

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – MAY 13, 2014

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on May 13, 2014. Chairman Fritchey called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Fritchey, Chairman  
David Gordon, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Bunn, Secretary  
Andrew Newbon, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director

Absent: David Malinowski, Park & Rec Board Member  
Dennis Wysocki, Park & Rec Board Member  
Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor Liaison

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gordon moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to Approve the April 8, 2014 Minutes as written.

#### COMMUNITY POOL DISCUSSION

Ms. Liney stated the Lower Makefield Pool Steering Committee, hand in hand with FZ Media Marketing, has been working tirelessly with daily communications to ensure the successful rebranding of the Pool this season.

Ms. Liney stated new menu boards for the concession stand have been designed and are being finalized for installation. She stated new tee shirts color coded by staff positions have been ordered, an initial email blast to anyone who was a member from 2008 to the present was sent yesterday highlighting upcoming special events with the idea of generating future interest in memberships. Ms. Liney stated a draft survey is being worked on for later this season, banners and signage are being designed, and investigation of the possibility of background music through the complex is underway. Ms. Liney stated new undertakings such as on-site ping pong, dry land yoga offering, softball games, 3 v 3 basketball tournaments and volleyball tournaments are being researched. She stated the acceptance of credit cards for payment is also being investigated.

Ms. Liney stated separate and in addition to the rebranding undertaking, the Township has contracted for an opening day video to take place at the Pool on Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at approximately 1:30 p.m. The video will capture patrons enjoying the Pool, interview Pool staff and patrons, and further promote the Pool to the Lower Makefield community.

Ms. Liney stated it is all very exciting and demanding, and Park & Recreation is happy to be a part of it.

Ms. Liney stated the Pool is also happy to introduce the former Newtown Swim Club Assistant Manager, Jeff Brown, who is joining our Pool management team this year along with Sean Corcoran, Wes Sheffer, and Janet Smith all returning. Ms. Liney stated Mr. Brown has an impressive background in pool management and experience.

Mr. Brown was present and stated he is pleased to be at Lower Makefield after seventeen years at the Newtown Swim Club which has closed. Mr. Brown stated he met Ms. Liney in August when she asked if he would be interested in joining the Lower Makefield Team, and he remembered what a wonderful facility it always was. He stated his responsibilities at Newtown included hiring and training staff, program development, maintenance, and sanitation. He stated he is excited at what is happening at the Township Pool; and he stated Ms. Liney has been very open to listening to his ideas, and he hopes to help make the complex even more inviting.

Mr. Gordon asked Mr. Brown if he was involved with the Swim Team; and Mr. Brown stated he was not involved in coaching at Newtown, although he did coach at PDR many years ago. He stated prior to working at Newtown, he worked for the City of Philadelphia Department of Recreation for many years, the last eight years as an inspector and he had twenty-two pools. He stated he subsequently coached in the USA swimming program.

Ms. Liney stated Mr. Brown has some ideas on deep-water testing for children that are under twelve that they might try to bring in. Mr. Brown stated while he is still learning a lot about the programming at the Pool, he thought it might be a good idea to include some safety programs including a deep water test so that parents would feel comfortable that their children were safe and able to use the facilities such as the diving boards and the slides and to be in water past shoulder depth level. He stated the Pool does not currently have a deep water test, and they are going to institute this; and they would like the parents to bring their children to this, and they will then put a sticker on their Membership Card. He stated they used to keep a running list at Newtown and update an Excel spread sheet. Mr. Brown stated with regard to the instructional program, they are going to try to pre-test the students prior to registration so that they can start the first day of instruction with the child in the proper level which will maximize the instructional time.

Mr. Newbon stated they had put out surveys to the members to find out what they could do better and to get feedback, and he asked what they did at Newtown.

Mr. Brown stated they had a suggestion box that was at the Exit area where people could drop notes, and the owners of the Newtown Swim Club took that very seriously; and they encouraged people to include both positive and negative comments. Mr. Brown stated the management team at Newtown was very visible, and he was usually outside talking to the members to find out what they could do better.

Mr. Gordon stated some Pool members came to the Park & Recreation Board recently to discuss lap swimming and making sure that there was proper accessibility for people who just wanted to swim laps. Mr. Brown stated he understands that they have a lap swim program at the Pool, and at Newtown they had lanes dedicated in the fifty yard pool for lap swimming for those sixteen and over and also for walking which was a very popular program. He stated he understands that the Plan at the Pool was to increase the number of dedicated lanes. He stated he feels it is important to maximize the health and fitness benefits of the facility. He stated they will assess where they are at in this area and maybe expand it. He stated he knows that the water aerobics and water Zumba classes have been expanded. Mr. Brown stated some people who cannot swim laps can do other things to get health benefits.

Mr. Newbon asked how they managed the number of people swimming laps at Newtown since at Lower Makefield they seem to have a lot of people wanting to swim laps. He asked if there were time limitations on how long people could be swimming laps. Mr. Fritchey stated this is a challenge at Lower Makefield since there are different constituencies that sometimes have conflicting demands, and there are limited resources of time and space that have to be accommodated. He stated he feels it is a challenge to find the correct balance. Mr. Brown stated at Newtown they always had two lanes in the fifty yard pool that were for lap swimming, and then they had another attached lane set up so they could expand one more lane if the crowd demanded it. Mr. Brown stated people need to know consistently that there will be some lap lanes available when they walk in.

Mr. Newbon stated he felt that at Lower Makefield they had six lanes, and they were still asking for more; and this is where the balance factor comes into play.

Mr. Brown stated some people are very territorial in their lap lane, and they want the lane to themselves; and they are not educated about circle swimming which is what the Swim Team does when they keep to the right and share the space.

Mr. Brown stated they could train the people coming in recreationally how to circle swim, and they could also designate certain lanes for advanced, intermediate, and slower swimmers so people feel more comfortable in the individual lanes.

Mr. Gordon suggested they arrange a "Meet the Manager" reception and the first few weekends the Pool is open they could have an hour when people could come meet the Manager with the Manager possibly giving away free lemonade, so that the members know who the Pool Manager is. Ms. Liney stated this is one of the reasons why there are going to color code the shirts – one color for the Manager, a different color for guards, and another color for maintenance workers.

Ms. Liney stated with regard to the lap swimming, they have discussed dedicating lanes at certain times so that adults know that at certain times there will be dedicated lap lanes. She stated they do have eight lanes.

Ms. Liney stated she knows that Mr. Brown will be very proactive, and Mr. Brown stated he is used to being out there with the members.

Mr. Gordon stated they have also had discussions about the Guest policy over the years. Ms. Liney stated the Pool Steering Committee has instituted Friday night specials for guests after 4:00 for \$3. Ms. Liney stated they will also have Dollar Dog Nights during that period and will show movies from mid-July to the end of August. Mr. Gordon stated there was a time in the past when they wanted to restrict people from bringing too many guests because there were plenty of members of the Pool. He stated at \$10 per person it is difficult if he has eight family members in from out of State who want to go to the Pool for a few hours since it would cost him \$80. He stated he understands that do not want it made too easy for those living in the area to be guests, because they want them to become members. Mr. Newbon stated he felt at one point the policy was so liberal that there was not a reason to bother joining the Pool. Mr. Brown stated there does have to be a balance as you do not want to have people think it is better not to join and only come in as a guest.

Mr. Brown stated he feels the value of the membership at the Lower Makefield Pool is phenomenal. He stated he also understands the dilemma about a larger out-of-town family. Mr. Gordon stated possibly there could be one fee for someone who lives in the Township versus someone who lives outside of the Township since they would not be a potential member.

Ms. Bunn stated a few years ago they had offered guest passes for filling out a survey. She stated she feels the Membership should include a certain number of guest passes. Ms. Liney stated they are going to do another survey, and they may tie that in. She also stated they give two free guest passes if you agree to be a sponsor for an Associate Family.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels the transition at the Pool is because of the demographics of the area, and this is reflective in the Pennsbury School District as well. He stated this is one of the reasons they need to change the marketing strategy and some of their thought processes.

Ms. Sandy Borowsky, President of the LMT Swim & Dive Team, stated their registration is still going on through the end of this week. She stated at this point they have 260 participants, and of those 13 both swim and dive, and 167 families make up the 260 participants. She stated to date there are 28 non-Township residents on the Team. Mr. Gordon asked if there are any League restrictions about residency, and Ms. Borowsky stated there are not. She noted the Head Coach of the Swim Team coaches for a local team based out of Newtown, and a number of those swimmers are coming to LMT to have the continuity of the same coach. She stated a number of those are still in the process of signing up. Ms. Borowsky stated they are still looking for one or two coaches. She stated they will have an Open House on Monday at the Pool, and she would like all of the Managers to be at the Open House.

Mr. Gordon asked how the Swim Team membership is trending in terms of numbers, and Ms. Borowsky stated they are higher than they were the last two years. She stated it is possible that they will reach their limit on members. She stated last year it was challenging because of the weather, and it was a difficult season. Ms. Borowsky stated she felt that they would have a lot of recreational swimmers since they offer a non-competitive option, but this has not occurred. She agreed that the demographics are changing so it is a good option to have the out of Township members which makes the Team stronger.

Mr. Gordon stated it is a great sport since the Team is made up of various ages and is co-ed as well, and this is unique to swimming.

## PAA DISCUSSION

Mr. Bob Smith, Vice Commissioner of Administration for PAA was present with Mr. Glen Geist, Vice Commissioner of Softball. Mr. Smith stated PAA has four Commissioners, and the overall Commissioner is Doug Krauss who was unable to attend this evening due to business. Mr. Smith stated PAA is a 501C3 non-profit, and they work hard to maintain their tax-exempt status, be fiscally responsible, and financially sound. He stated they earned a Silver designation by GuideStar for their transparency, and all of their financial records are available on the PAA Website and the GuideStar Website.

Mr. Smith stated they are chartered by Babe Ruth Baseball, and the younger boys level of baseball is known as Cal Ripken Baseball; and the coverage area is Lower Makefield Township, Yardley Borough, Morrisville Borough, and a small portion of Falls Township. He stated most of those who live in Lower Makefield can play for Babe Ruth through PAA, through Little League with Morrisville Little League, and there is a growing number of unaffiliated or loosely affiliated organizations competing for the players attention. He noted AAU Teams, USA Baseball, and most of the athletic organizations, clubs, and training facilities set up their own Club Team who primarily act as Travel Teams and they enter tournaments. He stated what is attractive to some of those players and families is that they do not have to play the in-house intramural baseball. He stated they just have their practices and go on the road and play in Tournaments at numerous locations. He stated that is an expensive proposition. He stated in their Baseball program, they have nine Travel Baseball Teams which are very successful. He stated as the players get older sometimes they want to continue the travel experience without the in-house experience; and sometimes they do that in the fall, and then come back to PAA. He stated this has been a challenge in retaining those players in the PAA program. He stated on the Softball side, there are some Travel Teams that do not play intramural at all; and this is a more common model on the softball side of the organization. He stated they are discussing and experimenting with this, and there is one Travel Team that is playing in a Connie Mack League practicing with them trying to keep them involved. He stated everyone's goal on the Board is to do what is right for the organization.

Mr. Smith stated they have lost some players over the years; and in the information he provided this evening, there is a three-year trend. He stated they feel those losses are primarily due to the reduction in children which is the same problem that is seen at the Pool, and the same reason that Schools are being closed. He stated there is also competition from other sports and the increase of opportunities within each sport to play. Mr. Smith stated for PAA, they want to make the experience as good as possible on the field and off for the parents and the players. He stated they do not really lose money when there are less players since they do not have to pay for uniforms when they do not have a player or pay user fees. He stated they want to be the right size. He stated most of those working on the program would like there to be two hundred more players, but the main goal is to provide a great experience for the players that are with PAA. He stated they are seeing different trends within the age groups, and they have a lot of eleven and twelve year olds. He stated they just made a change to the Major/Minor system for ten, eleven, and twelve year olds. He stated under Cal Ripken you can keep players at pure age Divisions, and then at eleven and twelve they move from the smaller fields to the intermediate fields; but there is also the option of going Majors and Minors which combines players not only by age but by skills. He stated PAA discussed this for approximately two years, and they decided to go to Majors and Minors. He stated

they had evaluations, and now they have eight Major Teams and five Minor Teams; and it has gone very well. He stated the competitive level on the Major side is better, and the personal attention and coaching for those who need a little more skills training on the Minor side if working well. He stated they feel this will help keep the players when they are thirteen and fourteen years old. He stated they have also improved the uniforms for those in Babe Ruth this year. He stated they are also fielding a Senior Babe Ruth Team with players sixteen to nineteen years old. He stated they are also considering a Classic Baseball Team which is twenty-one and over. He stated they are trying to create good experiences and attract as many age groups as possible. Mr. Smith stated they lowered the T-Ball age by four to six months. He stated they have also added a program for players on the Autism spectrum called Pennsbury Magik, which is a complement to the YMS program. He stated the program is non-competitive for boys and girls ages six to sixteen. He stated they have a uniform hat and shirt, and hit off the T with a buddy who is either a parent or one of the other players. He stated they have a number of teams offering their help with this program.

Mr. Fritchey stated what has been described is commendable, and PAA is doing a lot of good and admires all of those who are volunteering in the program; however, looking at the numbers while there is demographic influence with lower birth rates, he does not see this accounting for what he sees as a steep and rather alarming drop off in enrollment particularly with regard to the girls program. He stated when he was League Director for Girls Softball they had over one hundred players in each of their Divisions which were ten and under, twelve and under, fourteen and under and Senior Girls. Mr. Fritchey stated based on the enrollment figures they were provided this afternoon it seems that there are 201 girls in the entire in-house program and another 26 girls in the Gems Travel Program, and the girls that are in the Heat Travel Program are included in the 201. Mr. Fritchey stated he is alarmed about these numbers. Mr. Geist stated he is not sure why this is happening.

Mr. Fritchey stated PAA is Permitted for four fields, and it is difficult to justify shutting out other people who want to get field Permits when they have as much open time as they do. Mr. Geist stated the slots Mr. Fritchey is looking at are the game slots. He noted if two teams have a game on one field, there are three other teams that cannot practice there because that field is being used. Mr. Fritchey asked if there is a schedule for practices, and Mr. Smith stated they did not provide this. Mr. Geist stated every Team needs a practice time. Mr. Smith stated for in-house, they could double the amount of field use shown with one game and one practice. Mr. Geist stated this is his first year with Softball; and coming from the Baseball side when Stoddart is being used, it is being used solely for games, and the Baseball Teams are using School fields for their practices. He stated on the Softball side, they have five fields; and if one of those fields is being used for a game, that means the other Teams are not practicing on that field and are looking for space to practice.

Mr. Fritchey stated he wants them to have a sufficient number of practices because just having games does not increase their skill level. Mr. Fritchey stated based on what he was provided, it appeared that there was a lot of open time; but if they are indicating that it is filled up with practices, this is fine. Mr. Smith stated what was provided was the Game Schedule. Mr. Geist stated at the Ten U Level, each Team was assigned two practices a week; one Team from 5:30 to 6:30 and another from 6:30 to 7:30.

Mr. Fritchey asked if they have any idea why the drop off is occurring, and Mr. Geist stated he feels it is because there are fewer children and more opportunities.

Mr. Gordon stated there are things that they cannot control; but it seems that PAA is losing some players to Morrisville and Little League, and this is something that they can control. He stated he is concerned that Township residents are playing baseball outside of the community. He noted his own son left PAA Baseball when he was fourteen and played at Morrisville until he was sixteen because it matched his schedule and was where his friends were playing. Mr. Gordon stated he is concerned about the players PAA is losing to Morrisville since the Township has put time and money into building beautiful new baseball fields across the street.

Mr. Fritchey stated he knows of two High School girls who live in Yardley, one of whom plays in the Council Rock Program and the other in the Morrisville Program. He stated both of their parents told him that they went to these other programs, because they felt they were better programs although he is not aware of what their specific complaints were. He stated when he hears this coupled with the numbers he has been provided, he questions if there is something they can do. Mr. Fritchey stated for Softball, there are not as many other conflicts as there are for Baseball.

Mr. Smith stated he agrees that there are more options for Baseball than for Softball, but there are other opportunities. He stated girls can play in other jurisdictions, and they get girls that come to PAA from other areas because they like this program. Mr. Smith stated oftentimes those coming into the community join the programs that their neighbors tell them about. Mr. Fritchey stated that was the case in 2010 as well when they had 1,360 players in the Program as opposed to the 730 now in the Program. Mr. Smith stated he feels other Baseball and Softball Programs have also had declines as well but they do not share Registration numbers with other Leagues. One individual from the audience stated that Morrisville's numbers are up. Mr. Smith stated they have players that go back and forth between the Programs.

Mr. Newbon stated he sees that there is an attraction to the Morrisville Program for the younger players because they are Little League affiliated so you have the option to go to Williamsport to play in the Little League World Series; but as they get older, he sees a transition back to PAA because it is a Babe Ruth affiliation. Mr. Smith stated for the more advanced players, the families think that way; but for most people he does not feel the affiliation matters. He stated they sometimes hear that Lower Makefield is travel-centric and Morrisville is in-house centric.

Mr. Smith agreed that they would like to get the numbers back up, and they have done a lot to try to achieve this. He stated they have done a lot to upgrade their coaching. He stated they have mandatory background checks. He stated they have also done more player clinics than ever before, and there were seven free Baseball clinics with the coaching staff from Pennsbury High School; and they have done three clinics for Softball players with the coach from Nazareth Academy High School. He stated they require all of their Managers to go through the Cal Ripken on-line training program for which they are reimbursed once they provide their Certificate. He stated they have communications with their Managers via newsletters, and he feels they have stepped up the selection of Coaches and Managers. He stated they are also doing more training for the players to retain them. He stated they are trying to stress the value of PAA by adding clinics.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels this is all very important, and too often in-house programs are glorified day care. He stated if you have Coaches that are training the players properly, you can have fun teaching children how to play correctly; and this is very important.

Ms. Bunn asked if Mr. Smith is talking about the clinics that were offered over the winter, and Mr. Smith stated he is. Ms. Bunn asked Mr. Smith if he attended any of them, and Mr. Smith stated he attended most of them. Ms. Bunn stated she was one of the families that almost left because there are players at younger ages who are more competitive and do not get anything out of the In-House Program. She stated to force those on the Travel Team to play In-House where there are only a few players that can field, hit, and throw the ball is frustrating. She stated she likes the fact that they have the Major/Minors, but she feels it should be at a lower level because there are eight and nine years old who are at a different level; and to put them on the same field with players that can barely catch a ball is not safe.

Mr. Smith stated this illustrates the dilemma that they have. He stated a number of years ago the children just played baseball, and there was much less concern about travel, tournaments, etc. and there were some players that were better than others;

but now parents want their children to be on teams with players of a similar skill level and both the parents and the children are less tolerant of being on certain teams. Ms. Bunn stated she understands this since when she joined the Board in 1999 her children were not athletic, but now she finds herself "one of those parents." Ms. Bunn stated clinics in prior years were really good, but this past year she did not feel they were as good. She stated she did not feel they were teaching skills. Mr. Smith stated the clinics were offered for everyone in the League. He stated he is also fortunate enough that he can afford to pay for private hitting instruction for his child, and that is not what the clinics were. He stated every child that came to the free clinics got the attention of a Pennsbury High School Coach or player. He stated the idea of the clinic was that everyone who wanted to participate could do so in the winter. Ms. Bunn stated while she does not disagree, in the years past they were correcting bad habits; and this time, they were just getting everyone through. Mr. Smith stated they will take this information to heart adding that the Clinics he attended, he did see corrections being made. He stated possibly they could have a two-tiered system in the future where there are more one-on-one Clinics for more advanced players.

Mr. Smith reviewed the Travel Program which he feels is high-level play for the area. He stated parents of players who do not want to play In-House are paying \$800 to \$900 to play in the fall or spring with Big League Academy of Extra Innings.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels playing in-house is great. He stated since his child played travel soccer and could not play travel baseball, he played In-House' and he felt they were competitive Leagues which the players enjoyed playing in.

Mr. Smith stated they want to provide a solid, rewarding intramural program for the majority of the players, and provide an opportunity to play at a higher level for those players who want to and are willing and able to pay for it. He stated it is much more expensive to play PAA Travel than to play in-house, but it is not nearly as expensive as playing for the AAU or Club Teams.

Mr. Gordon stated the Girls Softball Program at Pennsbury gets a lot of press and is one of the best in the State, and he asked if they have any connection with the Girls Softball Coach at Pennsbury so that PAA could act as a feeder program. Mr. Smith stated they do have strong relationship with Pennsbury on the Baseball side, and the reason the past two years they have used the Coach from Nazareth Academy, which also has a tremendous softball program, is because he does the Clinics as a part-time job. He stated he agrees it would make sense to have a relationship with Pennsbury, and they will make that happen.

Mr. Smith stated they are focused on retention of the existing players by providing training, upgraded uniforms, and working with Ms. Liney and her crew to improve the fields. He stated they upgraded their Registration and Website two years ago, and they have a robust Social Media Program. He stated they have started to co-market with PRPL this past season, and they would like to work with Mr. Brown and the Pool and use the PAA mailing list to help generate some Pool Memberships and perhaps the Pool could help them later. He stated he also feels the Park & Rec Board can be a resource for all of the Township-based organizations to get together and cross market where the seasons do not overlap. He stated they want the children to be well rounded and cross train.

Mr. Fritchey stated he noticed that there a lot of Softball Games with Langhorne and Levittown American. Mr. Smith stated this is one of the things they are doing to make up for the small number of Teams in certain age divisions by interlocking with a neighbor that has a similar situation. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels that this is desirable and important for Lower Makefield children to play children from other communities. Mr. Fritchey stated he is still concerned about having only 200 players in the In-House Softball Program, and he feels they need to do some marketing to try to attract people and bring them back.

Mr. Newbon stated he feels it would be good to follow Mr. Gordon's suggestion and get the Pennsbury Girls Softball Coach involved. Ms. Liney noted that he will be present at the Pool on Opening Day with his son as they are DJs.

Mr. Newbon asked if there is anyone on the Board that is responsible for organizational development; and Mr. Smith stated while there is no one specific who has this position, there are some on the Board who share that duty. Mr. Newbon suggested that those responsible might want to work with the Pennsbury Elementary Schools, and possibly they could have some High School players come in wearing their PAA uniforms and talk about PAA Baseball and Softball; and working with the School District, they could hand out information about the PAA Program. Ms. Bunn asked if they go to the Elementary School and do the Web Blasts; and Mr. Geist stated they do the Web Blasts, but Pennsbury does not want PAA to send anything home. Ms. Bunn noted that half of the constituents at Eleanor Roosevelt are from Lower Makefield, adding that she has never received anything about PAA in the Web Blasts from Eleanor Roosevelt.

Mr. Smith stated Registration is held in the spring and the fall, and they send press releases to the local papers, they are on the Pennsbury and Lower Makefield Public Access Channels, and they are on the School District and Township Websites. Mr. Smith stated the Township recently arranged for the Electronic Media Advisory Committee to produce videos, and PAA was the first one filmed, and it is now on the Website.

Mr. Newbon stated being a volunteer is a thankless job, and they appreciate what the volunteers do although the Board does have concerns with the numbers, which is why they are making some recommendations. Mr. Fritchey stated they do want PAA to succeed.

Mr. Smith stated they do feel supported by the Board and value the partnership they have with the Township. He stated PAA does not own any of the fields on which they play. He stated Ms. Liney and her small crew do a fantastic job and are very responsive. He stated they also have a relationship with the School District since they use their fields as well.

#### YMS DISCUSSION

Mr. Sean O'Hara was present and stated they are thankful for the installation of the ADA ramp at Macclesfield which is used quite often. He also thanked the Township for approving the fencing along the side of the shed which has been put in.

Mr. O'Hara thanked Ms. Liney and her crew for work done on the fields. He noted YMS does supplemental work on the fields as well when they can.

Mr. O'Hara stated they had a Tournament over the weekend with 296 Teams in attendance which was approximately 4,600 girls playing on eight different fields, the majority at Macclesfield. He stated they used Starr buses and the Park and Ride to get people in and out of Macclesfield.

Mr. O'Hara stated he did get an e-mail from Ms. Liney about noise, and they are going to try to have a "Silent Saturday/Silent Sunday" and the idea is to have a quiet Saturday or Sunday and none of the parents or coaches are allowed to cheer or yell so that it is a quieter environment. He stated they will send out an e-mail to the YMS membership about this, and he will copy the Township on this. Ms. Bunn questioned how they would be able to coach without yelling. Mr. Gordon stated Columbus weekend and Mother's Day weekend are major weekends at Macclesfield, but the rest of the time it is just regular play. He asked if this is an issue just related to those two weekends. Ms. Liney stated they received an e-mail from a resident on Stackhouse Drive who indicated she has heard air horns; however, Ms. Liney stated she has been assured that there are no air horns or car horns being used.

Ms. Liney stated the resident has requested that a decibel study be conducted. An individual in the audience stated he lives one block from Stackhouse, and he did not hear anything this weekend. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel YMS needs to overreact to this situation. Mr. O'Hara stated he is going to try to make it quieter within reason.

Mr. O'Hara stated they also got an e-mail from the EAC and received a B+ on their recycling which is up from a D.

Mr. O'Hara thanked the Park & Recreation Board since they had a special request to use Memorial Park on an emergency basis since they had some field cancellations right before the Tournament, and they were allowed to use Memorial Park.

Mr. O'Hara stated all those who were at Memorial Park both those living in the Township and those from outside the Township were very complimentary in reference to learning about the Park and how beautiful it was. He stated he may ask to use Memorial Park in the future a few times a year. He stated they set up three fields; and while the conditions were not pristine, people were complimentary about the Park and the history of this Park.

Mr. Gordon asked about the YMS membership numbers, and Mr. O'Hara stated they are trending up. Mr. O'Hara stated the population is changing, and they are adding programs that they did not have in the past. He stated they now have a much larger Adult League.

Mr. O'Hara stated at the next Park & Recreation Board meeting, he would like to make a presentation on what they would like to see and help with in reference to fields.

Ms. Liney stated the EPIC Tournament is a major fundraiser for the YMS girls' program, and it would not be possible without the outstanding cooperation and coordination of all the YMS volunteers; and on behalf of the Township and the Park Board, she thanked Mr. O'Hara and YMS. She stated there were over 4,500 participants, families, and friends enjoying the community facilities over the weekend.

## RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated in addition to the behind the scenes work with the Pool Steering Committee, Park & Recreation is preparing the Pool complex for opening day. All four pools are filled. A new heater for the Olympic pool was delivered today for installation the end of the week. The slides have been sanded and the seams gelled and repainted including the support structure. The slides are registered with the State of Pennsylvania and are independently inspected every thirty days. The new shade structure has been installed and is receiving positive feedback from passersby. Furniture is being set up, landscape serviced, and buildings are being prepared. The Lower Makefield Swim & Dive Team will host a "Meet the Coaches" evening on Monday, May 19, and the Management Team will be there as well.

Ms. Liney stated the Township engineer has been working with PlyMar Construction regarding punch list items for completion before the Township accepts dedication of the Greg Caiola Complex. She has requested, if possible, the Township would like to defer this acceptance until after the Annual Park & Recreation Road Tour in July if this is acceptable to the Board.

Ms. Liney stated the Memorial Park inclusive playground construction is tracking on schedule. A pre-construction meeting will take place May 14 for this project. The contractor, Brighton Builders, is scheduled to break ground the end of this month. Anticipated completion would be early August.

Ms. Liney stated Harris Blacktopping has been working with the Township engineer correcting some outstanding items from the resurfacing of the tennis and basketball court project in 2011. She expects these issues to be resolved in the next thirty days.

Ms. Liney stated plans are to close Fields E and G at Macclesfield in the next few weeks to allow for turf recovery on those fields.

Ms. Liney stated the Township is working with a girl scout for her Silver Award project this upcoming weekend cleaning and labeling the nature trail next to the Pool.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Newbon seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary