

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – MAY 12, 2015

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on May 12, 2015. Mr. Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Those present:

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

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director
Dobby Dobson, Supervisor Liaison

Absent: David Fritchey, Park & Rec Board Chairman
Andrew Newbon, Park & Rec Board Member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Malinowski moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of April 14, 2015 as written.

PIYO IN THE PARK PROPOSAL

Ms. Robyn Quinn was present and stated she lives in Yardley Hunt, and her proposal is to bring PIYO to the Township. She stated it would be an eight-week program in one of the Township Parks. She stated it is a combination of Pilates and Yoga with non-stop movement, and it is low impact. She stated she would like to do it two times a week Tuesday and Thursday at 5:45 a.m. She stated she has already generated some interest. She stated she was thinking about doing it at Macclesfield Park since it is flat and there are a lot of options of where it could be done in that Park. She stated you only need a Yoga mat and a towel. She stated she proposes to have the program run from July 7 to September 3, and there would be time if they needed to make up time due to bad weather.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Quinn if she has done this before in an outdoor program, and Ms. Quinn stated she has done the workout outside although she has never run a program outside. She stated she is a Certified Instructor and has taught other types of classes.

Mr. Wysocki asked Ms. Liney if she would need to be Permitted for this, and Ms. Liney stated she would need to meet all the requirements of a camp program, and will pay a User Fee. Ms. Liney stated she also has insurance. Ms. Liney stated this will be an adult program, and she feels they would be able to schedule it at Macclesfield; and she feels it will be well received. Ms. Quinn stated she is targeting those eighteen years and older.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels this is something that would also be good at the Pool as well, and Ms. Quinn stated this would be something she would be interested in pursuing; and Ms. Liney agreed to work on this with her and the Pool Manager.

Mr. Wysocki asked what kind of participation she expects, and Ms. Quinn stated currently she has four people signed up and six people that are discussing it with her. She stated she hopes to get ten to fifteen for the first class and grow from there. She stated if it is successful, they could offer classes in the evening after work as well. Mr. Wysocki asked the maximum they would have for a particular class, and Ms. Quinn stated she feels it would be fifteen. Mr. Wysocki asked if it involves music; and Ms. Quinn stated while it does, it would be low key and not loud or disruptive. Mr. Wysocki asked if it would be a concern for the neighbors, and Ms. Quinn stated it would not and only those in the group would hear it.

Mr. McNamara asked the charge and Ms. Quinn stated for the eight weeks she is offering three different options. She stated for the sixteen classes which would be the whole program it would cost \$192 or \$12 a class. She stated she will also offer twelve classes which would be \$168 or \$14 a class, and eight classes which would be once a week for \$120 or \$15 a class. She stated each class is forty-five minutes to an hour.

Mr. Gordon asked Ms. Quinn how she will advertise, and Ms. Quinn stated so far she has been using Facebook. She stated she has also put together a flyer which she showed to the Board, and she hopes to be able to post it at various locations around the Township.

The program as discussed was acceptable to the Board with Mr. Gordon adding that this is the kind of program they are encouraging to have in the Township.

DOG PARK UPDATE AND MOTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL

Ms. Bunn stated included in the Park & Rec packet were the sites that they looked at. She stated there is no perfect site, but their first selection was Memorial Park. Ms. Bunn showed a picture of the three areas at Memorial Park that were possible locations, with the best location being the long strip, although they would have to get a stream crossing or another access point off of Woodside Road both of which would present challenges.

Mr. Wysocki noted that the group met a number of times and initially went through all nine possible sites and ruled some out. He stated the group then went out on their own to the sites which were left to do physical assessments. Ms. Bunn stated that the Township engineer was involved in the process.

Ms. Bunn stated another site at Memorial Park was the smallest and is where the Community Gardens are and would not be impacted by sports activities. She stated there are also restrooms at that location. Mr. Gordon asked about the use of the Community Gardens, and where they would move them if they chose this site; and Ms. Bunn stated they could re-locate them. Ms. Bunn stated there is space up in the "chimney," however, that location backs up to houses and there is currently programming in that area. Mr. Wysocki asked where they would re-locate the Community Gardens to; and Ms. Bunn stated they could re-locate them at Memorial Park or to the Patterson Farm which she feels is something that the Township has discussed.

Ms. Bunn stated the third site at Memorial Park is toward the front near where Mr. Minehart's property was located.

Mr. Wysocki stated he feels all of those parcels are viable; however, the Community Garden location is one and three quarter acres, and he feels that ideally they would need three acres to accommodate a large dog and small dog section. Ms. Bunn stated they did discuss that if they had it at Memorial Park, there may be the need for two separate smaller parks with two smaller parking lots at each site.

Ms. Bunn stated the second choice was Snipes with the challenge at that location being that there is no water or restroom facilities. She stated the area on the site they selected was the area where the fire station was to be built since that is no longer being considered for that location. Ms. Bunn stated this would not cause the need to re-design the Master Plan for Snipes if it was at that location.

Ms. Bunn stated the third choice was the soccer field on Heacock Road. She stated the challenge at this site is there is no access to a road, and they would have to have an agreement with the Makefield Glen Homeowners Association. She also stated that there is no water and no restrooms although there are portable toilets. She stated she feels a positive for this location is that it is at a central location, and it can be seen from the road. She stated currently when it is not being used for soccer a lot of people do use it for their pets.

Ms. Bunn stated they did look at the Samost Tract behind where the Community Center will be located; however, they felt that the site will be impacted a lot on a Saturday when the fields and the Community Center are in use, and it also backs up against the houses on Waterwheel Drive. Ms. Bunn stated another location was the piece of property along the Railroad tracks which she felt would be a challenge because of its location behind where the Police have the shooting range which she feels would be difficult for dogs. Mr. Wysocki stated it is also remote and someone there on their own with their dog may not feel safe. Ms. Bunn stated she had that concern with the Snipes Tract as well since currently there is nothing there.

Mr. Gordon thanked the committee for the work they did.

Mr. Ron Smith asked that the Park & Rec Board make a recommendation on the site to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Smith stated he feels all the sites are good, but he feels the Heacock site would be the best.

Mr. Jeff Benedetto asked about the property next to Kids Kingdom and the tennis courts; however, Ms. Liney stated that property is owned by the School District. Mr. Benedetto asked about Macclesfield Park; however Ms. Bunn stated they felt that Macclesfield Park was already congested, and there would be problems particularly on a Saturday and Sunday. She also did not feel they would want dogs there with all those people. Mr. Benedetto stated he feels Memorial Park is becoming the "default," and he would be opposed to moving the Community Gardens particularly if they are going to move those to Patterson Farm. He stated the location on Heacock Road would be more of a central location although they would have to deal with the Homeowners Association for the access point. He stated he feels the dog park would get more use if it were at Macclesfield Park.

Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel that Memorial Park is the "fall back," and it is one of their only open spaces left. She stated while there is a Master Plan, they can make changes since this is a Township that has changing needs. She stated it is one of the few parks they have where there is a lot of space left. Ms. Bunn stated one of the Committee members was concerned about having the dog park at Memorial Park and whether this would be disrespectful, and Ms. Bunn stated she did not feel it was disrespectful since it was meant to be a living park and not a solemn memorial.

Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel it was the intention of the Garden of Reflection Committee to make it a somber place, since when they first presented it to the Township they wanted it to “life goes on.” She stated they want to have activities in the Township that appeal to everyone. She stated for her personally the Memorial Park is not ideal because of the distance, but if it makes sense she is fine with it. She stated there are challenges at Heacock, but they may be able to overcome them.

Mr. Benedetto stated he appreciates the work that has been done on this, and he feels as a Supervisor he has enough information to make a decision but would also like to hear comments from others.

Ms. Bunn stated she would be willing to present all of this information to the Board of Supervisors so that they can ask questions and she could provide information as to why they made these selections. Mr. Benedetto stated he would like to have her come with others from their group as well.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels the lower left location at Memorial Park is the most practical although personally he would prefer the Heacock location since he is in the southern end of the Township.

Ms. Bunn moved to send up the recommendation of the Sub Committee to the Board of Supervisors with locations being Memorial Park as first choice, Snipes second, and Heacock third and include the spreadsheet put together by Ms. Saylor.

Mr. Wysocki stated he was not at the last meeting of the Sub Committee, and he asked why Samost was ruled out. Ms. Bunn stated they ruled it out because they had looked at it on a Saturday and there was a significant amount of traffic, and they will also be adding the Community Center at that location. She felt adding the dog park would be putting too much at that site. She also noted it backs up onto the existing houses. Mr. Wysocki stated when he did his tour of the property, he felt it was a perfect location. Ms. Bunn stated she feels when the Community Center is constructed there, there will be a lot of activity there; and the site is also unavailable during Tournaments.

Mr. Jason Simon stated he is concerned that there is not a lot of open space to consider. He stated he feels it would be better to use a more populated area and stated Samost should be considered since it is a central location. He stated he is concerned about driving twenty minutes to get to a dog park, and it would be good to have it in an area people feel is more central. He also asked if Veterans Square was considered. Ms. Bunn stated they need four acres, and she does not feel there is enough acreage left at Veterans Square. Mr. Simon asked about the cost, and Ms. Bunn stated they are not at that point yet as they are just trying to identify a site.

She stated once they have a site they will look at the challenges of the site, earth-moving costs, etc. Mr. Simon stated he feels they should have an estimate on this before they select a site, but Ms. Bunn stated they do not want to have to pay the engineer to give them cost estimates on five different sites.

Ms. Bunn agreed to amend the Motion to include Samost as the fourth choice. Mr. Malinowski seconded and the Motion carried unanimously.

THE POOL UPDATE

Mr. Jeff Brown, Pool Manager, was present and stated they are looking forward to the start of the season. He stated Mr. Copson and his crew have been working very hard to get the pools ready. He stated all of the inspections and yearly maintenance are almost completed. He stated they have had three Saturday clean-up days conducted by a very enthusiastic Pool staff. He stated they have a great management team, and they have a new position called Senior Guard as they are trying to award their committed, outstanding, college-age staff by creating this new position; and they have to commit to full-time hours and be the lead swim instructors. Mr. Brown stated there have been some minor staff scheduling adjustments.

Mr. Brown stated Pool hours will be the same with the exception that they will open the baby pool in the morning during swim lessons for the members who have children five or under to utilize the pool that is really already open for children who have older siblings taking swim lessons. He stated this is in response to requests from some members, and this will help serve young families. Mr. Brown stated they will continue to make accommodations to the number of lap lanes they opened last year which they felt was very successful. He stated they will also continue the fitness walking lane which was well received last year. He stated last year they also piloted a float time when members were able to bring floats in on a few dates, and they will include this as a weekly regular component of the schedule. He stated they will also add a second Teen Night this year at the beginning of the season. He stated they want to increase the use of the deep water test and the pre-screening for swim lessons so that the members understand that there is a minimum requirement for children to be in the water that is past their shoulder.

Mr. Brown stated they will also continue the special events that were run last year including Movie Night, Dollar Dog day on Friday, and the \$3 guest fees on Friday evening. He stated they have also scheduled the Family Fun Days and this year they

will add Super Hero Day when the children will come dressed as their favorite Super Hero, and they will have special games around this theme. Mr. Brown stated last year they also piloted some lawn games at the Pool which were very popular, and they want to expand on that and utilize the perimeter space to increase the offerings. He stated they also offer equipment for use at the facilities next to the Pool.

Mr. Brown thanked the Township staff and other members of the Pool management team, and he stated they are looking forward to the season.

Mr. Wysocki asked how the Pool endured the winter, and Mr. Brown stated there was nothing major although they do have to do annual maintenance. He stated a motor did need to be changed for the slide which was a substantial expense. He noted all the inspections that need to be done annually, and they painted as well.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER INSTALLATION OF PICKLE BALL COURT

Ms. Bonnie Gannon, Afton Chase, was present and stated she has lived in the Township for thirty-two years. She stated her children grew up in the Township, and they were involved in many of the recreational activities. She stated she would like to request a pickle ball court in the Township. She made available a written presentation to the Board. She stated pickle ball is a growing sport, and it is a sport for all ages. She stated there are 400,000 people in the Country that play. She stated from 2013 to 2014 there was a 36% increase in the number of courts.

Ms. Gannon stated pickle ball is a cross between badminton, tennis, and ping pong. She stated it is played on a court that is smaller than a tennis court, and there is a high degree of success since you can learn it very quickly, and it can be played by people of all athletic abilities. She stated it is very popular by those forty-five and older. She stated it is a low-impact sport. She stated there are different levels – a social beginner, advanced, and competitive.

Ms. Gannon stated there are a significant number of residents in the Township who are forty-five years and older. She stated the Tolls Bros. development will also bring in those fifty-five years and older. Ms. Gannon stated other local Townships have embraced pickle ball, and she noted particularly Warwick Township has six pickle ball courts. Ms. Gannon stated she is a member there, and she is on the Wait List every Saturday to play. Ms. Gannon stated she talked to the Warwick Township Park & Rec Director who indicated that it cost \$30,000 to resurface two tennis courts. Ms. Gannon stated she and her husband saw some tennis courts at Rose Hollow and there are some unused tennis courts on Revere Road in Yardley Hunt.

Mr. Gordon stated discussion of the tennis courts on Revere Road has been added to the Agenda, and there are a number of residents present this evening to discuss those courts.

Mr. Wysocki stated according to the pictures of the pickle ball courts Ms. Gannon has provided it appears that the courts are smaller than a tennis court and the nets are a little lower. Ms. Gannon agreed they are smaller, and she added you can put four pickle ball courts on two tennis courts. She stated the game is fast, you do not have to run as far, and the score only goes to eleven.

Ms. Gannon stated her first suggestion would be to resurface tennis courts into pickle ball courts which would allow them to grow the organization. She stated another option involves the Middle School Complex, and she contacted the Athletic Director at Pennsbury and he was open to discussing contributing \$10,000. She stated the Township could contribute \$10,000 and she has also contacted Toll and DeLuca who could each contribute \$5,000 which would allow them to reconvert the tennis courts at the Middle School Complex into courts which could be used by the students at the Middle School Complex for gym, LMT could reserve court time on the weeknights and the weekends, and those living in the 55 and older communities built by the developers could reserve time as well. She stated while this option would cost the Township less, it would constrain the residents to a limited amount of time.

Ms. Gannon stated she has played pickle ball in a number of Townships. She stated in New Hope they offer it in a fire house, and it is very hot to play there. She stated Langhorne has a set of tennis courts that they have taped off for pickle ball but it is not organized. Ms. Gannon stated in Newtown they play at Wrightstown Elementary, but the School District does not allow them to tape so you do not know where the lines are. She stated Warwick is the model since they have full pickle ball courts with an organized league from beginners to a competitive level with two hundred and eighteen people playing.

Ms. Gannon stated for ongoing maintenance and operations, you can apply to the U.S. Pickle Ball Association and get a Grant as an organization up to \$250 provided funding is available and you can use this for nets. Ms. Gannon stated Warwick charges \$30 per month or \$125 per outdoor season which runs from April to October. She stated you would therefore have money coming in to supplement maintenance. She stated she has also talked to the owner of Pennsbury Racquet Club about indoor space during the winter.

Mr. Wysocki stated he feels this a great idea and he has heard from others how much fun it is and how popular it is getting. He asked if they could take a tennis court and switch it to a pickle ball court and then back to a tennis court; and Ms. Gannon stated you can do this, and they do that at Warwick and Langhorne and all you do is tape off the pickle ball court size. She stated you could take bungee cords and lower the net. She stated it could get confusing with the lines, but this is an option. Ms. Gannon stated on the U.S. Pickle Ball Association Website they have three to four models of how to convert a tennis court.

Mr. Wysocki asked how much time during the day would the organization be using the courts; and Ms. Gannon stated there is a Website called "Meet-Ups," and in order to register for a session you would have to join "Meet-Ups" and then you sign up there. She stated there is a person there collecting money. Mr. Wysocki stated the Township could also just provide the courts; however, Ms. Gannon stated it is much better if there is an organization. Ms. Gannon stated it could also be run like YMS and PAA are run.

Mr. Gordon asked how long it takes to play a game to eleven points, and Ms. Gannon stated it depends on your skill level. She stated she is a beginner and she can get in ten to fifteen games on a Saturday morning.

Mr. Wysocki asked Ms. Gannon if she envisions there being an organization with the courts Permitted to the organization for periods of time, and the rest of the time it would be open time; and Ms. Gannon agreed. Mr. Wysocki stated that is how YMS and PAA work. Ms. Gannon stated she feels they should adopt the Warwick model where on Monday and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. it is reserved court times, and at other times they are open for free play. Mr. Wysocki asked if the organizations pay a user fee to the Township; and Ms. Gannon stated they do, and in Warwick it is \$125 for the season. She stated Newtown is much more expensive, and for eight weeks it costs \$109.

Ms. Bunn stated the Township has user fees in place for the Township, and whether you are in YMS or PAA you pay the Township user fee. Ms. Bunn stated if they want to create this organization, they would have to apply for a Permit, and the Township would not run the program.

Mr. Gordon stated the difficulty is finding space and the funds for this. He stated he does like the idea of working with the Pennsbury School District which could benefit everyone and the expense would be less. Ms. Bunn stated they are using the area at School Complex for parking, and she feels it make be difficult to take that area back for these courts.

Mr. Gordon stated the next item on the Agenda involves some tennis courts and possibly that could provide a solution. A number of residents from Yardley Hunt were present including John Parsons, DeKalb Drive and Dari Kotzker, 1375 Lexington Drive. Ms. Kotzker stated she lives in the home where she grew up and now her daughter takes tennis lessons at the courts on Schuyler Drive. She stated she was shocked to see the courts on Revere Drive which are in disrepair with no nets and the fence taken down. She stated she found out about the situation with Toll Bros. and found out that the Township may not be fixing the courts on Revere Road. She stated she has memories of going to those tennis courts when she was younger, and it was a safe environment where they could ride their bikes and then play tennis; and she would like this for her children as well. She stated she has heard from a number of people how important those courts were to them.

Mr. Gordon stated the Park & Recreation Board made a Motion at the last meeting that the Township Manager contact Toll Bros. to explore the possibility of having them fund the remediation of the area of the Revere tennis courts to bring it back to its natural state to the satisfaction of the Township engineer and to fund new tennis courts in another area to be determined by the Township. Mr. Gordon stated the courts on Revere Road are no longer playable or safe. He stated there has been remediation going on in the Yardley Hunt area, and they do not really know what is underneath those tennis courts. He stated at this point it would take a substantial amount of money to make those courts playable again, and the feeling of the Park Board and the Township Manager was that if they are going to put money into tennis courts that may not be the best location to do it although they are willing to discuss this. Mr. Gordon stated one of their primary goals is to make the area safe and in a natural state which means they would take the tennis courts out and make it a grassy area again if they are not going to make them tennis courts. He stated the general feeling was that most people outside of Yardley Hunt were not aware of the courts on Revere Road, and they have become run down. Ms. Kotzker agreed that they have become an eyesore. Mr. Gordon stated he understands that the feeling of the Township Manager is that with a limited budget, the best thing to do was to go to Toll Bros. to explore if they would agree to pay for some new tennis courts and to pay for the remediation of that site to put it back to its natural state, but nothing has been approved at this point.

Ms. Amy Kirk, 1322 Revere, stated she backs up to the tennis courts and she has lived there for eleven years. She stated prior to October when Toll dug them up, the tennis courts were used constantly. She stated her back yard was torn up by Toll Bros. as well, and they told her that they were willing to replace the tennis courts. Mr. Gordon asked when the courts were being used regularly, and Ms. Kirk stated it was up until October when they took the fence down. Ms. Kirk stated one of the three courts is still being used today since that one was not dug up. She stated two people were using it today. She stated one of her concerns when she purchased

the home eleven years was that teenagers were going to congregate there, but they have not had problems and the teenagers congregate in the basin. She stated she is concerned that will occur at the area of these courts if they put a grassy area back in that location. Ms. Kirk stated when the courts at Schuyler are being used for lessons the instructor would suggest using the courts at Revere, and they would then use them. Ms. Kirk stated it is not true that the courts at Revere are not being used. One woman stated there was no notification to the community that the fence and nets were being taken down. Ms. Liney stated the Township did take the nets down after Toll Bros. removed the fence.

One woman stated she understands that the Township visits the courts once a year in July and felt that there were not being used, but she stated they bought their home because of those courts, and they used them all the time; and now they are gone.

Mr. Parsons stated his family has a lot of history in Yardley Hunt, and he walks his dog by the Revere Road courts every day; and he feels it is a perception issue on the part of the Park & Recreation Board that they are not used, but they are being used. Ms. Bunn stated every year the Park & Recreation Board does a Road Tour in July, and every year since 1999 when she first got on the Board, there has never been a person on those courts. She stated there have been huge cracks and now the fences are down, and there have been sink holes; and she could not imagine that the courts were used because they were in such disrepair for so many years. She stated the Township did crack fill them. Mr. Parsons stated that is why he stated he feels it is a perception issue since they are now hearing from the people that live there, that they are being used and they are part of the community. He stated if they do not feel they are being used enough, he feels that is a promotion issue; and they could let more people know about them. He stated he had a number of people contact him directly that they want the courts. Mr. Parsons stated those courts were playable, and Toll Bros. destroyed the courts; and they should fix the courts, and the Township should continue the maintenance of the courts that they have done through the years.

Mr. Gordon stated Mr. Fedorchak was going to speak to Toll Bros., and Mr. Parsons stated he would like the Park & Recreation Board to rescind the letter they wrote to the Township Manager and write a second letter as a Board asking the Township Board of Supervisors to have Mr. Fedorchak ask Toll Bros. to fix the tennis courts.

Mr. Smith stated he put something on Facebook about this issue, and he received a tremendous response indicating that they did not know anything about this. Mr. Smith stated someone indicated that originally there was a Homeowners Association in Yardley Hunt, and they were responsible for taking care of the courts until it was passed to the Township to maintain the courts. He stated the courts on

Revere Road is a “pocket park” for the Yardley Hunt neighborhood. Mr. Smith stated he would be in support of whatever they have to do to take care of the courts, but he is at a loss why there has not been stronger follow up with Toll Bros. to fix the courts. He stated they need to be proactive to get the courts fixed for the people who use them.

Ms. Bunn stated the reason why the Park Board made the recommendation they did was because from her perspective, she did not see that they were being used. She stated Mr. Smith was previously on the Park & Recreation Board and probably remembers the condition of the courts with a large sink hole in the corner, and they had been putting money in those courts for years with no different result. She stated from their perspective it did not seem like the best solution to try to fix something that may or not have been because of remediation, and there may have been a spring underground that is causing it to erode. She stated they will not know this until it is dug up. She stated once they determine what is underneath the courts, an engineer will be able to tell whether the ground is stable enough to rebuild. She stated they have not been in good condition for many years.

Mr. Smith stated he feels they should tell Toll Bros. that they have to put them back in playable condition. Ms. Bunn stated it still may not be on stable ground was their point, and they will not know this until an engineer looks at it.

Mr. Gordon stated the first question is whether Toll Bros. will pay for new courts voluntarily. He stated if it goes to a lawsuit, this could take years.

Mr. Parsons stated when they did the debris removal across the street at the basin they had to rebuild the infrastructure, and it was a major project and now looks pristine. He stated Toll Bros. wants to fix this issue, and he feels they are an amenable partner. He stated he would ask them to look for the trash under the tennis courts since this may be why they are always cracking. Mr. Smith stated he feels it would be in Toll Bros. interest to be cooperative.

Mr. Benedetto stated he agrees with Mr. Smith and Mr. Parsons. He stated he feels Toll Bros. should fix the problem, and he does not understand why it has taken six months to find out what is going on; and he would like to know what the Township Manager has done since the Park & Recreation Board’s recommendation was on April 14 and it is now May 12. He stated it has been four weeks, and Mr. Fedorchak may have already contacted Toll Bros. Mr. Benedetto stated since this was brought up the Board of Supervisors has not discussed it and the Board of Supervisors did not take a vote to direct the Township Manager to do anything. He stated he is adamant about Toll Bros. fixing this.

Mr. McNamara stated his family has been in Yardley Hunt since 1978. He stated at the last meeting he did ask them to test the area of the tennis courts to see if there was fill there. Mr. McNamara stated he knows that Toll Bros. has been more receptive of late and has done work in other Townships as well.

Mr. Gordon stated the first question is will Toll Bros. pay for new tennis courts, and does the Township want them to be where the old tennis courts were. Mr. Gordon stated for the first time tonight they are hearing from the neighbors that they do want them to be there. He stated he feels it should be a matter of debate whether this is the best location if Toll Bros. is going to put new tennis courts in the Township.

One woman asked why the homeowners were not notified of any of these decisions. She stated Toll Bros was to put everything back to proper condition. She stated when there are tennis lessons taking place at Schuyler or if maintenance is being done, people should go to the Revere courts; and they could post a sign advising where the courts on Revere are located if the other courts are not available. She stated this is a community, and she is concerned why they had to find out about this through Facebook. She stated children are encouraged to play sixty minutes a day, and tennis is a simple sport that anyone can play. She stated she feels taking these courts away and moving them to another section of the Township is disgraceful.

Mr. Wysocki stated he feels they need to know if the land is re-buildable for tennis courts since there could be debris or a stream. Ms. Bunn stated if that area is on a natural sinkhole, they will not be able to build there since the sinkhole will continue to come back. One woman stated they should not then put them in Memorial Park. Ms. Bunn stated Memorial Park is still part of the Township. The woman stated tennis courts at Memorial Park is a separate issue, but this issue has to be dealt with now. She stated these courts are used by the community.

One woman stated that the courts were playable until October, and when debris was found across the street, they then knocked the tennis court fences down so that now they are not playable. She stated the courts were not dangerous and no one ever tripped on them.

Mr. Gordon stated they started this discussion with pickle ball, and Ms. Gannon stated if they were to have two tennis courts this would equal four pickle ball courts.

Mr. Dobson stated they should direct Mr. Fedorchak to meet with Toll Bros. and fix the problem. He stated during the remediation if there is a problem with a sinkhole, the engineers should be involved to remediate this along with Toll and put the courts back in since they have heard from a number of people that they want the courts put back in. He stated they are indicating that they were used until October. Mr. Wysocki asked if they do not have to first determine if it was debris from Toll that caused this problem, and Mr. Dobson stated it is his understanding that they have accepted that it was their problem and is an area that has to be remediated. Others present stated they feel it is a Toll Bros. problem; and if it were a problem with a spring, they would know about it. Mr. Dobson stated he will contact Mr. Fedorchak about this tomorrow.

Mr. Jim Brandau, 1104 Randolph, stated he was at the last meeting and his property backs up to the courts. He stated he agrees that they should hold Toll Bros. accountable, but he feels it is a separate issue what they should do with the property after it is remediated. He stated he disagrees with his neighbors as to the usage. He stated he has lived there since 1987 and he is retired since 2008, and he knows that the use of those courts has been declining since the day he moved in. He stated there is never anyone there during the weekdays, although there is some use on Saturdays and Sundays but it is rarely full. He stated over the last few years children have been playing hockey there and ridden motor bikes in that area. He stated when Toll did the excavation, basically the usage stopped but usage had been declining long before that. He stated he feels it should be made into a natural area and put the courts somewhere else. He stated it seems that the tennis courts are all in this side of the Township, and it is not surprising that the Revere courts are not being used because of all the other tennis courts in this area.

Mr. Mark Bluestein, 830 Hudson, stated he has lived there for seventeen years; and he feels those courts are well used. He stated the Township budget is tight, and the Township is looking to save money and to remediate the site with tennis courts that are already there would be less expensive than to remediate that site to a natural site and then go elsewhere and build courts from scratch. He stated Toll is "on the hook" for the Revere site; and he does not feel that Toll would agree to pay in full to remediate one site and then move to a second site and build new courts so the expense will involve the Township.

A gentleman from 1361 Colony Way stated he plays tennis as a sport, and he does use those courts and has taught people how to play tennis on those courts as well. He feels the courts are an important part of the community which need to be there. He stated he has been there when all the courts were full.

Mr. Gordon stated if they get to the point where they are remediated, he feels they need to do a better job of promoting them so people know that they are not just for the residents of Yardley Hunt. Mr. Gordon stated he feels they want Mr. Dobson to discuss this with Mr. Fedorchak to have him meet with Toll Bros. to discuss this and find out what Toll Bros. will do and are the courts able to be remediated. Mr. Wysocki stated when they discuss tennis courts in the future, he feels that they should factor in pickle ball as an option as well. Mr. Gordon also suggested that Ms. Gannon follow up further with the Pennsbury School District to get more definitive information from them as well.

SUPERVISOR LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Dobson stated they are continuing to work on the Quiet Zones. He stated the Township engineer is working with SEPTA following the installation of the third rail about the steepness at the one crossing as this will have to be addressed. Mr. Dobson stated this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kids Kingdom, they will have a car seat safety check partnering with St. Mary Medical Center and the Citizens Traffic Commission. Mr. Dobson stated they have started the Township road paving program, and they anticipate spending close to \$900,000 this year in road repairs.

Mr. Dobson stated they have instructed Chief Coluzzi to look into cameras for Macclesfield Park, and the Chief is very close on getting quotes on this not just for Macclesfield Park but also Memorial Park and Veterans Park. Ms. Bunn asked about Five Mile Woods, and she expressed concern with the safety of the parking lot at that location since you cannot see it from the road. Ms. Liney stated there is a tenant there, but she can discuss this with Mr. Fedorchak. Mr. Dobson stated he feels they should have "eyes" on everything the Township owns.

Mr. Dobson stated the Township has saved \$360,000 refinancing a bond over the next six years. He stated they have saved over \$3 million through refinancing the last four years.

Ms. Bunn asked if the Bids have come back for the Community Center, and Mr. Dobson stated he believes they are due back in June.

RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Liney stated May is one of the busiest months in the Township park system. She stated the Township crew continues to maintain and fine tune all ten park sites, as well as preparing and supporting several large scale events in the Township. Ms. Liney stated upwards of 6,000 to 10,000 players, coaches, families, and friends will be enjoying Lower Makefield Township facilities in the next month with the recent soccer tournaments and upcoming PAA fast pitch softball event. Ms. Liney stated tournaments of this size are not possible without great facilities and dedicated volunteers handling coordination, and she congratulated YMS for another successful EPIC soccer event this weekend.

Ms. Liney stated preparations for the opening of the Pool on May 23rd are continuous servicing every aspect of this outstanding facility. As in the past, mandatory staff meetings are scheduled this week for over 100 Pool employees with the Pool Manager to review Township policy, safety procedures, and job responsibilities.

Ms. Liney stated the Lower Makefield Farmers Market will open Thursday, May 21. She stated this is the seventh season for the Market which typically draws several hundred people each week to purchase local produce and wares in support of the area farmers. Park & Recreation is completing requests from the Veterans Committee on the installation of water at that site, a water fountain, and twenty-five Norway spruce trees to be planted along the border of the CVS as a buffer.

Ms. Liney stated Park & Recreation is working with a number of Eagle Scout candidates on their individual projects: Veterans Square landscaping, the Gaga court installation at Kids Kingdom, and signage at Macclesfield.

Ms. Liney stated the Lower Makefield Seniors held elections today for four officers and two board members. They have a new President – John LaBar. She stated the Seniors group continues to offer a wide range of activities to the members and is looking forward to breaking ground for the planned Community Center.

LEAGUE LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Jason Simon, PAA, stated their next big activity will be the Fast Pitch Softball Tournament. He thanked Mr. O'Hara and YMS for their cooperation this past weekend, particularly on Friday night when they were able to utilize the ball fields at Macclesfield for Travel games that needed to be moved due to conflicts with teams they were supposed to visit. Mr. Simon stated unfortunately their Major League Division and their Babe Ruth Division were unable to play this past weekend

in deference to the EPIC Tournament at Macclesfield, and they were unable to take possession and use the new fields at Caiola. He stated they have been using the upper parking lot at Caiola, and they are seeing patterns start to emerge. He stated they have not yet started using the upper fields and had a full complement of ball games which will occur on Saturdays because of the lack of lighting, but they have noticed that the parents are parking on the upper lot extensively and they will still be adding four more teams to the mix on a Saturday morning. He feels there are going to be significant overflow problems. He stated the lack of a paved second half of the parking lot is going to create interesting parking patterns on the stone portion of the parking lot. Mr. Simon stated they also cannot see on the upper lot at night so when it is dark you have a difficult time navigating around the islands the way the parking lot was designed. He stated a number of parents and coaches have expressed concern that they are afraid that they are going to drive into some of the retention basins that are built there, and he feels that they need to explore some lighting at the parking lot at the top because there are going to be issues with this over time. He stated at the top of the ramp there is a retention basin, and you have to go past this and make a very sharp right to come back down to the parking lot area; and it is not natural. Ms. Liney stated she will look into this.

Mr. Gordon stated parking lot lighting would also be a good security issue.

Mr. Simon again discussed his concerns about overflow parking adding that on Opening Day some people parked at the Library lot, and the Library personnel were not happy about this. Mr. Gordon stated these are all public lots.

Mr. Gordon stated while he agrees in the middle of the Opening Day Parade, the Senior Police Officer on patrol told them they had to move their cars; but when he learned that they were not going to be there all day, he was fine with that.

Mr. Simon stated members of PAA walked the new fields last week; and while Mr. Fedorchak gave PAA the okay to play on the fields, PAA did not feel comfortable using them due to the condition of the fields. He stated they feel there are problems that have not been appropriately corrected, and there is not enough grass grown in, misaligned home plates and pitcher's rubbers, and enough things that are not appropriately completed not only from the punch list that PAA supplied Mr. Fedorchak earlier this week, but also from the identical punch list that PAA developed after they did the walk through last summer. He stated they do not feel that the fields are playable right now. He stated their concern is that these are new ball fields; and while they recognize that they are not professional fields, they should have fields that are safe to play on. He stated they do not feel that there has been enough water on the fields. He stated he knows there was a recent attempt to get water on the fields by the Township, but they ran into an unforeseen problem. He stated he feels they have missed another growing season on the fields despite the engineer claiming that there was enough water on the fields when they did the walk

through. He stated there was clearly not enough rooting for these types of fields, and they are not ready to play on as they are concerned about safety since a ball could spin off in a different direction if hit hard. He stated whoever was responsible for correcting the distance of the pitcher's mound on the smaller field took a less than ideal way out. He stated they moved the rubber back a few feet and left the mound where it was which throws off the symmetry of the field and the pitcher coming off the back of the mound with a sharp drop. He stated on both fields the rubbers are not aligned with home plate or home plate is not aligned. He stated PAA provided a fairly detailed overview of the concerns to Mr. Fedorchak a week ago Monday, and they are waiting for feedback. He stated as of today, they have not received anything from anyone in the Township about what is being done.

Mr. Simon stated they do need to get on the fields since they have scheduling problems with the use of the Macclesfield fields with the older boys teams coming on line in May. Mr. Simon stated they do not have lights at Caiola so they still will have to play the week night games at Macclesfield A since they play long games. Mr. Simon stated it is important that the Park & Recreation Board is aware of what is going on, and the fields need time to grow and need the proper water.

Mr. Malinowski stated he walked the fields and he did not see the misalignment of home plate on the 70' field, but the home plate is clearly crooked on the 90' field which throws off the pitcher, the batter, and the umpire; and it also fouls up the foul lines because they are shifted and the foul poles are not in the right spot. Mr. Malinowski stated he feels the foul poles were placed correctly, but he feels home plate is crooked which throws everything off. Mr. Gordon stated he feels it would have to be dug out and re-shifted, and Mr. Malinowski agreed.

Mr. Gordon stated in anticipation of tonight's meeting, he did e-mail Mr. Fedorchak, and he has a draft from the engineer responding to Mr. Simon's questions; and Mr. Simon stated he has that as well. Mr. Gordon stated Mr. Fedorchak has agreed that he will meet with PAA and with the engineer to try to address all of the issues. Mr. Gordon stated that he understands that there is a certain maturing of fields that goes on, and that some of these things will mature over time. Mr. Gordon stated the Park & Recreation Board needs to rely on the Township engineer and PAA as to whether or not the fields are safe to play on.

Mr. Simon stated he hopes the Park & Recreation Board as an advisory board is overseeing the Parks & Rec system and would be concerned about this. Mr. Simon stated during the Park & Rec Road Tour last year, he walked out on the pitcher's mound and advised those in attendance that it was too close; and Mr. Eisold measured it. Mr. Simon stated he told Mr. Eisold that night that Cal Ripken plays at 50' and his response was that it could be 48' to 50'. Mr. Simon stated digging up the rubber

and moving it back left the pitcher's mound awkwardly structured, and he does not feel that this is okay. He stated nothing that was on the PAA punch list was something that they have not been talking to the Township about for quite some time; and he has e-mails sent to the Board of Supervisors starting in April, 2014.

Mr. Simon stated they do not want to put the players on the fields yet because of their concerns. He stated when they use the School District fields for practice PAA takes on a lot of the responsibility because those fields are unkempt. Mr. Simon stated he hopes that the Park & Rec Board expects that when new fields are put on line that there is some degree of standard that they are applying to make sure that what they are defining as playable and acceptable are maybe too different things.

Mr. Gordon stated as an advisory board, they still need to rely on the professionals and the League specialists to make those final decisions. Mr. Simon stated that is why he is voicing his concerns here. He stated there are two members of the Board of Supervisors still here tonight, and he wanted to express where they are at. Mr. Simon stated they only heard from Mr. Fedorchak a week ago that he would set up a meeting, and they have not heard anything further. He stated at this point they are continuing to play at Macclesfield. He stated YMS has been a great partner, and they have been doing a lot of cooperating between the Leagues to make the fields work, but they should not be in the situation where the EPIC Tournament impacts PAA's ability to play.

Mr. McNamara asked if the Township has completed paid for the fields, and Mr. Dobson stated he does not believe that they have been completely paid. Mr. Dobson asked if they are watering the fields now; and Mr. Simon stated he received a text that sprinklers were put on the fields, but they were stolen while the water was running and they left the water running.

Ms. Liney stated they have not accepted the fields, and Ply-Mar Construction has not been paid in full. She stated they did start watering; and the sprinklers on tripods disappeared, and the hose was left running.

Mr. Dobson stated he understood that Mr. O'Hara indicated they had a waterwheel, and possibly they could use this to help. Mr. Simon stated when the well was put in, Mr. Eisold discussed a system that might be a wheel system, but they have not been shown anything. Mr. Dobson stated he understands that they want to get water on the fields, and Mr. O'Hara has offered the water wheel in the past.

Mr. Simon stated a number of years ago he was looking into improving the fields, and one of the resources they have in the community that would be good to investigate is the opportunity to work with the people running the Golf Course since they are experts at grass and they have equipment. Mr. Dobson stated he would be in favor of using the Township resources as much as they can, and they need to look into this.

Mr. Simon stated other than these issues, the program is going great, and they are working hard to develop the program. He stated PAA will report back on the success of the Softball Tournament.

Ms. Bunn asked the last time the fields were seeded, and Ms. Liney stated it was in the spring. Ms. Bunn stated they may have to over seed before they start watering again, and Ms. Liney stated the Township could do slit seed once the fields are accepted.

Mr. Sean O'Hara, YMS, thanked the Board of Supervisors, Ms. Liney, and particularly Mr. Copson, and Brian for working on the sewer system Saturday night till very late making sure everything was working well by Sunday morning at Macclesfield. Ms. Liney stated it is undersized for the volume of use. Mr. Wysocki asked if they also bring in portable toilets, and Mr. O'Hara stated they do. Mr. O'Hara also thanked the Police Department who helped whenever needed. He stated for this Tournament they used a number of complexes with Macclesfield being the biggest. He stated they also use a complex in Upper Makefield, one in Philadelphia, Falls, the middle schools, Notre Dame, and Villa Victoria. He stated this is now their biggest Tournament, and this year they had to cut it off at 310 teams. He stated they provided a service this year that they provided in previous years where the Teams can order flowers for their mothers, and they were delivered to the Park. He stated 310 teams equals approximately 4,600 players. He stated there were 650 hotel rooms booked, and they had a number of college coaches.

Mr. O'Hara noted Mr. Mark Bluestein is in the audience, and he is a licensed ref; and he provided a service to the YMS players that wanted to do some reffing for the younger age groups, and Mr. Bluestein ran a training program. Mr. Bluestein noted the number of young people involved in this program. Mr. O'Hara stated they paid out about \$50,000 in ref fees for licensed refs as well as YMS players or local young people who wanted to ref. He stated there were also National Honor Society members volunteering during the Tournament.

Mr. O'Hara stated Ms. Torbert from the Citizens Traffic Commission asked that YMS send out information about the car seat safety inspection they are hosting, and he did send this out to the YMS community. Mr. O'Hara stated they have also worked with PAA.

Mr. O'Hara stated they are forming a relationship outside of the community with Falls Soccer, and they have used their sites for the EPIC and the Columbus Cup; and this relationship helps when there is a need for a field quickly. Mr. O'Hara stated they also have a relationship with Hulmeville Soccer Club, and they let YMS use their painter for the Tournament.

Mr. O'Hara thanked the Township for the update about the security cameras.

Mr. O'Hara stated YMS would be in support of anything that would help with the dog park at any of the locations; and if Heacock were selected, YMS would be willing to help with that. Mr. Gordon asked if they would still play soccer there if they would have the dog park there, and it was noted that they would not. Ms. Bunn stated people use Heacock already and do not clean up after their dogs. Ms. Bunn stated that field does fill a need for the younger girls; and Mr. O'Hara agreed and stated if they decided to use that field for the dog park, they would be asking for help where they could get another field to re-locate the population that uses that field.

Mr. McNamara asked if YMS is the biggest soccer organization in Lower Bucks, and Mr. O'Hara stated he believes it is the largest in Bucks County. Ms. Liney stated years ago she understood that YMS was the second largest in the Mid-Atlantic Region, and Mr. Wysocki stated he believes that it is the biggest in the State.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bunn, Secretary