

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on September 9, 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  
Patricia Bunn, Secretary  
David Malinowski, Member  
Andrew Newbon, Member  
Dennis Wysocki, Member

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gordon moved, Mr. Malinowski seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2014 as written.

Mr. Malinowski moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of June 10, 2014 as written.

GARDEN OF REFLECTION PRESERVATION COMMITTEE 9-11 REMEMBRANCE  
MORNING CEREMONY DISCUSSION AND MOTION

Mr. Fritchey stated this matter was not originally an item on the Agenda for tonight; however, it was added at his request as he received an increasing number of e-mails during the course of the day which reflected that a lot of people were disturbed with certain events that have happened in connection with the Remembrances that are going to be held in two days. He stated he asked that this matter be added to the Agenda. He stated he would like to read some of these e-mails into the Record so it is clear what the concerns are.

Mr. Fritchey read the e-mail sent by Jane Godshalk Haller, sister of Bill Godshalk, as follows:

Dear LMT Supervisors & Mr. Fedorchak:

I just heard that the Garden of Reflection may be unavailable or inaccessible during the day on September 11. I know there will be a morning and an evening ceremony which is wonderful – but also understand there will be a lot of activity during the day on 9/11 to set up and prepare for the evening event. Please know, this day is a not a day for working on the Memorial or any kind of construction. It is a day of remembrance and reflection, for not only the families, but also the hundred and probably thousands of people that come to pay their respects.

Please do not disturb the quiet, respectful, and contemplative atmosphere at the Garden by allowing any kind of work to take place during the one day of the year this Memorial is most important. I would like to know that I – and all visitors who arrive – can access the entire Memorial throughout the day. I really can't imagine being told that I cannot visit the Memorial area, or the fountain area, or my brother's nameplate because someone is working around the area. Any preparations can and should be completed ahead of time so there are no restrictions to visitors.

I sincerely appreciate your help in this matter. I look forward to hearing from you. All the best.

Mr. Fritchey read the e-mail from Livia Chirchirillo as follows:

Good Afternoon. It has come to my attention that after the morning ceremony on 9/11, workers will be setting up for as night time ceremony. I find this outrageous, disrespectful and unacceptable. Why is the setting up not being done the night before? As a family member who lost her brother on 9/11, I need the time and quiet that the Garden offers during the day on 9/11. I live in New York, but chose to spend 9/11 at the Garden. I make the trip to Pennsylvania every year to get away from all the activity and noise that happens at the memorial ceremony in NY. the Garden allows me to have a quiet and peaceful time to reflect and pray for my brother. By allowing the set up during the day, you have taken that

away from me and so many others. This is a very emotional day for family members, friend and other loved ones. We don't need or want to hear banging, people shouting and sound checks while visiting the Garden. Please reconsider and have the set up done the day before 9/11. Thank you.

Mr. Fritchey read an e-mail from Tara Bane as follows:

It has come to my attention that Valerie Mihalek was given access by you to have all of her set up for her nighttime extravaganza go on during the daytime of September 11, 2014. It was requested by myself and our Committee, and granted by the Township Manager, to have all set up except for roping off of the fountains to take place the night before due to the very intrusive nature of their set up. This was a compromise for us as we feel the nighttime ceremony is not appropriate for that day and would be better suited to hold the vigil the night before. The Garden of Reflection, and particularly on this day, is for all to remember and reflect. It is not just for those who attend the nighttime ceremony, which seems to always take longer than advertised which then in turn prevents those who do not want to attend an organized ceremony from coming and paying their respects in the evening time. There are people coming and going all day long on the anniversary day. It doesn't seem right to have limitations put on where they can and can't go in the Garden as well as when they can go. It is also disturbing and disrespectful to many to be at the Garden while sound checks are going on or people are constructing platforms and the like. I feel this is outrageous and does a huge disservice to the community, and to what the Garden represents. I understand that most of the vendors agreed to have the set up occur the night before, which seems quite easy for you to return to the initial agreement. I respectfully request that all set up (except for roping off the fountains or any other blockage of the garden) take place the night before September 11, 2014. Thank you.

Mr. Fritchey read an e-mail from Russa Steiner, wife of William R. Steiner as follows:

Since inception of the Garden of Reflection, the morning services have been respected and the most significant part of the day's honoring and remembering those we lost and all the happenings and aftermath of that nefarious day.

It has come to my attention that a possibility exists for disruption to the formal morning services at the Garden on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Activities not related to the service or allowing any production pursuits would be a distraction and interfere with the calming, soothing, reflective function of the Memorial setting.

I would like to request that the Township not permit anything interfere with the meditative atmosphere of the State's official Memorial site on that day.

With appreciation.

Mr. Fritchey noted there was an e-mail on that letter from Judi Reiss as follows:

Great! Couldn't say it better. Gary and Adam are at the Township offices.

Mr. Fritchey read the e-mail from Samantha Chirchirillo as follows:

Good morning. It was brought to my attention that the setup for the evening ceremony on September 11<sup>th</sup> will be taking place all day long. I find this to be very unfortunate and disrespectful. My husband lost his father on 9/11 and he finds the Garden of Reflection to be a place of comfort, peace, and solitude. We visit the Garden several times throughout the year. However, on the one day, the day he lost his father, he and his family should be able to go to the Garden and pay their respects in peace. I am not dismissing the evening ceremony and the setup involved. I feel the evening ceremony is a wonderful way for the community at large to pay their respects, while bringing positive attention to the Garden of Reflection.

Although I do feel that a compromise should be made! The setup for this ceremony should take place all day Wednesday, rather than Thursday. In turn, families and members of the community can visit the Garden and reflect on the tragic day in our Nation's history in a tranquil environment, rather than a chaotic one. The evening ceremony setup should always be on September 10<sup>th</sup>. I believe it just makes the most sense and is the most considerate to all. Thank you kindly.

Mr. Fritchey read the e-mail from Susan Jones Bulger, wife of Donald Jones, as follows:

To: Lower Makefield Township Board Members

It has come to my attention that the morning memorial service at the Garden of Reflection on Sept 11<sup>th</sup> might be interrupted by set up activities for the evening ceremony. The day of Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> is a sacred time for us family members and the community who suffered with and supported us. I am respectfully asking that the Township not allow anyone or anything to interfere with the solemnness of this day.

Mr. Fritchey read the e-mail from Clara Chirchirillo as follows:

I am writing to voice my disappointment in those involved with allowing the tranquility and peaceful nature of the Garden of Reflection to be disturbed on September 11<sup>th</sup> of all days. The Garden was designed and constructed not only to memorialize and remember those that were lost on that fateful day but to have a place of healing for the families and the community as a whole. No restrictions should be placed on where or when someone can honor and remember a loved one or simply pay their respects to those whose lives were taken that day.

Mr. Fritchey read the e-mail from Chris Yasinsac as follows:

I'm writing with regards to the unfortunate situation that has arisen with regard to the separate ceremonies at the Garden of Reflection. The public is aware that there are now two services at the Garden of Reflection this coming 9/11. As some of us have the unfortunate knowledge to know, there are differences of thought and ideals between the two groups, which, in light of this tragedy is very unfortunate. Myself, and a good handful of others are in the unlucky position of knowing people on both sides of the issue.

While I have the utmost solemn respect for those on both sides of this predicament, I must say that one group is being quite unfair to the other.

From what I understand the group that wants to hold the evening ceremony would like to have the construction of stages, set up of chairs and overall set up of the ceremony held on September 11<sup>th</sup>. I don't think I have to say much more than that. But as we all know, this will absolutely disrupt the morning ceremony and the flood of people coming through the Memorial all day, with hammers, chairs being moved, walkie talkies blaring, people moving from truck to field, etc. I also understand that 3 of the 4 vendors agreed to conduct set up on September 10<sup>th</sup> which should make sense to everyone knowing that there is a morning ceremony. It is quite disturbing to me that this group will not compromise to set up on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Where is their compassion?

With all due respect, I am asking that the BOS and the Parks Department show compassion, not only to those LMT residents who lost loved ones on 9/11, but also the respect for visitors who are at the morning ceremony and those who are making the trek from near and far, to visit our beautiful Memorial throughout the day on September 11<sup>th</sup>. It would be embarrassing for somebody who has never been to the morning ceremony or walk the Garden on the afternoon of the 11<sup>th</sup>, to have noise and calamity in the background. And it would not look good on Lower Makefield on any of the news feeds and social media outlets either.

We all know how fast new travels these days. Please see to it that the morning ceremony and the day of the 11<sup>th</sup> can be held in high regard, with the respect, the dignity and solemn celebration of the lives of those we lost on 9/11.

I also believe that the set up procedures for September 11<sup>th</sup> should be conducted on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September from this year forward.

Kind Regards – Chris Yasinsac High School Classmate of Michael Bane.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels that the position taken by many people and the expressions of concern are well taken. He stated he is not sure what imperative there is that this set up occur on the afternoon of September 11 as opposed to September 10 or why this should be a matter of contention among people of good will. He stated he wanted the Park & Recreation Board know about these expressions of concern and about this particular issue and give people who were concerned enough about this to contact the Township to have the opportunity to speak further to these issues and give those on the Board the opportunity to express their thoughts and concerns in this matter and seek some sort of constructive solution to remedy some of the harm that appears to have been done through insensitivity at the least.

Mr. Gordon advised those present in the audience that the Park & Recreation Board does not have anything to do with setting the schedule.

Ms. Judy Reiss stated she feels this is part of the problem that the Park & Rec Board is not “in the loop.” She stated there is only one family member who is apart from the rest of the family members. She stated she herself has tried to be a “bridge.” She stated they always had the vigils the night before 9/11, and set up was thirty minutes to an hour at the most. She stated there are people who like to come during the day even though they do not attend the morning ceremony. She stated the Garden is calming to her and her children. She stated there are issues with this one individual who has “high jacked” everything about the Garden. She stated the family and friends need that time during the day at the Memorial.

Mr. Newbon asked what happened in previous years.

Ms. Tara Bane stated in previous years they only did the morning ceremony on 9/11. She stated Skip Gittens did a significant amount of work for the Garden, and he did a nighttime vigil for about two years and everyone felt it was fabulous but he was forced to back away. Ms. Bane stated since then it has been a challenge to come to a compromise. She stated for the last two years they have had this massive

set up during the day of 9/11. She stated this is not how the Garden was designed, and it was designed for people to go and reflect. She stated she thought this had been all worked out, and it was a wonderful suggestion to have them do their set up the day before. She stated she does not really feel the evening ceremony is appropriate for that day, but feels it is fitting for the night before or the day after.

Mr. Gordon asked where the set up takes place. Ms. Reiss stated they put up an enormous stage before where the circle with the fountains is. She stated only family members can get to the fountain, and you have to be escorted through, and it is not comfortable. She stated they also have to wear arm bands. She stated it is like a Hollywood production.

Mr. Gordon asked who pays for this, and Ms. Bane stated some of the costs have come from the Township funds. Mr. Wysocki asked if this is used for the daytime set up as well, and Ms. Bane stated the daytime ceremony only uses a tent, and a podium; and they have a speaker. Ms. Liney stated they morning ceremony uses the Township tent and Township chairs.

Mr. Newbon asked if the set up were to be done on the 10<sup>th</sup>, would this bother them for their daytime ceremony on the 11<sup>th</sup>; and those present stated it would not. Ms. Bane stated while the evening ceremony on the 11<sup>th</sup> is not what they would prefer, they do want to work with the other group; and if they could do the setup the day before, they would be comfortable with this.

Mr. Gordon asked who asked who pays for the night time ceremony, and but no knew.

Mr. Gordon stated they need to see what, if anything, they can do about this year's event with the full understanding that it is very late to be bringing this before the Park & Recreation Board. Ms. Reiss stated they were not aware of this problem. Ms. Bane stated she made the suggestion that they do the set up the day before; and Mr. Fedorchak stated that this was a great idea, the vendors said yes, and that is the last she heard. She stated she then heard that set up was going to be allowed at 1 p.m. on 9/11.

Mr. Gordon asked if anyone can speak to why there is an imperative to do the set up on 9/11, and Ms. Bane stated the only thing she heard was that there are food issues.

Ms. Reiss stated the evening event is a "media circus."

Mr. Gordon stated there were previous discussions about the finances, but the Park & Recreation Board did not feel it was respectful to discuss this in September. He stated that issue was intentionally tabled; however, it will be re-visited in October. Mr. Gordon stated listening to all these issues, he feels there needs to be a Garden of Reflection Commission formed where all of these issues and ideas from finances to budget to matters of scheduling at the Park on 9/11 will be discussed and agreed upon by the Committee months in advance so that there are no issues like this in the future.

Ms. Bunn asked why Ms. Saracini was not present this evening. She stated she feels sorry for those present since tomorrow is 9/10, and there is no control to push this without Ms. Saracini being present this evening.

Mr. Gordon asked if they are required to get Permits, and Mr. Stainthorpe stated they have a Permit for the evening ceremony which he feels was issued in February or March and it states that they can set up at 1:00 p.m. on 9/11. Mr. Fritchey stated this was not his understanding. Ms. Liney stated the evening Permit was issued Labor Day weekend. She stated she never got an Application, and was not at the meeting in February. Ms. Liney stated Ms. Bane came in with her Application in May. Ms. Liney stated she had advised her that she had not received one from the other group. She stated Ms. Bane did not want set up taking place on 9-11. Ms. Liney stated she discussed this with Mr. Fedorchak who indicated we would see if the vendors would do set up the day before.

Ms. Bane stated this is not a new issue, and this issue was raised with the Township last year although not with Park & Rec. Ms. Bane stated someone who is not even a family member is not willing to compromise.

Ms. Reiss stated this has been the issue all along since it is done at the last minute so that no one can say no.

Mr. Newbon stated with regard to a Committee suggested by Mr. Gordon he feels the Park & Recreation Board should have interaction with those involved with the Garden. Mr. Gordon stated he feels there should be representatives from the Park & Recreation Board on the Committee, and Ms. Bunn agreed. Ms. Bunn stated there should be one Committee for the Garden, and the Park & Recreation Board should have a representative on that Committee. Mr. Gordon stated he also feels there should be a Liaison or some representative from the Board of Supervisors. He stated there should be only one Committee dealing with the financials for the Garden, and there needs to be one fund. He stated they are currently working on the Budget and the maintenance issues.

Mr. Fritchey stated there are regular procedures that are in the Township as there are in every other Government that if they are followed people get along well, and there are no misunderstandings, and everyone knows and follows the rules. He stated when people are ignoring or circumventing the rules and do not follow appropriate procedures, you get chaos. He stated he is not happy with the way this has gone down.

Mr. Fritchey asked if anyone present knows any reason why if the vendors were willing to set up on the 10<sup>th</sup>, this was not an acceptable solution. Ms. Reiss stated Valerie Mihalek did not want it that way.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated he understood that they had a Permit granting this, but he is now being told that was not the case. Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Township – Ms. Liney and Mr. Fedorchak contacted the vendors to have them set up the day before and the Township tried to intervene. He stated he was told that they had a Permit that said 1 p.m.; and if this is the case, they have to let them do this.

Mr. Wysocki asked if there is a Permit; and if there is not a Permit, they could probably enact some rules now that will allow this to be done on the 10<sup>th</sup>. He asked if there is a Permit, could they not revise the Permit tonight to change the time to make it the 10<sup>th</sup> if everyone is already in line; however, Mr. Fritchey stated they do not know that everyone is still in line. Mr. Stainthorpe stated he feels the problem is that they are not in line, and now it is two days before; and he does not see how they could change it now. Ms. Liney stated she feels it is too late for this year; and Mr. Fritchey agreed, but added they should not have this again as it is unsatisfactory.

Ms. Bunn asked who is Valeria Mihalek and how is she related to this. Ms. Reiss stated she is a friend of Ellen Saracini and wants to take charge. Mr. Stainthorpe stated he assumes she is a friend of Ellen Saracini, and she has run this event for the last couple of years. He stated she is a resident who has organizational skills.

Mr. Fritchey stated it does not seem inclusive and respectful of other people's sensibilities.

Ms. Bane stated Ms. Mihalek has taken this on. She added that Skip Gittens was doing a beautiful candlelight vigil as well, and he was told not to do it by these people and he backed off; and they lost a very good person for the Garden.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they should be inclusive to the maximum degree possible of letting everyone express their respect and do their remembrances in a way they find most meaningful which could include as many ceremonies that people want to have that they can reasonably schedule without impacting each other. He stated he does not feel that one person should tell someone that they do not want them anymore.

Mr. Newbon stated he feels this is why they need to have a governing body. He stated he does not feel they need a sub-committee, they have the Park & Recreation Board with a Supervisor Liaison which should work as the governing body.

Ms. Bunn stated she disagrees and feels that the Garden of Reflection is something unique in the Township which they have encompassed, and it has not been working this way as there are two different people doing things that the Board is not aware of. She stated either they should come every month and give a report or they should have a separate Committee so that it can function without the Park & Recreation's Board complete oversight but there would be a Liaison who would present a report back to the full Board once a month.

Mr. Fritchey stated there could be a policy-recommending Board like the Park & Recreation Board but they also need to consider who is going to complete the implementation. He stated he feels there is a Recreation Office; and like all other things they Permit for in the Recreation area, it should be run through the Recreation Office. Ms. Bunn stated it is like the user groups, and while they do report to the Park & Recreation Board, they are separate. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they need to control just this as they control the Applications for the fields.

Ms. Reiss noted there is a Golf Committee and one member of that Committee reports to the Park & Recreation Board and then the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Wysocki stated he heard that it would be impractical to make modifications to the set up plans at this time, but there is a memo from a few weeks ago that seemed to indicate that everyone was lined up to do the set up on September 10. He asked what is it that could not happen tomorrow night, and Ms. Bane stated it would be the food. Mr. Stainthorpe stated as far as he knew the food was taken care of since he received a call from Ms. Mihalek that they could not deliver the food the day before; and everyone noted that they would not be expected to do this. Mr. Stainthorpe stated at this point the other vendors are expecting to set up on 9/11 and to tell them Wednesday morning that they have to set up on Wednesday would create even more chaos. Ms. Bunn stated she feels it should be explored to see if this could be changed. Mr. Stainthorpe stated he does not feel they can change it now.

Ms. Godshalk stated last year the trucks were lined up and waiting at 10:00 a.m. She stated they had musicians who were paid until 2:00 p.m. and people were setting up the stages for the media. She stated they do not pay attention to the time limits. Ms. Godshalk stated she feels 9/11 should be open to the people for that day. She stated the people do not want to be blocked off. She stated she feels if they want to have an evening ceremony it should be scaled down, and they can set it up a half hour or hour before. She stated last year she went there the night before to look at her son's name, and she was blocked from going up because of a big rehearsal. Ms. Liney agreed that they do have rehearsals the night before. Ms. Bunn stated if they are having a rehearsal it seems it would be all set up.

Ms. Bane stated she does feel it would be helpful if they could reach out to the vendors to see who would be willing to set up the day before.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated there would then be the need for the Police and security because there would be sound equipment, etc.

Mr. Newbon stated all of this shows that there is a need for some centralized group that will have enforcement. Mr. Fritchey agreed that the Township has to be in charge of this, and not just people coming in and doing what they want. Ms. Reiss stated if there was a Committee they could decide all of this. She added that she does not feel it takes an extended period of time to set up these systems because these people know what they are doing.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated he feels the Township is at fault by trying to make everyone happy, and it does not work. He stated he does feel that they need a Committee, procedures, and rules that will be enforced for 2015.

Ms. Bane stated problems have been going on since the 10 year Anniversary when she had volunteers create 3,000 hearts which were laminated and strung around the Garden, and Ms. Mihalek had them all taken down. She stated a lot of people knew that this had happened.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated they have to be respectful of everyone whether they like them or not.

Ms. Bane stated while she understands that, her group's Permit was for all day as well, and they went through the proper channels. She stated the same thing happened last year as well.

Ms. Reiss stated during the eleventh year, a phone call was received in August from Ms. Saracini and Ms. Mihalek that they had cancelled the morning Ceremony because they were going to New York on that day; but the other families wanted the Ceremony in the morning and had to put it together very quickly.

Mr. Newbon stated he feels it is terrible what they are going through, and it is really a bad situation, but the Park & Recreation Board did not know about it. He stated he does not feel they can do anything about it this year, but they will make sure moving forward that it does not happen this way again.

Mr. Wysocki stated it seems inevitable that there will be some level of disturbance on the 11<sup>th</sup> because of the timing, but he asked if there is anything that could be moved to the day before that would not require Police security, and Ms. Liney stated she believes that Newtown Rentals is going to set up on Wednesday. She stated the sound person indicated he cannot set up on Wednesday; but he is also going to do the morning Ceremony as well. Ms. Liney stated Shady Brook would have been willing to set up on the 10<sup>th</sup>, but at this point he does not want to have a confrontation. She stated they bring in the hay bales, flowers, the roping around the foundation, and the torches down the walkways. Mr. Wysocki asked that to the extent possible whatever activities can be moved he feels should be moved to the night before. Ms. Liney stated she did call the vendors and ask them if there were things they could do ahead of time, if they could please do that.

Mr. Newbon asked the time of the daytime ceremony, and Ms. Bane stated it starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 10:30 a.m. Ms. Bunn stated they do not want other people to be stopped from walking around the facility.

Mr. Fritchey moved and Mr. Newbon seconded that the Township of Lower Makefield is committed to honoring the memory of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. It is proud to have the Garden of Reflection in Memorial Park as a tribute to the victims' memory and a place of comfort and contemplation for their families and friends and all of the community to honor them. We realize that different individuals may wish to honor them in their own ways, and that different ceremonies may appeal to different members of the community. We must strive to be sensitive to the sensibilities of all who come to grieve and honor the departed. We are committed to accommodating and facilitating all appropriate expressions of respect.

Accordingly, the Park & Recreation Board recommends that scheduling of future 9/11 Memorial services at the Garden of Reflection be requested through Use Applications made through the Recreation Office in conformity with the normal permitting processes. As with any other Recreation Permit requests, de-confliction will be accomplished by the Director of Parks & Recreation, who will also allot time slots.

The Park & Recreation Board further recommends that the organization of all future 9/11 Memorial services at the Garden of Reflection, including the nature of sound and support equipment and the timing of set-up and tear-down, also be under the control of the Director of Parks & Recreation.

All future event set-up should be accomplished not later than September 10 to promote an appropriate atmosphere of tranquility, solemnity, dignity, and respect throughout the day of September 11.

Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Newbon seconded and it was unanimously carried to amend the Motion that "... set-up should be accomplished not later than 'dusk' September 10 ..." so that they are not hammering all night as there are people who may want to go the night before September 11.

Motion as amended carried unanimously.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Liney to contact the vendors that if they are unable to do the set up on September 10 that they come in as late as they can on September 10 and to condense the amount of time that they are there and to be as non obtrusive as they can.

Mr. Gordon stated they are finishing up the proposed budget that addresses the maintenance, and they will bring everyone back in October. He stated he feels they will need to form a Committee that addresses issues of funding and scheduling. He stated he feels it is the intent of the Park & Rec Board to take back its Park. He stated he feels everyone is trying to be respectful of the families.

Ms. Reiss asked who owns the name Garden of Reflection, and Mr. Gordon stated it is an approved Park within the Township. He stated they allowed them to build a Park on Township land. Mr. Stainthorpe stated the name Garden of Reflection has not been copywrited or trademarked, and it is not owned by anyone. He added that there are a number of loose ends that have not been tied up, and they should be. He stated there were a number of items which are not well defined, and he agrees with the idea of having a Committee is important going forward.

## PRESENTATION OF UPDATED LANDSCAPE DESIGN FOR VETERANS MONUMENT

Eagle Scout Candidate Nate Smith was present. He stated his Eagle Scout project has been approved by the Eagle Scout District Council, and he plans to install benches at the path way to the Veterans Square monument. He will also do some landscaping along the back side and the front of the walkway. He presented a copy of the landscaping design. He discussed the type of landscaping he is proposing that will require only low maintenance. He stated he has raised approximately \$2,600 for the benches and landscaping. The benches have already been purchased. He stated the planting will be done in early October. He stated another Scout is doing the walkways in late September. Mr. Smith asked that the Park & Recreation Board approve his project.

Mr. Stainthorpe asked if the Veterans Committee has seen and approved this project, and Mr. Smith stated he met with the landscape architect for the Monument. He also noted that his Aunt is a landscape architect, and she also worked with him.

Ms. Bunn stated her only concern is that cherry laurels are typically planted in the shade. Mr. Smith stated they are durable, deer resistant, and they do not need much maintenance. He stated they will make a nice hedge. Ms. Bunn asked how the benches will be secured, and Mr. Smith stated they will be drilled in with anchors. Ms. Bunn stated any structure should be reviewed by the Township engineer, and Ms. Liney stated she feels the Inspector will do this. Ms. Bunn stated they must find out how the walkway is going to be constructed if the benches are going on the walkway. Mr. Smith stated he did meet with the other Eagle Scout who is doing the walkway. Ms. Bunn stated it is imperative that they consider how the benches are anchored as they may need to pour a footer. Mr. Fritchey stated they both have to reach a consensus and have a plan that will be successful mutually.

## LEAGUE LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Sean O'Hara, YMS, thanked Ms. Liney for her help getting the season kicked off. He stated they had two State Champions in the Girls Program, and one Regional champion who in turn went to Nationals but lost in the Final Game. He stated this was that teams second year in a row making it to that level. Mr. O'Hara stated the fall season is going strong, and people are still joining. He stated usually they get approximate one hundred late registrants.

Mr. O'Hara stated they bought a waterwheel for Macclesfield, and they would be willing to help the other programs if they have a need for a waterwheel in any Park, and they would help them use it. Mr. Wysocki asked if it is easy to transport, but Mr. O'Hara stated it is not. He stated they have to move it to the different complexes using their trailer. He stated it does not power itself, and it is similar to a large hand truck with hose attached to the front; and you pull it. Mr. Newbon asked about using it at the football field; however, Mr. O'Hara stated they cannot get water to the football field. He stated there is discussion about possibly getting a water inlet on that side of Macclesfield to service E, F, and G.

Mr. O'Hara stated the Boys' Tournament will be October 10 to 12, and currently they are at 230 teams coming into the area. He stated last year they had 270 teams. He stated they do not want to go over 275. He stated they have sold 700 hotel rooms in the area and eventually they will probably sell 2,000 hotel rooms.

Ms. Liney asked if they feel they will have all the School fields available and asked if they will need Memorial Park for the Tournament. Mr. O'Hara agreed to get back to Ms. Liney on this.

Mr. O'Hara provided to the Board some tickets to a Union Soccer Game.

#### DISCUSSION AND MOTION ON THE PROPOSED LAYOUT FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER

Ms. Liney stated the Community Center was reviewed at the last Board of Supervisors meeting. She stated the Planning Commission had requested that they be given an additional meeting to review this, and the Board of Supervisors agreed to that request. She stated the Planning Commission did look at this on Monday night, but were not yet willing to make a recommendation; and they are going to look at it again at their next meeting. Ms. Liney stated George Hibbs e-mailed the information to her, and if the Park & Recreation Board wants to provide feedback, they could get this to the architect.

Ms. Bunn stated she was the one who had requested this. She stated she does not feel that this is the layout that they should be approving. She stated there should be separate offices for YMS and PAA since as it is now shown it is a Senior Center and not a Community Center which she does not feel is in the spirit of what this project was supposed to be. She stated she feels they need to provide space for the other user groups.

Mr. Wysocki stated he agrees.

Ms. Bunn stated she feels now is the time to do this because if it is built as shown, and they then need to change interior walls in the future, they will have electrical issues and HVAC issues; and she feels they need to do this right the first time. She stated they should provide this feedback now so that the interior can be built the way it should be.

Mr. Stainthorpe asked who else would need offices besides YMS and PAA. He also asked if they requested offices. Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel they were aware that they could have asked for space since no one reached out to them about this. She stated the only consideration was given to the Seniors to look at this.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Supervisors' point of view this is meant to be primary a Senior Center; and that is the group that is going to have the main usage. He stated it is a Community Center, and it will be available to other groups. He stated he does not have a problem putting offices in, but he would like to know if the groups really want them and will use them. He stated he agrees it should be done now. Ms. Bunn stated she feels they would use them as they often complain that they need storage space for certain things such as when their uniforms come in. Mr. Stainthorpe asked if they need an office or a storage closet. Ms. Bunn stated she feels they should have an office where they could have coaches meetings, etc.

Mr. Wysocki stated he does feel they should speak to all of the organizations that could potentially use it. He stated they do periodically meet, and now they are forced to go somewhere else. Mr. Stainthorpe stated there are meeting rooms proposed so that piece is included. Mr. Wysocki stated the issue is that those involved with the organizations have to haul things to where the meeting is being held from wherever they are keeping it such as their homes. He stated there are also issues when there are transitions from those involved, so it would be nice to have a place where you could have under lock and key that group's computer system for registration and other things needed for the administration of the program.

Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel it needs to be large, and it could just be a small office with a locked door.

Mr. Wysocki stated they also discussed in the past that the organizations do not have a place to put their trophies, and it would be good to have a nice case where the Township's teams could have their championship trophies on display which would be fitting for a Community Center.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels meetings would take place in the meeting space, but it would be good to have a dedicated space for YMS and PAA where they could have filing cabinets, computer registration materials, etc.

Mr. Newbon asked about Lower Bucks Lacrosse, and Ms. Liney stated they do not use Township facilities. Ms. Bunn asked about the football program. Ms. Bunn stated she also feels the Seniors should have a place that is lockable as well. Mr. Stainthorpe stated they do have a storage closet; however, Ms. Bunn stated she feels it should be a small office where they could put their member materials as well. She stated it would be a place where they could have a desk and filing cabinets. Ms. Liney stated they do have four filing cabinets, and three are in the hallway downstairs.

Mr. Newbon advised Mr. Stainthorpe that this was the first time he has heard someone take that strong of a stance that this was more of a Senior Center. Mr. Stainthorpe stated it is considered a Recreation Center, but the initiative to get the money and have the building built was to have a place for the Seniors to meet although that is not to the exclusion of other groups.

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels giving some space to these other groups shows that it is not exclusively for the Seniors.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated while the Planning Commission did not make a recommendation at their last meeting, they do have some good ideas which the Park & Recreation Board should consider including a park behind the Community Center in between the two ball complexes where there could be a picnic pavilion.

Ms. Bunn stated she had been requesting these changes since January, and Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Park & Recreation Board should vote and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Newbon seconded and it was unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that there is the need for four lockable, 10' by 12' offices to hold a desk, filing cabinets, and wired for Internet for the various organizations.

#### DISCUSSION OF MEMORIAL PARK SIGN

Mr. Fritchey stated the sign at Memorial Park was recently installed. He stated the Park & Recreation Board had extensive discussion about this in the past; and what was done was not what was recommended by the Park & Recreation

Board to the Board of Supervisors and was contrary to what the Board of Supervisors told them to do. A picture was shown of the signs which have been installed on the walls. Mr. Gordon stated he is not offended by what is there.

Mr. Newbon stated while he is not offended and feels it looks very nice, he is concerned that what was installed was not in accordance with the recommendations from the governing boards.

#### DISCUSS UPDATED PARK & RECREATION CHAPTER OF THE LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they have sidestepped the whole issue of the amount of land used for active recreation. He stated previously there was a factor of acreage per number of residents which is not in the current Plan. He stated they have discussed having an aging community and there should be more consideration given to carry-over sports and having things elderly people can still do, but on Page 88 where they discuss Memorial Park they have not included the tennis courts which were in the Plan; and tennis is a carry over sport. Ms. Bunn stated she recalls that was planned for the other side of the creek, and they would have to obtain a Permit to cross the creek which she does not feel they would get. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels there could be another entrance to that area. Mr. Fritchey stated the Plan included tennis courts and a par course, and he does not feel they should back off from that. Mr. Wysocki also suggested paddle tennis, and Mr. Gordon suggested Frisbee golf. Mr. Fritchey stated they should make it clear that part of the property should be developed, and that is should not be left a corn field; and they should include what was on the Plan. He stated there is a long list of what the contractor needs to do, and the fields will be ready to be used in the spring.

#### SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Community Center is moving forward. He stated the Planning Commission did recommend a park behind the Community Center, and he feels this is something that they should look into in the future. He stated the all-inclusive playground will be finished in a few weeks. Mr. Stainthorpe stated the Boucher & James report was in the packet with regard to the ball fields, and the engineer indicated that they will be fine. He stated they did drill a well, and they are getting approximately sixty gallons per minute so there will be water there.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated they will start working on the Budget in October.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated the signs at the baseball fields will be dedicated on September 20 from 1:00 to 2:00. There will be a Caiola sign, a Stoddart sign, and a plaque at the Snack Bar describing who these two gentlemen were. Mr. Gordon stated they should put a plaque as well at the Fred Allan fields.

#### RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated Permits for fall facility usage have been issued. In order to minimize confusion in the Park system, the Township requests the organizations adhere to their permitted fields and times.

Ms. Liney stated the preliminary Operating budgets for 2015 Park and Recreation, Pool, Garden of Reflection, and Park and Recreation Fee-In-Lieu were forwarded August 15 to the Township Manager for review.

Ms. Liney stated she is pleased to report that the Pool had a very successful season this year with revenues and membership enrollment exceeding budgeted figures.

Ms. Liney stated Park and Recreation is involved in supporting a number of upcoming community events. On 9-11 there will be a morning remembrance ceremony at the Garden of Reflection and an evening candlelight remembrance. This past Sunday the annual 5K fundraiser for the Garden was held with several hundred participants.

Ms. Liney stated the Pennsbury Varsity and JV girl's soccer teams will play at Macclesfield Park on Friday, September 19. The Township will host the boy's soccer teams on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> under the lights. She stated these competitions are always well attended by the community and the Township looks forward to hosting them.

Ms. Liney stated that the annual AJ Foundation bike ride fundraiser for autism research will be held this Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> beginning and ending at the Kids Kingdom playground.

Ms. Liney stated that Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> has been targeted for the unveiling of the new Greg Caiola Complex signs and the Robert Stoddart field signs.

Ms. Liney stated the Memorial Park inclusive playground construction is nearing completion. Inquiries are being received about an official ribbon cutting ceremony date, and area groups have expressed interest in participating, such as the Easter Seals and the March of Dimes. She stated if the Park Board has a preference for dates, they should let her know. She stated they will have to coordinate this with the Board of Supervisors and Representative Santarsiero's office. Ms. Liney stated because there are children who want to attend she does not feel they would be able to do it on a weeknight, and it may have to be on a Saturday or Sunday. Ms. Liney stated the Disabled Persons Advisory Board wants to get the ribbon cutting scheduled so they can notify the Schools. She stated they feel they will have a couple hundred children there to go into the playground once it is opened. It is anticipated that the playground will be completed next Friday.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Newbon moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary

