf Outing and the 5K primarily. Mr. Gordon stated over the last four years that money has not been going to the Township, and Ms. Saracini agreed.

Ms. Saracini stated she did not know until now how much the Garden cost. She stated she had been asking for financials, and was never provided them.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Saracini where she has the 501C3, and Ms. Saracini stated it is not her money – it the 911 Memorial Garden of Reflection Endowment that has the money.

Mr. Gordon asked what her plan is in terms of how large she wants to get the endowment. He stated he understands that she is trying to get a certain principal so that the interest could take care of the Garden. Ms. Saracini stated she has some personal issues over the years and has been involved in a project in Washington for a year and a half which has hampered her fundraising efforts; however, she stated there was still plenty of money a very short time ago in the Township to support the Garden. She stated she does want to continue raising money until the fund gets to at least \$2 million so the money generated off of this could support the Garden; however, if the cost is \$61,000 a year, she will need \$3 million. She stated she wants to find out why it is costing the Garden \$61,000 a year. She stated a big part of it is the landscaping that is not their responsibility.

Ms. Reiss stated there is a perception in the community that there are two different funds, and the people want to know where they should donate their money if they want to help. She stated she feels the perception of the public is that there are two separate diverse groups. She stated if the money is being put away for perpetuity, it needs to be very transparent through the Township so that if someone goes on line to make a donation, a decision could be made that half of it would go in the fund for perpetuity and half would go into maintenance for the current year. She stated she feels there needs to be one basic “pot,” and it all needs to be within the purview of the Township.

Ms. Bane stated she feels there could be two separate funds, but the issue is that it was not very clear to the public that there were two separate funds. Mr. Gordon stated it was not clear to the Park & Rec Board either which is why they asked everyone to come in.

Ms. Reiss stated when her daughter was soliciting for donations several places indicated they would not support anything but “Ellen’s fund;” and Ms. Reiss stated she feels that this is an indication of a problem with the perception of the public. Ms. Reiss stated she agrees there should be a separate fund for current expenses and one for long-term expenses, but the Township should have the funds.

Mr. Gordon stated while Ms. Saracini has great goals, they do not know if she will get there; and they also have to deal with the short term for the next few years. He stated while Ms. Saracini’s goals are noble, if the Garden of Reflection does not exist in ten years, it would not help to have funds in perpetuity. He stated they first have to define what the expenses are and be put in writing so that it is clear as to

what the Garden of Reflection fund is responsible for. He stated they also have to coordinate all of the money that is out there, and it must be approved by the Board of Supervisors how the money is being spent.

Ms. Reiss stated she feels that a percentage should go into everyday expenses and a percentage needs to go perpetual expenses.

Mr. Gordon stated there needs to be short-term funding. He stated once they have a number, they can put that amount away first for funding the Capital Budget for that year; and everything additional would go to funding in perpetuity. He stated once that gets to a certain point, hopefully the interest will take care of everything.

Ms. Godshalk stated initially there were six family members who were raising money, and it was going into the Township; and then the 501C3 appeared, and not one family member other than Ms. Saracini is on that 501C3 Board. Ms. Godshalk stated the other family members do not even know who is on that Board. She stated they have never seen reports. Ms. Saracini asked Ms. Godshalk if she has seen reports from the Township, and Ms. Godshalk stated she has them. Ms. Godshalk stated she does not feel comfortable with the money in a 501C3 that one person controls.

Ms. Saracini stated everyone was "doing their own thing," and she kept on fundraising for a long time; and there was not a lot of other participation by anyone. She stated she could not get anything from the Township even though she asked multiple times. She stated she decided to make sure that at least she would know what was happening with the money and it is sitting in the 501C3. She stated recently she has not been fundraising other than the two main fundraisers that she runs in order to put into the fund. She stated she wants to make sure that they are looking to the future and not thinking about the day-to-day paying the water, etc. She stated later when the family members are not here, no one will have to worry about it, and the Fund will be set up for the Township to maintain and administer the money so that only what is generated from the Fund will be put into the Garden so it will always remain.

Ms. Bane asked Ms. Saracini if it is her intention to give the fund back to the Township when she reaches the \$2 million, and Ms. Saracini stated she has not thought about that yet and has not talked to the Township to find out what they want. Ms. Saracini stated she has helped fund raise over \$1.8 million.

Ms. Reiss stated the largest fundraisers are not helping support the day-to-day maintenance, and part of it is transparency and hurt feelings.

Ms. Bane stated she feels having a set figure of what they need to raise to go to day-to-day expenses is important and anything in excess of that could go to perpetuity; but she does not know if Ms. Saracini is willing to take part in this.

Ms. Saracini stated she talked to the Township years ago and explained to them about the endowment which she wanted to work on so that funds would be put into the endowment so that in the future it would support the Garden; and the Board of Supervisors said yes. Mr. Fedorchak stated he was part of that process, and the Board of Supervisors did not make any decision. He stated Ms. Saracini did make a presentation to the Board of Supervisors and put out the idea of the endowment, and this is where it was left. He stated the Board of Supervisors did not agree that Ms. Saracini would be taking the proceeds from the golf outing and the run and diverting it to her fund. He stated there was not that kind of detail in the conversation. Ms. Saracini stated there was no opposition. Mr. Fedorchak stated they did not agree though. He stated they listened to the presentation, and while he feels it made sense in principle, they never got to the next step that certain fundraisers would be put into her 501C3. He stated this was never part of the conversation with the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Gordon stated this is a Township Park, and the Garden of Reflection is all of ours. He stated they believe that there is a perception that there is a Township involvement with the 501C3 which there is not, so he senses that there is a certain discomfort in that regard that the Township does not want the public to feel misled. He stated it is also a way of protecting Ms. Saracini. He asked Ms. Saracini if she is against working with the Township now in coordinating her 501C3 so it can become part of the funds similar to what Mr. Fedorchak is discussing. He stated it could be kept in a separate category within the Township's Lower Makefield Township Community Foundation. Ms. Saracini stated Mr. Fedorchak did not want her to do this and told her to "take the money out of the Township." She stated when this happened it was at a time when the Township was starting to come up with the Community Foundation, and there was a lot of paperwork and expenses.

Mr. Fedorchak stated this is partially correct since at that time there was not any clarity or consensus and agreement on the part of the Board of Supervisors and the Garden of Reflection group as to what the roles were going to be and what was going to be done next. He stated hopefully now everyone can work together.

Mr. Fedorchak stated he and Ms. Liney will lay out all of the expenses in detail and have a future discussion with the Park & Rec Board. He stated they will make those expenses available to everyone. He stated they will also attempt to factor out the circle, the area coming in and out, and the arboretum. He stated they will then be able to see what the number should be. He stated the Township has not charged the

Garden of Reflection a significant amount of the Township's time – Mr. Copson or the Park & Rec staff toward maintaining the pumps and a number of other items. He stated they have never charged the Garden for that. Mr. Fedorchak stated he feels they can get the numbers together in a couple of weeks.

There was further discussion about the water charges, and Ms. Liney stated they indicated that they charge a minimum for every facility. She stated the Water Company indicated that it has something to do with the meters and the mains, and what is being charged is the minimum that they can charge.

Ms. Saracini stated she would like to see the financials since 2006 which is when the Garden was dedicated so that they can have an understanding of the charges and what happens in the Park and what happens at the Memorial. Mr. Fedorchak questioned why they would be going backwards. Ms. Liney stated Realty did not break out the areas serviced. She also noted that Realty is not doing the landscaping this year.

Ms. Saracini stated there is a \$31,000 deficit that is not real. She stated the money was put in there so that the Garden proper would be maintained, and it has been maintaining other areas all these years from 2006 on. She stated the estimates came in at \$16,000 to \$18,000 for landscape work, and she does not know how they got to \$60,000. Ms. Saracini stated she went to the Board of Supervisors multiple times by herself, with Mr. McCaffrey, and with Mr. Stark. She stated she asked for financials so that she could see the breakdowns, and she never once got them. She stated she just heard tonight that Ms. Godshalk got the last three years, and that is the first she had ever seen that they had gotten any financials. Ms. Saracini stated they had over \$2 million and that is all gone this year, and she does not know where it went.

Mr. Fedorchak stated every single cent that was raised has gone into the Township's Memorial Fund, and every expense coming out of that Fund has gone towards the Garden although there are some exceptions. He noted they are paying \$900 a year for the State Permit for signage. He stated there have also been a number of expenses of that nature which Ms. Saracini has approved. He stated they have had discussions this evening about the landscaping, but everything else has gone to the Garden.

Ms. Reiss asked if they feel it would be a benefit if a Committee were designed to meet even quarterly so that everyone is aware of the costs, etc. Mr. Fedorchak stated he would welcome this. Ms. Reiss stated she feels that this would solve a lot of issues. Ms. Reiss stated the major dollars are now going into preservation and none of it is going to the day-to-day expenses, and this is an issue that they have to deal with. Ms. Saracini stated now there will be a whole committee that will be able to fund the day-to-day expenses and the other part could go to preservation.

Ms. Bane stated people who have participated in several of these fundraising events have assumed that the money was coming to the Township to maintain the Garden, and this is not what is happening. She also stated on the Website they should have a notation about both of these funds with a brief explanation so that people would have the option which one to donate to.

Ms. Saracini stated there are all these volunteer committees at the Township, and she feels there should be a volunteer program started up so that people who want to garden could do this rather than paying a landscaping company. She stated the Township Website could also have on it that they are all fundraising for the maintenance of the day-to-day maintenance.

Ms. Reiss stated she feels they should have one fund with a percentage going to day to day and one for maintenance in perpetuity. Ms. Saracini stated the Township should have a part of their Website where the Garden has a little more presence so that you do not have to search to find out that there is a 911 Memorial in the Township. She stated they should also announce it to the Township residents that they are fundraising to maintain the Garden, and she feels people will want to donate to the Township. She stated now on the Township Website, it is a "hidden secret."

Mr. Gordon stated there should not be competing interests. He asked Ms. Saracini if she was opposed to molding her fund into the Township's fund. Ms. Saracini asked if he is asking that she give up the 501C3 and put it into the other 501C3, and Mr. Gordon stated it could still be separated. Ms. Saracini stated she is not comfortable with this since she has never had transparency from the Township, and this is why it is separate. She stated tonight she heard that they should not go back and look at other things, and this is why it is separated. Mr. Gordon stated he feels it is in everyone's best interest that there be one fund, and that a decision be made in terms of where the first dollars go and where the remaining dollars go. He stated he feels they can come to an agreement as to what the Garden's responsibility is in terms of maintenance which everyone feels is fair. He stated he feels all those present should be unified in their fundraising. He stated there should be one 501C3 that is dedicated to the Garden; and it should be specified that the first dollars go to funding the Budget for the maintenance of the Garden for that year, and once that threshold is met, the remaining funds raised that year will go to creating the endowment that will allow them to reduce their fundraising in the future since with time as the family members get older and 9/11 becomes further away, it will be more difficult to fundraise. He stated this is where Ms. Saracini's idea makes sense.

Ms. Jones stated it does not seem right to make someone who is donating to have to decide which fund they want their money to go to, and Mr. Gordon agreed. He stated a donation should be to the maintenance and endowment. Ms. Godshalk stated she feels that this will make more people want to work for the Garden.

Ms. Saracini stated no one was working for it before she had the endowment; however, other family members disagreed. Ms. Godshalk stated there is no family member on Ms. Saracini's 501C3, and people are very upset about it. She feels they will draw a lot more people back in and working on it if they know that it is not controlled by just one person. Ms. Saracini stated it is not controlled by one person. Ms. Godshalk stated they do not know who the Board members are; and Ms. Saracini there are public documents and it is very transparent.

Mr. Gordon stated the concern is that efforts are going to the endowment when there may not be monies available for the current maintenance, and this is what they are trying to coordinate. He stated they want to make sure they take care of today before they take care of tomorrow. Mr. Gordon stated if they start using taxpayer money to take care of this knowing that there is an endowment of \$250,000, it will not feel fair to the taxpayers. Ms. Saracini stated it is in the long run.

Ms. Saracini stated it does not matter how much money she was bringing to the Township since she is concerned about the expenses of \$61,000; and Mr. Gordon stated they are going to deal with this, and it is a separate subject. Ms. Saracini stated this is the whole subject of why she separated so at least she would know where the money was going, since she did not know where the money was going. Mr. Gordon stated they are going to clarify that.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the Township is going to work on the numbers and provide these to everyone present. He stated they can then have a meeting in the next month and invite everyone to discuss the expenses. He stated they will then decide on what is and will not be included. He stated they can then discuss the other issues.

Ms. Godshalk stated they are going to keep the Lower Makefield Garden of Reflection Preservation since they are planning another fundraiser, and then checks can be written which will go into the Community Foundation.

Ms. Bane stated she feels everything needs to be made more clear or they will be faced with the same problem they were facing last year since people were questioning where the money was going and why they were separate from Ms. Saracini's fundraising and what was happening with her money.

Mr. Gordon stated the Park & Recreation Board could make a recommendation if necessary that they do want to see Ms. Saracini's money merged into the Township money; and once they get together the expense piece that they put together a plan so that there is one 501C3 that contains all Garden of Reflection funds with something in writing that states that the first monies each year go to pay for the

maintenance for that particular year, and all excess monies above that will go to fund the endowment. He stated in this way they are taking care of today first, and then taking care of tomorrow. He stated he feels that more money will be raised if there is a coordinated effort, and it will be in the best interest of everyone present.

Ms. Saracini stated she will raise \$60,000 and they are going to raise \$13,000 and then another \$13,000 and it is disproportionate. She stated the Township has never once thought into the future about preserving the Garden, and she has. She stated she can fundraise and get the money; but if the money keeps chipping away, it is hard for her to get the money. She stated she wants to just get the money and then present it to the Township. She stated she is happy that there is now a group of people who want to fundraise. She feels the yearly maintenance should be more like \$30,000, and she does not see why they cannot raise \$30,000. Mr. Gordon stated Ms. Saracini keeps saying "they" and "I" which is a problem. He stated there cannot be an endowment without today, and this is why there needs to be one fund with the first dollars going to today and the second dollars going to the endowment. Mr. Gordon stated the Park & Rec Board does not want there to be an endowment if there is no money for today because that means the taxpayers have to pay for taking care of it. He stated it is not fair to the taxpayers to have to pay for maintenance while there is an endowment. He stated they have a strong desire for there to be a coordinated effort as they have discussed.

Ms. Reiss stated when you say Garden of Reflection, the perception by the public is that there is one organization, and they have to make sure that they meet the needs of today and that there be money for tomorrow. Ms. Bane stated they understand that but one of the problems is that Ms. Saracini's plan is worded in such a way that the funds have to be used for perpetuity, and the Community one is a little less specific. She stated even if Ms. Saracini was willing to give the funds to the Township, she is not sure that she can based on what is written in her business plan. Ms. Saracini stated she believes a 501C3 can gift to another 501C3.

Ms. Godshalk stated she read in the paper that the Garden of Reflection was just awarded a Grant by the Bucks County Tourism Association, and she asked who got that check. Ms. Saracini stated she did, and it was in the amount of \$3,000; and she got it so that they could do the letters on the front entrance wall. Ms. Reiss stated she feels this is a perfect example to show that there is a lot of money out there for Grants, etc. that they are not getting because they are not working at a team. She stated she feels they should be able to fundraise as a group. Ms. Saracini stated she is fundraising. Ms. Reiss stated she feels they need to work together and one of the group cannot make themselves Chairman and tell the rest of the group that they have to do what they say or go somewhere else and do it. She stated they have to be one group.

Mr. Wysocki stated at some point all the funds will be the same since he understands that the intent of the endowment is to eventually cover the operating expenses in the future so that there will be a merger at some point. Mr. Wysocki asked if that happened today would the fundraising efforts stop; and Ms. Saracini stated she does not know. She stated there has not been transparency over the years. She stated she feels \$61,000 in expenses is horrific. She stated she feels that there are resources within the Township like volunteers. She stated when a plant would die, she would go out and get a donation to replace it and people to plant it. She stated the whole core was donated plant material. She stated the large trees on the outside and the labor was all donated. She stated she got the oak garden donated which was 135 trees including labor, stone for the walkways, and the whole lay out was all donated. She stated Ms. Lashchuk donated all of her time to design it. She stated she can get donations; but she is hearing that they paid \$61,000 when it cost \$16,000 to \$18,000 to landscape. She asked where the rest of the money is going. She stated she cannot say that she will continue to fundraise because there has been no transparency, and she feels it is abusive that they are spending this much money. She stated the lights are now on at the Garden when it is only 4:00 in the afternoon. She stated there is a seasonal timer, and she asked why the timer is not set so that the lights do not go on until 7:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. She stated when they run the electric at 4:00 in the afternoon and she goes to the Garden and sees that the mulching that was done covered the lights of the eighteen trees and that fourteen of the bulbs are out, she questions where the money is going. She stated she had continued to do fundraising to put the money in an endowment so she knew there would be an endowment to be gifted to the Township to make sure that the Garden was okay for future generations. She stated she has been asking for an accounting to be done since 2006. She stated funds are being taken out of the funds for the Garden to support the Township park with the landscaping. She stated the Township was supposed to supply the mulch for the avenue coming up, the flag circle, and the oak garden; and this did not happen, and they paid a landscaper for their mulch and she asked why they are doing this when the Township has free mulch. She stated all of these things are exorbitant costs that the Township feels easy to put into the Garden and everyone is saying, "Ellen is taking the money." Others present stated this was not what was being said. Ms. Saracini stated she wants to keep the money separate until she gets an accounting so at least she knows that the money will be spent when it needs to be spent.

Mr. Fritchey stated he has heard Ms. Saracini state several times that she is planning to gift the endowment to the Township at some point in the future, and he asked when that will be. Ms. Saracini stated there is a very big fundraising opportunity coming up because it will be the fifteenth year, and after that it wanes off. She stated she has had personal issues with family members over the last few years, and she has a big project that she is working on in Washington so those two

things have taken her away from other fundraising, but she is still maintaining the golf outing and the 5K, and they are still bringing in a lot of money. She stated although she cannot give an exact time frame, she would like to give the money in five years since she does not want to work on this after five years. She stated a lot of thought processes have to come together and work together on what they can do. She stated the Township has the ability to fill out Grants adding they got one for the playground. She stated there are things that the Township does for other Committees, and they have volunteers. She stated she has asked many times for a liaison from the Township and for a Committee to be started so that they could do this sort of thing. She stated there is a community garden at Memorial Park, and she feels some of those people would do some of the work at the Garden. She feels a lot of the costs at the Garden could be defrayed because there are volunteers who could do this.

Mr. Wysocki stated Ms. Saracini has tremendous capabilities for fundraising, but she has faced a period where she has personal issues that interrupted that. He asked if it is possible that under her tutelage there might be other willing people who could execute some of the fundraising efforts. Ms. Saracini stated the other people present decided to set up a Preservation Committee.

Ms. Bane stated they have what there was originally that Ms. Saracini pulled away from. She stated they had always worked with the Township. She stated they advised Mr. Fedorchak that there were more family members that wanted to help however they could, but she did make it clear to Mr. Fedorchak that they did not know what they could do. Ms. Bane stated the “voice of the Garden” has been Ms. Saracini, and the community knows this. Ms. Bane stated the rest of the group came together to try to figure out how they could offset the costs, and their only intention was to work with the Township.

Ms. Reiss stated she did not do a lot because she did not feel her input was needed and sometimes not wanted so that when Ms. Bane called her, she was thrilled. She stated she understands that the two biggest fundraisers are the run and the golf outing. She stated she feels they could think of another great fundraiser. She feels that the community perception is first Ellen and then the rest of them; but it is not since the Garden is for everyone. Ms. Reiss stated she agrees that transparency is very important. She stated she feels they do need volunteers including the family members and the community. She stated they could get Scout groups involved as well. She stated she feels that they need a Committee and to see if there is a way to cut down the costs through different methods. She agrees that money should be put away for the future, but they do need to cover the everyday expenses as well.

Those present to discuss the Garden of Reflection left at this time.

Mr. Fedorchak thanked the Park & Recreation Board for putting this matter on their Agenda. He stated he plans to work with Ms. Liney to get all the costs together so that they can agree on a figure assuming the entire group comes together to discuss this. Mr. Dobson stated he feels they should come up with an amount of the costs on an annualized basis and send them a bill. Mr. Gordon stated he feels it is important that there be one fund. Mr. Fedorchak stated he would like to know from Ms. Saracini whether any of the \$250,000 she has in the 501C3 if any of that has been spent on something not related to the maintenance of the Garden.

Mr. Wysocki stated he is often at Memorial Park, and he feels the arboretum is part of the Memorial. Mr. Fedorchak agreed that it is the entranceway to the Memorial, and it was the idea of Ms. Saracini's to act as a buffer. Mr. Gordon stated while he agrees he does not feel the driveway or the circle should be taken out of the costs of the Memorial since everyone has to go this way whether they are going to the Garden or not.

Mr. Fritchey stated he is still unclear as to how the money being contributed is reflected in the I/I Fund. Mr. Fedorchak stated by law the Foundation has to be a totally separate entity. He stated there are two separate funds, and they are audited every year. He stated what Mr. Fritchey is looking at was set up originally ten years ago as a matter of convenience so that when funds came in, it would come into the Government; and everyone agreed to that. He stated in the last four years, the Township created the 501C3 because people raised the issue that money donated was going into the Government fund, and was not really eligible to be tax deductible and it had to go into a 501C3. Mr. Newbon stated it looks like it is decreasing, and Mr. Fedorchak stated the Township has the Community Foundation, and Ms. Saracini has her 501C3; and it is her funds that are not coming in to the Township. Mr. Fedorchak stated Ms. Saracini stated Ms. Saracini is raising approximately \$60,000 a year, and for the last four years it has gone to her fund. Mr. Gordon stated she wants to use that for the endowment, and not use any of it for today. Mr. Gordon stated he feels they need to pay for today's expenses first. Mr. Fedorchak stated what has been coming into the Township's Foundation for the last few years is just what Ms. Godshalk and Ms. Bane's group has raised which resulted in approximately \$15,000 last year. He stated they also receive funds from another 501C3, the Philadelphia Foundation, which was started by Ms. Chirchirillo and they have received about \$1,700 a year from this for the last three years. He stated at this point that is all that is coming into the Foundation so going forward they would not have the cash flow coming in to cover what the expenses are. He stated they need a portion of what Ms. Saracini has; and he agrees with the suggestion that a portion goes to operating expenses first, and the rest would go into the portion for expenses in perpetuity.

Mr. Dobson stated they need to make sure that they understand the costs; and Ms. Liney stated she has had discussions with Ms. Saracini and offered her the criteria that she had provided to Ms. Godshalk, and Ms. Saracini never came in. Mr. Fedorchak stated he hopes that he can work with the Committee and get most of them to agree to a number which are the annual operating expenses for the Garden. Mr. Gordon stated if they cannot all agree, the Park & Recreation Board will have to make a presentation before the Board of Supervisors about this problem.

Mr. Wysocki stated if the Committee can come up with another big fundraiser that would cover the annual operating expenses, it may be possible to leave the money Ms. Saracini is generating untouched.

Mr. Fedorchak left the meeting at this time.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Sean O'Hara, President YMS, stated there was a request by a member of the Pool Steering Committee to send out information to the YMS population to help raise membership at the Pool, and YMS did send out an e-mail to the 2,000 families; and hopefully they will get a positive response.

Mr. O'Hara stated Silent Saturday is scheduled for Saturday, June 21. He noted the in-house teams play closest to the resident who complained about the noise. Ms. Liney stated a resident on Stackhouse has requested that the Township do a noise study, similar to CSX train horns, for Macclesfield Park because of the cheering at the field. Ms. Liney stated short term YMS has been very good about encouraging the parents to be less loud.

Mr. O'Hara stated they are also working with Pennsbury in the fall who will have their girls and boys soccer teams play on the turf field. He stated Pennsbury is also looking to use the turf for field hockey as well.

Mr. O'Hara stated they are working with other soccer clubs in the area, and he would like to have an another tournament with another club in the region. He stated currently they host the Epic Tournament and the Columbus Cup each with approximately 300 teams in attendance. He stated they are considering a third tournament in the fall strictly for the younger players. The other two tournaments are for those nine and above. He stated the additional tournament would be another revenue source for soccer. He stated they are looking at either June or mid to late August. He stated he recognizes that the Park & Recreation Board will not meet in July, so he would like input from the Board so that they could have the tournament in August of this year.

Mr. O'Hara stated in prior years, YMS used the concession stand year round and then a number of years ago, they did not use it at all. He stated they did use it this spring and did very well. Ms. Liney agreed to work with Mr. O'Hara on use of the concession stand.

Mr. O'Hara stated with their continuing population size, they are in need of additional field space. He stated there are some ideas that will not cost anything, and he would also like to discuss the Snipes Tract at some point. He asked that the Board consider allowing YMS to utilize the current fields at Macclesfield and specifically noted Field H which is currently a baseball field. He stated they do use that sometimes in the fall; but due to the size of their population and the problems they are having trying to get all the teams on the turf, they are in dire need of more field space.

Mr. Gordon noted the new baseball fields will open next year, and he asked if PAA will still need Field H. Ms. Liney stated she knows YMS wants to use Field H; but they would wait until Caiola Complex opens, and then see if there is a need for Field H given PAA's enrollment. Ms. Liney stated football in the fall shares Field H which has lights. Mr. O'Hara stated he is requesting that YMS use that field five days a week in the fall. He stated long term they would like to see Field H turned into a soccer field for soccer training. He stated they are not asking for any money, and they would take care of changing it into a soccer field. Mr. Gordon stated they first must see what happens with the Caiola fields once open; and he feels that because there is no outfield fence at H, and they will have two prime fields, Field H will not be as attractive. Mr. Wysocki stated because H has lights, it is a very attractive feature.

Mr. Gordon stated the Snipes Plan was approved years ago, and it is just a matter of funding. Mr. Fritchey stated that would be the ultimate solution. He stated he feels they could solve one problem but create another if they change Field H.

Mr. O'Hara stated their focus on fundraising at this time is to replace the turf field, and secondly, they are looking to raise money for a second turf field. Ms. Liney asked the estimated cost to replace the turf, and Mr. O'Hara stated they estimate it to be \$700,000.

Mr. Gordon asked if the loans are paid down, and Mr. O'Hara stated the loans were paid off in November.

With regard to the additional tournament, it was agreed that Ms. O'Hara should work with Ms. Liney on the Permitting for this. Ms. Liney stated there should be no problem with this being held in August, and she will have to make football aware of this.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Ms. Tyler thanked the Park & Recreation Board for addressing the issues at the Garden of Reflection.

Ms. Tyler stated the Community Center is on track, and the architect has submitted the Plans to the Township engineer who is reviewing the Plans with respect to topography and the Township Building and Zoning Ordinances. It should go before the Township's Planning Commission within the next month and a half. This is just with respect to the footprint. Ms. Tyler stated they still need to work on the interior, and she has been talking to various user groups and others about this.

Ms. Tyler stated there is a Steering Committee working on various aspects at the Pool and with the marketing company. Ms. Tyler stated at this point sign ups are down, although they are stemming this with Associate Memberships. She stated her goal is to get the LMT resident memberships up so that they do not have to offer the Associate Memberships. She stated they are getting a lot of positive feedback from people about the activities at the Pool. She stated they are pleased with the management team this year, and they are listening to what the Township is trying to improve at the Pool. She stated they want to get the Teens and Tweens to want to be at the Pool.

Ms. Tyler stated a group came to Board a short time ago requesting funding to do Community Clips; and they started with PAA, and they just did a Pool video. She stated they will also do one on the Farmer's Market. These will be available on the Township Website and looped on the Township TV Channel to promote the Township. Mr. Wysocki suggested that they have a television in the Township Building which residents could view when they come to the Township for business. Ms. Tyler stated this is an excellent idea, and they could get a TV in the lobby and loop the clips.

Mr. Wysocki asked about changes at the Golf Course, and Mr. Dobson stated they voted to borrow \$400,000 and they had planned to update the kitchen, the pond liner, a bridge over Hole 18, a bathroom facility at Hole 4, and purchase a tent for weddings and other events. He stated the bids came in significantly higher than the estimates, so they now have to prioritize what can be done. He stated while the kitchen really needs to be updated, this came in at \$415,000. Mr. Dobson stated he thinks they are going to try to partner with someone to do the tent who would do all the infrastructure upgrades and run the events with the Course getting a percentage of the revenue. Mr. Dobson stated the Township would have to run the liquor portion because it is the Township's license. He stated they have had preliminary discussions with people about partnering with them. He stated one company felt that they could do a minimum of thirty events a year.

Mr. Gordon asked about the numbers, and Mr. Dobson stated the number of rounds is down from last year because of the weather earlier this year. He stated they did have the best May ever. He noted the different programs they have including a three-hole, six-hole, and nine-hole rate during the week. He stated that Monday is the Philadelphia Open Qualifier. Mr. Wysocki noted the possibility of having a U. S. Open Qualifier next year. Mr. Dobson stated the Junior Program is very successful. He stated July 18, 19, and 20 is the Ten Year Anniversary weekend with a number of activities planned.

Mr. Wysocki asked if the Township has a concern about being open late and noise impacting area residents. Mr. Dobson stated he feels the noise levels dissipate by the time they get to any homes. Mr. Wysocki stated he feels the kitchen is closing too early. Mr. Dobson stated there are activities on Friday nights, and they are working hard to bring in more revenue.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated the Park crew will complete over seeding the fields at Macclesfield this week. As always, in order to promote growth, the Township will close the re-seeded areas to traffic for the next couple months.

Ms. Liney stated PAA has concluded a successful in-house season this past weekend. Closing Day activities were held and scholarships were presented by the organization. She stated the Park crew is currently preparing for the upcoming annual PAA Fast pitch Softball Tournament beginning with a clinic tomorrow and concluding with the championship game on Fathers Day. Thursday evening the Pennsbury Gems will host a team from Alaska, during what promises to be a terrific weekend of softball in the Township.

Ms. Liney stated dirt work preceding the construction of the Secret Garden playground at Memorial Park began this week. She stated they will continue to monitor this project to insure it is tracking on schedule for completion by the end of August.

Ms. Liney stated the Lower Makefield Farmers Market kicked off the season last week with close to 300 patrons visiting the Market during the 3:30 to 6:30 hours of operation. With the new layout this year, the Township has provided a golf cart to the Market for use in transporting anyone who may need assistance.

Ms. Liney stated as they move through the Pool season, Park and Recreation has been very busy and continues to do the best they can fielding the increased level of inquiries, special event activities, and future plans for the Pool involving the Pool Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is targeting the expansion of memberships to Lower Makefield residents, creating an atmosphere that the Pool is the place to go Friday nights with dollar dog nights, free movies, and reduced guest fees of \$3 after 4 p.m. The Pool is seeing increased enrollment from surrounding communities, particularly Newtown. The good news is the bottom line for the end of May was more than \$40,000 ahead of the 2013 May figures.

Ms. Liney stated the annual Park and Recreation Road Tour is scheduled for Tuesday, July 8th at 6:30 p.m. Sites to be visited include the new Caiola Complex, Fred Allan drains, Veterans Square Monument construction, Secret Garden playground at Memorial Park, Macclesfield, and the Pool. Ms. Liney asked that she be advised if there are any other sites the Board wishes to visit.

Mr. Wysocki asked how they are keeping people off of the Caiola Fields until they are ready, and Ms. Liney stated it is locked, and they cannot get on.

Ms. Liney it was noted earlier this evening that Ms. Saracini received a Grant for letters on the stone wall at Memorial Park. She reminded the Park & Recreation Board a number of years they approved signage there, and she wants to make sure that it says "Memorial Park" and "Garden of Reflection" with letters as it was approved by the Township. Ms. Liney stated she assumes that there will be a Permit or some kind of process before those letters go up. Ms. Liney was asked to send Ms. Saracini an e-mail advising her of what was approved by the Supervisors.

There being no further business, Mr. Newbon moved, Mr. Gordon seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Fritchey, Chairman