

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on February 18, 2016. Mr. Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Gordon welcomed Mr. Krauss to the Board. Mr. Krauss stated he has lived in the Township for over twenty years, and his children have been involved in many sports over the years in the Township.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Gordon, Chair  
Andrew Newbon, Secretary  
Doug Krauss, Member  
David Malinowski, Member  
Brian McNamara, Member  
Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director  
David Fritchey, Supervisor Liaison  
Kristin Tyler, Supervisor

Absent: Patricia Bunn, Park & Recreation Board Vice Chair

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Malinowski moved, Mr. Krauss seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of January 12, 2016 as written.

#### RECOGNITION OF SUPERVISOR DAVID FRITCHEY

Mr. Gordon thanked and recognized Mr. David Fritchey for his dedicated service, leadership, and commitment to the Lower Makefield Township Park & Recreation Board. Mr. Gordon stated Mr. Fritchey was appointed in 1993, was Park Board Chair for twenty years, and is now the Supervisor Liaison as of January, 2016. Mr. Gordon stated the parks and recreation facilities in the Township over the twenty-two years he served have changed, grown, and improved tremendously; and Mr. Fritchey has played a role in all of that. Mr. Fritchey stated being the Liaison makes him feel like he is “coming home,” and the Park Board has been a wonderful part of his life. He stated the honors he has received go to the Park Board as well since without the Park Board members, he would have achieved nothing.

#### UPDATE REVERE ROAD TENNIS COURTS

Ms. Liney stated part of the challenge of Park & Recreation is the overall planning of facilities for the whole Township. She stated input was received from a number of different sources; and based on what is known, they are going to recommend that two courts be replaced at the Revere tennis courts as opposed to the four that are there now. Ms. Liney stated Toll. Bros. met with the Township Manager, and they are willing to support the construction of two courts. Ms. Liney stated the Township will continue to monitor the use at that facility and maybe re-visit the situation if it is found that two courts are not sufficient in that area. Ms. Liney stated they will remove the other two courts and return that space to green space.

Mr. Gordon stated there has been discussions about pickle ball as well; and at other tennis courts, they have added extra lines to the tennis courts and the courts could then be multi-use courts for tennis and pickle ball.

Mr. Newbon stated they have fixed the court in the corner and the part of the other one a number of times, but because of the quality of soil underneath it continues to be an on-going problem.

Mr. Gordon asked if there were any residents present who were in favor of not replacing any of the courts, and no one raised their hand.

Mr. Dave Trotto, 1360 Buford, stated his property backs up to the courts. He asked what they mean by replacement. Ms. Liney stated they will totally remove the first two courts, and the rear two courts will be totally re-done. She stated they will grind them, and they will then do a total overlay and paint them for tennis and pickle ball. She stated they will also have new fencing.

Mr. Gordon stated the land will be properly prepared for tennis courts as approved by the engineer. Mr. Wysocki stated there will be two new courts.

Mr. Trotto stated currently there are cracks, and he asked if there is a plan for maintenance of the new courts. Ms. Liney stated they would monitor them, and crack fill them every year. Ms. Liney stated there were discussions about removing those courts in 2008 which is why they stopped crack filling them so the cracks did open more during that period. Mr. Gordon stated after they are completed, the courts will be maintained in the same manner that all Township tennis courts are maintained. Mr. Trotto asked if there is a budget to do that every year, and Ms. Liney stated she has crack filling in the Budget every year.

Mr. Trotto stated they have heard that Toll Bros. had buried debris, and Mr. Gordon stated that is why Toll Bros. is involved in this. Mr. Gordon added that he has had discussions with the Township engineer who advised that the site has been remediated to his satisfaction, and the debris has been removed. Ms. Liney stated the courts are over thirty years old. Ms. Liney stated at this point they are only looking to have two courts in this area, and they will monitor the use.

Mr. John Parsons, 844 Dekalb Drive, stated he understands the Township was given \$40,000 from Toll, but Toll will not be doing the work. Mr. Parsons stated he understands that the Park & Rec Board is concerned about long-term maintenance. He stated he feels the \$40,000 is owed to that specific parcel. He stated across the street Toll rebuilt the basin, and he questions why they would not have Toll rebuild this site. He stated they could then put the funds toward future maintenance.

Mr. Gordon stated Mr. Parsons is assuming that the \$40,000 would replace all four courts, but he does not feel that is sufficient to replace all four. Ms. Liney stated the pricing is \$10,000 per court for fencing and \$10,000 per court for the paving so this would only give two courts. Those present questioned the expense for the fencing which they felt was "unbelievable." Mr. Parsons stated one corner of the court is damaged, and he feels they can fix that corner and re-pave and paint it. He stated they could also advertise the availability of these courts at Schuyler which is packed. Mr. Parsons stated he does not feel they should be taking away Township assets because they are concerned about long-term maintenance.

Mr. Parsons stated he feels if they take these two courts away, they will never put them back in. He also stated he feels that if they make the green space deeper, cars will park in there again during the off hours; and it will create an opportunity for bad things to go on that used to go on there before the trees were cut back. Mr. Parsons stated possibly they could get three courts since he feels having only two creates a big, empty space.

Mr. McNamara asked Ms. Liney the cost to redo the courts near the Pool. Ms. Liney stated it was just under \$200,000 for the courts including the basketball courts.

Mr. Newbon stated in the past they have looked at these courts on their Road Tour, and the corner court was not safe; and it also went into the second court.

Mr. Parsons stated there is a cost to ripping out the courts, and he suggested that they have three courts. He stated the compromise could be that they take out the front one since that is gone, and they could make three. Mr. Gordon stated they do have to balance the costs. Mr. McNamara stated they would have to get additional funds from the Supervisors for an additional court since the \$40,000 from Toll Bros.

only covers two courts. Mr. Parsons stated there is a cost to ripping up a court, and Ms. Liney stated this would be done in house by Public Works. Mr. Parsons stated his concern based on comments in past Minutes from the Park & Recreation Board and the Board of Supervisors meetings is that there is a long-term feeling that these courts are not used and that they should be eliminated and courts built elsewhere such as at Memorial Park. He stated the courts are used, and he does not feel that getting rid of them is a solution. He stated pulling into the parking lot, the two courts would be in the back, and there would be empty green space.

Ms. Amy Kirk, 1322 Revere Road, and she stated she lives behind the “bad” court. Ms. Kirk stated she was present when a woman discussed pickle ball courts, and she had discussed renting out the courts to a pickle ball association. Ms. Kirk asked if this is what they are considering here with people coming from all over to play pickle ball. Ms. Liney stated she would not Permit a user group at this site.

Ms. Jean Costello, 1360 Buford Drive, asked how the \$40,000 was negotiated with Toll Bros. She stated one of the reasons she moved to her home was because of the tennis courts. She stated she was disappointed that maintenance on the courts was stopped. She also stated that no one was notified when Toll Bros. came in and took down the fence, and they then had an eyesore. She stated the first meeting she went to about this was a year ago in October, and nothing has happened since then other than two of the courts are dug up.

Mr. McNamara stated the amount negotiated from Toll was \$40,000 since it was agreed that they only dumped under two of the courts. Mr. McNamara stated the diagram the Park & Rec Board has shows that the front two courts was were they removed trash from underneath. Ms. Costello stated she heard at a meeting that one of the reasons they stopped maintaining the courts was because someone drove by at 7 p.m. and no one was on the courts; however, she stated the courts are being used all the time. She also stated that if the courts had been maintained, they would not have to be redone. Mr. Gordon stated he understands that they would like them to save as many as they can. Mr. Gordon noted that the Township Manager is the one who is involved with the negotiation with Toll.; and while they can speak with him further, they also have to determine what funds are available.

Mr. Zachary Rubin, 1661 Covington Road, stated he is the Vice President of Makefield Glen Homeowners Association; and they are responsible for two sets of two tennis courts which were built twenty-six years ago. He stated last year they re-did two of them over entirely because they did not want to spend thousands of dollars every year filling in cracks. He stated they found that there is a new technology for tennis courts, and there is a type of polyester which is laid over the existing court after all the cracks are sealed. He stated it is maintenance free and will not crack, and he suggested they look into this new technology. Mr. Rubin

stated it cost approximately \$40,000 for the two courts, but they did not replace the fences. Mr. Rubin stated he is not a tennis player; but those who play tennis have indicated that while they sound different, the ball still plays true. He stated it is also easier on the legs because the polyester is a little softer than the hard asphalt.

Mr. Trotto stated with regard to the third court, there is one corner where there is a problem so he feels this would be salvageable. Mr. Trotto stated they could also look into rotating the third court so that it would be at a different angle.

Mr. Gordon provided to Ms. Liney some e-mails he received about this issue which should be added to the Minutes.

Ms. Kimberly Susko, 1369 Buford, asked if the cost of \$20,000 per court was brought out during the negotiations. Ms. Liney stated she bid out and received from contractors that it would cost \$20,000 to do one court. She stated maybe they can look to see if they could negotiate to get the third court. She stated they also have to consider the use. She stated while they go out there on the annual Road Tour, they are also there to mow, empty trash, etc. and they do not see as much use at these courts as they see at the other courts in the Township. She stated these are hard decisions; but at this point it seems that they will do two courts unless something changes. Ms. Susko stated she is concerned if the area is left in grass whether it will be cut every week, and Ms. Liney stated they do cut the grass every week. Ms. Susko stated she also feels that a sign should be put up at Schuyler that there are alternate courts at Revere since Schuyler gets so much use from the YMS Tennis Program.

Mr. Gordon stated it is clear that everyone who has come from Revere is in favor of having tennis courts, and to have as many courts as the Township is able to put there. Mr. Gordon stated they will follow up with Mr. Fedorchak.

Mr. Wysocki stated he feels it is a good idea to consider turning one of the courts to take advantage of some of the good ground. He stated if it is the conclusion that there is usable ground but not the funding for it, they should be careful how the work is done on the two courts that are affordable now so that they preserve the hard top in the good area with the idea that it could be a future pickle ball court, etc.

Mr. Parsons stated he wants to stress what Toll Bros. has done in other parts of the neighborhood with regard to remediation as they have brought those areas up to "pristine;" and while he understands that they are saying the tennis courts are an old asset so they should not have to spend as much money to fix it, he questions why they did not do as much at this location when all the other areas they did were "A plus."

Mr. Gordon stated they need to get more information from the Township with the hope that at their next meeting they will be able to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on this.

#### PRESENTATION OF PROPOSAL FROM ADVANTAGE TENNIS CLUB

Mr. Jean Bhattacharya and Mr. Partha Bhattacharya were present from Advantage Tennis. Mr. Bhattacharya stated they have one facility in West Windsor with nine indoor courts powered by air-supported domes which are removable. He stated the temperature inside the dome is stable at 68 degrees at all times. They also have an eight-layer surface that is a good playing surface and easy on the joints. He stated they conduct different types of programs at both locations. He reviewed the caliber of some of those playing at their facilities. He discussed the programs they have for younger players. He stated they also work with Seniors in West Windsor and work closely with the community. He stated Seniors play for free at their facility at all times, and they do discounted instruction for Seniors. He stated their best features are their events and he noted that in February they will have “The Healthy Kids of West Windsor” which includes nutrition, mental wellness, physical fitness, and skill-based focus enhancement. He stated they work hand-in-hand with the Township of West Windsor. He stated they also hold charity events. They also work with the Schools. They also hold family nights on Friday nights.

Mr. Wysocki asked if the surface is permanently installed, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated it is permanent. He stated having it covered for eight to nine months of the year also preserves the surface better.

Mr. Bhattacharya stated they are present this evening to discuss building an indoor facility completely at their own cost which would cost approximately \$2 million to \$2.5 million.

Mr. Gordon asked about public access to these courts. Mr. Bhattacharya stated they would like to provide a certain amount of free access twelve months a year. He stated if there were six courts possibly three of them would be open between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for anyone to come in and play twelve months of the year or some other time period. He stated they are open to discussion about this. Mr. Gordon asked how much as the facility been used in West Windsor. Mr. Bhattacharya stated at West Windsor they are not working directly with the Township outside of the events. He stated the West Windsor facility is not built on Township property, and it is a private venture.

Mr. Wysocki stated are they only considering six courts, and he asked if it could be more or less. Mr. Bhattacharya stated they feel six is good. Mr. Newbon asked how many acres they would need for six courts, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated they need 2.7 acres. Mr. Gordon asked if this includes parking; and Mr. Bhattacharya stated it does not, but it does include pro shop, restrooms, and offices.

Mr. Bhattacharya the situation would be better with existing courts since it would be level with the asphalt already there, and less work would need to be done. He stated they are also happy to discuss a location of the Township's choice starting from scratch.

Mr. Gordon asked if they would want to lease the land, and Mr. Bhattacharya agreed. Mr. Gordon asked how many years they were looking for on the Lease, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated the one they have in West Windsor is thirty years. He stated they would want a similar amount of time so that they can justify their investment which is substantial. He stated they have building costs, electric, heat, and management. He stated there would also be discounted rates for residents for clinics, camps, classes, etc. He stated they hold a lot of social events.

Mr. Wysocki asked how they would envision liability on the property, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated they would provide insurance. Mr. Wysocki asked if they have contemplated what would happen to the land at the end of the Lease. Mr. Bhattacharya stated they envision that they would have an option for renewal. Mr. Wysocki asked what would happen if the business did not do well, and they did not want to stay for the thirty years. Mr. Bhattacharya stated the domes could be removed, and the Township would then still have the courts.

Mr. Fritchey asked how the dome is affixed to the ground, and he also asked the height of the dome. Mr. Bhattacharya stated the dome is 24' high. He stated they dig around the courts, and anchor the domes in. Mr. McNamara noted a facility where there is an indoor baseball park.

Mr. Newbon asked if there is staff that stays on sight and manages who comes there, and Mr. Bhattacharya agreed.

Ms. Tyler asked when they built the West Windsor facility, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated it was completed September 15. Ms. Tyler asked if he oversaw that construction, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated he did. She noted their other facility in Brandenton, Florida; and Mr. Bhattacharya stated that was built in early, 2014. Ms. Tyler asked if Advantage Tennis Club is a franchise. Mr. Bhattacharya stated it was the name his father called it. Mr. Bhattacharya was asked what brought them to Lower Makefield; and he stated he has pros from here who have a good following, and he knows that there is a demand that is not being met as well as it could.

It was stated that in this area there is the Pennsbury Racquet Club, Bucks County Racquet Club, and some in Northampton; and the assumption is they feels that there is still demand.

Mr. Mike Creameans stated this is a private venture being built on Township land. Mr. Creameans stated some people have suggested that he come in with a counter proposal. He stated he ran a tennis club for eight years, and he has run a tennis program in Lower Makefield for hundreds of people. He stated he is not interested in running a four to eight court bubble facility, although he has been approached many times to leave his job. He stated what is being discussed sounds like it is extremely successful and seems like it is a great franchise for other private ventures.

Mr. Newbon stated while they have an obligation to the residents of Lower Makefield to provide recreational space, they have to consider at what point it stops. He noted the prior discussion about the Revere courts and how much has been spent to repair courts; and it is an investment they have to make every year to refinish the courts, etc. for select members of the Township since not everyone plays tennis. Mr. Newbon stated his son played ice hockey, and there were not tax dollars put into ice hockey in the Township. He feels what is proposed is an interesting proposition. He stated he likes the idea of the Township not being in the business of maintaining tennis courts.

Mr. Jason Simon, PAA, stated he is not a fan of public land being leased in this manner. He stated there are user groups in the community that are organized and structured, and they pay user fees and contribute to the Park & Rec and Township Budget as part of their cost to operate. He stated he does not know how this proposal would fit in economically to the community. He stated the user groups in the Township are pulling their weight financially, and they learned during the last Budget Hearings that as a group they contribute more than they consume. He stated as other groups come in that are not similarly organized and structured that will be using public land, he would like to make sure that economically the Township is being well compensated for that effort. He stated taxpayers of the Township as well as parents of the athletes playing in the organized sports are paying significant amounts which he feels are a “selective tax” when they are paying these user fees. He stated he wants to make sure that anything else that comes in will be economically viable and will help fund things outside of their own core event.

Mr. Fritchey asked about the length and width of the “bubble.” Mr. Bhattacharya stated there would be six courts with spaces between the courts; and he stated he estimates it would be 300’ by 120’.

Mr. Simon asked if they are considering this for the Snipes Tract; and Mr. Gordon stated they have not discussed any tract, and this is just a preliminary discussion. Mr. Simon stated those in the room are very knowledgeable about the Park & Rec system, and he questions where they would put “two football fields” worth of tennis courts. Mr. Gordon stated they have not discussed a site. He stated they wanted to see if there was interest by the Park Board and the Board of Supervisors on doing more research into this.

Ms. Tyler stated there are a lot of questions, and they need to consider the rent to be paid for the three acres of land and a long-term lease with the Township and what open court time would be provided to the residents. Ms. Tyler asked what open court time do the residents in West Windsor receive. He stated in West Windsor they pay rent to West Windsor but it is a private undertaking and not with the Township although they do collaborate on Township events. He stated they would be willing to discuss financials with Lower Makefield and consider rent, a profit share, or both. He stated a benefit is having the ability to play all year. He reviewed the programs that take place at West Windsor.

Mr. Fritchey asked how they focused in on Lower Makefield Township, and he asked if they did marketing studies. He stated they saw that there was a gap in the area for the type of service that they provide.

Mr. Newbon stated he feels this warrants some additional consideration since it will relieve the Township from spending some money on future tennis courts and maintenance of those courts. He stated it will also bring in what seems to be a first-class tennis operation to Lower Makefield which they do not have today. He stated he also feels it will focus in on those who want to pay for this versus everyone in the Township having to pay for it.

Mr. Gordon asked if the Township is not interested in the Lease concept, would they still look into possibly buying three acres of land in the Township and doing the concept privately; and Mr. Bhattacharya stated they would.

Ms. Tyler asked that they provide the Township with two proposals – the rent proposal and the profit-share proposal. She asked that they also include the specifications of what they need in terms of space. Mr. Gordon asked that they work through Ms. Liney on this, and she will make the information available to the Park Board and the Supervisors.

## PRESENTATION BY DOG PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Wysocki stated the objective tonight is to get the Park Board aligned if possible to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Wysocki stated the Dog Park Sub Committee has agreed that they want to provide a fenced-in Dog Park where dogs and citizens can enjoy each other's company and get some exercise in a clean, safe place. He stated they feel the Dog Park Sub Committee should have a role, still to be defined, in the operation of the Dog Park if it is built. He stated they also discussed getting together to do fundraising.

Mr. Fritchey stated the Board of Supervisors is very interested in moving forward on this project expeditiously. He stated they have also embarked on expanding the Special Events Committee, and are looking for members who are particularly interested in and adept at fundraising because they would like to have considerable citizen fundraising to contribute to the dog park since it is not budgeted for in the current Budget. He stated the feeling is that this project could be undertaken in 2016. Mr. Wysocki stated he does not feel the Dog Park Sub Committee is poised to jump into fundraising immediately. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels the thinking of the Board of Supervisors was that they would have people who are adept at fundraising do fundraising for a variety of projects, one of which would be the Dog Park. He stated they would be interested in having the Dog Park Sub Committee have a viable plan that could be executed; and if they are interested in participating in fundraising, they would welcome that.

Mr. Wysocki stated the Dog Park Sub Committee reviewed a lot of the park land, and they did a pro/con analysis which was reviewed at a prior meeting. He stated they narrowed it down to three sites which in order of priority are – Heacock Road, Snipes, and Oxford Valley Road at the Railroad. Mr. Wysocki stated the estimated cost range is from \$150,000 to \$260,000 for a Dog Park modeled after Doylestown.

Mr. Wysocki stated they contemplate three areas at the Park – an area for large dogs thirty pounds or greater, an area for small dogs which would be adjacent adding they would share a double-gated entrance, and a third area that is used for rotation. He stated the rotation area gives the other areas a chance to recover. Mr. Wysocki stated all the areas would be fenced. He stated users would have to register and pay a user fee to have access to the Park. He stated they have recommended that for the first year it was suggested that the fee be \$35 to \$50. He stated Core Creek charges \$35 and Doylestown charges \$50. Mr. Wysocki stated non-residents would pay a higher rate of \$60 to \$75. He stated they recommended that those who register be permitted to bring in two dogs into the Park under the one registration. He stated there would be an extra fee for additional dogs. They have also made provisions for a replacement fee if you lose your card. He stated these funds

would make up the revenue source for maintaining the Park. Mr. Wysocki stated what they were looking for in terms of a permanent rate was \$50 for a resident and \$75 for non-residents. He stated they would have to explore if they could use the same system that the Pool does for registration, and use it in the off-season (September through December) so that would be the Dog Park registration period.

Ms. Tyler asked Ms. Liney if she felt this would work, and Ms. Liney stated she feels that it might.

Mr. Wysocki stated also in the information packet he provided is reference data from Doylestown. He stated he understands that Doylestown Dog Park is used by both Doylestown Township and Doylestown Borough, and collectively they have 26,000 residents. He stated Lower Makefield is larger so you might expect to have slightly operating expenses, but you would also expect to have slightly higher revenue.

Mr. Newbon asked the age of the Dog Park in Doylestown since figures are given only for 2014/2015; and Ms. Liney stated while it is relatively new, she believes it is older than two years. Mr. Newbon stated it appears they had a 10% increase from 2014 to 2015.

Mr. Wysocki stated Doylestown operating costs do not include their maintenance workers. Mr. Wysocki stated Core Creek is larger, and their membership is three times larger in terms of membership. Their fee is \$35 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. He stated Core Creek estimates their operating costs annual of \$28,500.

Mr. Wysocki noted the proposed Rules and Regulations on the last page of the packet. He stated they looked at the various Parks, and selected these items which they felt were relevant. He stated the rules dictate how people should behave in the Park, access to the Park, etc.

Mr. Krauss asked about operating hours, and Mr. Wysocki stated it would be dawn to dusk. Mr. Krauss asked if the system would not allow you in other times, or is that an honor system. Mr. Wysocki stated while they do not have the system picked out yet, he feels you could probably find a system that would limit access to those times if that is what they wanted, or they could rely on the honor system. Mr. Krauss asked if there would be security cameras, and Mr. Gordon stated he feels they should look into having a camera there. Mr. Krauss asked about the size; and Mr. Wysocki stated the large dog area would be approximately an acre and a half, a half acre for the small dogs, and another acre for the rotational area plus the peripheral area for parking etc. Mr. Krauss stated they have proposed twenty-two parking spaces. Mr. Wysocki stated they feel they would need four acres total.

Mr. Fritchey asked if all three sites that have been identified have four acres. Mr. Wysocki stated the preferred site at Heacock fits in perfectly. Ms. Tyler asked if they have access to that site, and Mr. Wysocki stated they do.

Mr. Jason Simon stated he feels this is very costly for what seems like fenced-in open space. He asked if there is liability with this if the Township creates it and all these dogs are brought into this one place. Mr. Wysocki stated they would review this with the Township solicitor. He assumes that they would have included in the rules that you are using the Park at your own risk. He stated he assumes if someone were bit, the liability would be with the owner of the dog. Mr. Simon stated he feels the Township is creating a place for people to bring their dogs, and people are paying to use it. Mr. Simon stated he understands that it could cost over \$200,000 to create this, and Mr. Wysocki stated the cost would depend on the site. He stated it is estimated to be \$150,000 for the Heacock site and \$260,000 for Oxford Valley. Mr. Krauss stated as with the tennis courts, it appears that fencing is a significant cost. It was stated that there is special fencing for the Dog Park since it has to be sealed at the bottom below grade level so the dogs cannot dig out, and this raises the cost of the fencing. Mr. Wysocki stated the engineers have gone through the numbers a few times. He stated the earlier estimates were \$300,000; and through refining, they got to approximately \$150,000. He stated the fencing is approximately 60% of the total cost. The height of the fence is approximately five to six feet high so that the larger dogs cannot jump the fence.

Mr. Zachary Rubin, 1661 Covington Road, stated he is Vice President of the Makefield Glen Homeowners Association with 848 homes; and he believes that they have the largest concentration of dog owners in the Township. He stated their development is next to the Heacock site so their residents would be effected more than any other development. Mr. Rubin stated he has talked to number of people in their development as well as the Management Company for Makefield Glen and they are for the development of the Dog Park at Heacock because there are a lot of dog owners in their development, and they would use it. He stated residents of their development have come to their Homeowners Association meetings asking for the Association to establish a Dog Park. He stated he believes their community would support the Heacock location.

Mr. O'Hara stated he assumes it is the soccer location, they are discussing; and he asked if they plan to provide a soccer field in a different location. Ms. Tyler stated it was not, but there should be. Mr. Wysocki stated this was not part of the Dog Park Sub Committee's job to look into that; but he feels there are other spaces in the Township that have been earmarked for soccer growth, and he feels that should be considered. Mr. O'Hara stated YMS was in support of the Heacock location for the

Dog Park. Mr. Gordon asked Mr. O'Hara what YMS uses Heacock for now, and Mr. O'Hara stated they used it in the fall and spring for 9 to 11 girls practicing during the week and games on the weekend.

It was asked if the Township needs to get permission from the Homeowners Association to use the parking lot at the Heacock site. Ms. Liney stated they had the engineer check this. Mr. Rubin stated the overflow parking goes on Spruce Mill property when there are games, and this is a concern. He stated the access is from Covington which is a public road to the soccer field, but the issue is parking which is a concern that should be addressed. Mr. Gordon asked Mr. O'Hara if he could estimate the cars when there is a soccer game going on, and Mr. O'Hara estimated it to be twenty to twenty-five. Mr. Wysocki stated the engineer did consider parking for a Dog Park of this size, and twenty-two spaces was what they incorporated into all of the designs. Mr. Wysocki stated the gravel area at Heacock now would accommodate that. Mr. Gordon stated he feels when it is new, there may be excess usage; but once it settles in, he feels the twenty-two spaces will be more than sufficient. Mr. Krauss stated if there were twenty-two cars with everyone bringing in two dogs, that would be forty-four dogs and twenty-two people; and he asked if the size proposed for the Dog Park would be sufficient. It was noted that there is a lot of turn-over at a Dog Park. Mr. Wysocki stated he has been at Core Creek in the past, and he has never seen it where there were ever more than twenty cars at one time, and there were people and going.

Mr. Wysocki reviewed how the double gate system works.

Ms. Wendy Simon asked stated she feels a half acre is not sufficient for the small dogs. She asked if they could have an acre since a lot of people have small dogs. Mr. Wysocki stated they used the experiences of the communities that have Dog Parks already, and a half acre is what they allot for small dogs; and it seems to work. Ms. Simon stated what she has seen at most dog parks is there are just two areas - one for small dogs and one for large dogs; however, the Dog Parks she was familiar with did not have grass. Ms. Simon stated they are utilizing one acre just in case they need it, and there are many times that area will be sitting there and not being utilized. Mr. Wysocki stated if there was a problem, they could consider converting the transitional area into the small dog area and use the half acre for the transitional area adding that most facilities have as standard what they are proposing. Ms. Simon stated she is very involved with dogs and cats in the community, and there are a lot of dog owners and she feels they should have a larger lot for an area that will be used every day. Mr. Wysocki stated he feels the concept of having a third area made a lot of sense to people to let the other areas recover so that they remain in good shape, but there could be more discussion as to how the entire area is divided. It was noted that there could times when the transitional area is actually for the small dogs so they would have an acres. Mr. Wysocki stated what they have

proposed seems to be the model that works. He stated if what they do seems to be impractical, they could always change it so that the acre could be used by the small dogs if it were overpopulated. It was stated that one of the reasons why the acreage may work is that they are using a very small number for the large dogs since thirty pounds is not a lot for a dog. He stated people could consider a beagle a small dog, but a beagle could be thirty pounds. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels all of the areas are adjustable and they could make different distinctions as to what is considered a big dog and a small dog, and this fine tuning could be accommodated.

Mr. Fritchey stated the Board of Supervisors is interested in moving forward on this project expeditiously. He stated he feels they should tighten up the lay-out, rules/regulations, membership structure, etc. fairly quickly; and Mr. Wysocki stated he feels they have it at that point now. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels the next step is to have a public hearing in the next few weeks at which all three proposals would be vetted, and members of the public could come and make comments. He stated a proposal should then be submitted to the Board of Supervisors to take action probably by April. Mr. Wysocki asked Mr. Fritchey if the public hearing would be the responsibility of the Park & Rec Board or the Supervisors, and Mr. Fritchey stated he always had a hearing before the Park & Rec Board first because he felt that was valuable since people would come in and make excellent points. Mr. Fritchey stated they could have a special meeting about this so that people wanting to talk about this, may not want to wait for all the items on a regular Agenda. Mr. Wysocki asked if they could not use tonight's meeting as the public meeting; however, Mr. Fritchey stated they were not notified and it should be on the Government Access Channel so that the public knows about the three sites for this project. He stated they may also want to advertise in the newspaper.

Mr. Jason Simon stated he is in support of this, and he and Mr. O'Hara have had discussions about the Heacock tract. Mr. Simon stated he feels there should be a discussion about YMS being displaced at Heacock. He stated they should also address the lighting issue at the ball fields that would open up field space for YMS that is currently occupied by PAA at Macclesfield. He stated if they move quickly forward on a Dog Park at Heacock, there is a trickle-down effect on YMS; and this should all be considered as one project. He stated in the desire to get the Dog Park built, he would not want to see YMS get displaced from an active field that they depend on with just the promise of "figuring it out," which could cause a negative impact to PAA as well. Mr. Gordon stated this would not have an impact this spring, and they will work together on this. Mr. Simon stated there are other items that they have discussed with the Park Board that they are trying to get information on so that they can move multiple things at one time and satisfy all the different constituents, and rather than piecemeal it together, this is an opportunity to move expeditiously on all of the projects.

Mr. Wysocki stated if Heacock is the preferred site, there is the impact Mr. Simon is discussing; however, if it is one of the other two sites, they do not have that effect.

Mr. Newbon stated he understood that Mr. O'Hara indicated previously that he was okay with giving up the space at Heacock. Mr. O'Hara stated he is in support of putting the Dog Park at the Heacock location based on all the proposals and the logistics, but he also went on Record to state that they do have a need; and if they take away the use of Heacock, they will need to replace that space. It was stated that Heacock is \$50,000 less than the next option; and if that option is chosen, there would be \$50,000 more for something else.

Mr. Simon stated they need to start thinking creatively about how they can satisfy all the constituents so that they can build a Dog Park, help YMS, and help PAA. He stated he feels Heacock becomes a trigger point for other conversations.

Mr. Gordon stated they need to schedule a meeting on the Dog Park, and Ms. Liney stated she could e-mail everyone tomorrow after checking availability. She stated they can then advertise it on the Township Channel and put it in the newspaper. Ms. Liney stated they have had Sub Committee meetings which were advertised on Cable so she is not sure if that would count as public notice or not although they did not identify a site. Mr. Fritchey stated historically when the Park & Rec Board was getting to a point that a project was fairly concrete, they made it a point to have people an opportunity to speak. He stated there may be people who live in the vicinity of the Snipes Tract who may indicated that they really want it at that location. He stated there also may be others who want it at the Oxford Valley Road location.

#### DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT

Ms. Judy Stern-Goldstein, Boucher & James, was present to discuss potential projects for the DCNR (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) Grant. She stated she has been involved with this Grant Program since 1992. She stated they are 50/50 Match Grants; and for the current Grant, Applications are due April 13. She stated announcements could come as early as October although it could come later.

Mr. Wysocki asked what the Grants can be used for, and Ms. Goldstein stated they can be used for acquisition, development or re-development of existing Parks, or planning, and some other items. She stated the funding is from various sources, and they would need to pick a project that they want to do as

soon as possible so that they can get the local DCNR rep out to the site to look at the project. She stated the Grant is tied to a number of points, and she provided information on the point system including letters of support.

Ms. Goldstein stated she met with Ms. Liney and Mr. Fedorchak, and they came up with four potential projects for consideration each with pros and cons. She stated one would be the Dog Park adding Dog Parks are currently a “hot item” for DCNR. Ms. Goldstein stated Dog Parks serve a diverse population and this can result in a lot of points for a Grant.

Ms. Goldstein stated the Board of Supervisors would have to pass a Resolution not only to authorize the submission of the Grant Application but also to acknowledge that they have the matching funds available for that Budget year. Ms. Goldstein stated they would need to determine the final project cost, and show that they can pay for half of that cost. She stated if the Township determines that the cost will be \$200,000, DCNR may agree to a cost of \$150,000 which would mean that the match would be half of the \$150,000; and the Township would have to come up with the rest of the funds on their own. Ms. Goldstein stated they tend to fund projects up to \$500,000. Mr. Fritchey asked about the time frame for coming up with the match. Ms. Goldstein stated those who submitted their paper last April were just announced in January. She stated their paperwork then must be finished in a month or two, and the clock starts then; and you have two years. She stated DCNR holds back 10% of the final amount until after they do their inspection of the construction job. She stated if it is a planning project, they hold back the 10% until after DCNR approves it. Mr. Krauss asked about land, and Ms. Goldstein stated land acquisition would be a separate project. She stated acquisition could not be retroactive, and acquisition would have to be after the date of the award.

Mr. Fritchey asked if the fact that they are considering having community fundraising events impact the ability to get a Grant, and Ms. Goldstein stated they could hold off on some of the amenities at the Dog Park such as water fountains, etc. that are not essential and fundraise for them separately. She stated everything that would be part of the project would be subject to a public bid.

Ms. Goldstein stated another project considered was a trail connecting the Fred Allan Softball Complex to Samost and Stoddard and the Township Complex. She stated this would connect all the various Park elements and the community services, and this is an attractive option. She stated they would need to have a Concept Plan at the time of the Grant Application as well as the detailed engineering and construction, and this could all be included in the Grant. She stated this would be considered a multi-generational use as well.

Ms. Goldstein stated this path would have to meet ADA standards, and she added DCNR favors eight to ten foot wide paved paths. Mr. Gordon asked about crossing Edgewood Road, and Ms. Goldstein stated they would have pedestrian-activated crossings.

Ms. Goldstein stated another option is the Snipes Tract and this would include analyzing the community needs to see what needs are and are not being served. Mr. Wysocki stated they already have a Master Plan for the Snipes Tract; and Mr. Fritchey stated he believes that this was adopted by the Board of Supervisors about ten years ago, but was not executed.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels the cost of this project would be substantial, and Mr. Fritchey estimated it could be \$1.5 million to \$2 million. Ms. Goldstein stated she feels the Grant project would be for the development of a plan and not for construction. She stated this could run \$30,000 to \$50,000 depending on the project. She stated she was under the impression that the Plans she saw for Snipes were not current. Mr. Fritchey stated they will have to review the Minutes since he felt it was approved by the Board.

Ms. Goldstein stated they may not want to select that project. Mr. Malinowski stated if they are going to take a soccer field away to do the Dog Park, and they might want to put a soccer field at Snipes, they would not be able to do it until this Plan is done which could be two years from now. Ms. Liney stated the Plan they have is an older Plan, and they have heard that people think it would be better to locate football and lacrosse at Snipes and turn all of Macclesfield over for soccer play. She stated the football program is in favor of this; and she understands that lacrosse is looking to come back to the Township, and they would do it if they had multiple fields.

Mr. O'Hara stated he has been in contact with those involved with football and lacrosse; and they agree that if the Snipes Tract were developed into two football fields, they would re-locate and enable YMS to utilize the two existing football fields. Mr. Fritchey stated this would involve leveling areas at Snipes, and Ms. Liney stated this could be done. Ms. Goldstein stated this could be done a lot easier than going through a Master Plan process since that would be a long and arduous process with the DCNR Grant.

Mr. Newbon asked Mr. O'Hara if this would address the issue of the Dog Park taking away the soccer field, and Mr. O'Hara stated it would. Mr. O'Hara also reminded the Board of the changes coming up with U.S. Soccer that he has discussed previously with the Board and the need for more fields.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels Snipes would be expensive as turning that into a field with parking would be a seven figure project. Mr. O'Hara stated that is why he and Mr. Simon were present at the last meeting proposing a much easier, and much less expensive option. He stated YMS was in support of the Dog Park at Heacock because it would be less expensive than creating a Dog Park at other locations, and hopefully this would create an environment that would also help YMS and PAA.

Ms. Goldstein stated the final option would be the completion of Memorial Park. Mr. Gordon asked what this would include, and Ms. Goldstein stated it would involve tennis court, sand volleyball, a cinder track/trail, pavilion, parking, and a pond. She stated this would be for the detailed engineering, plans, and specs, and go through the Permitting, and then construction. She stated this would be more detailed Permitting, etc. than the Dog Park. She feels the Memorial Park would be the most challenging since they need a detailed design since at this point they only have a conceptual plan. She stated it would be challenging to get something together for this option for this Grant round.

Ms. Goldstein stated in order to do something for this Grant round, she would need to have direction before the end of next week. Mr. Wysocki stated he feels the Dog Park would be the perfect use for the money. Ms. Goldstein stated the one major drawback would be that it could not be built until 2017 and could not be built in 2016. Mr. Wysocki stated another drawback is that the process has to unfold which would be a public hearing and a recommendation from the Park & Rec Board to the Supervisors. He stated he questions how all of this could happen before April. Mr. Fritchey asked when this has to be submitted, and Ms. Goldstein stated it is due electronically by 4 p.m. on April 13; but since their Website generally goes down the day they are due, she would recommend putting it in two days before. She also recommended that it be submitted by the Township and not her office as that gives more points.

Ms. Liney stated the public hearing would have to be held by the Park & Rec Board by this Wednesday. Ms. Goldstein stated the Board of Supervisors would have to consider this on Wednesday, March 2, although in theory they could wait until March 16 to do the Resolution; although she would need direction well before then to proceed, and she would hesitate to do that before she had direction from the Board. Ms. Goldstein stated waiting until April would be too late as she would not have time to get a field rep from DCNR out there since by this time, they are usually indicating their schedule is too full. Ms. Liney stated the individual who would be involved is coming to the area on February 29 so that is the date that Ms. Goldstein was targeting to have him look at whatever project they were considering.

Mr. Gordon asked when they would find out if they were going to get the Grant, and Ms. Goldstein stated it could be any time before October, 2016 and February, 2017.

Mr. O'Hara asked if the Grants require use of prevailing wage for the construction, and Ms. Goldstein stated they would. Mr. O'Hara asked if the estimates used prevailing wage; and Ms. Liney stated they were prepared by the engineer so she assumes they were. Mr. Gordon stated he believes that they were. It was stated that Doylestown's was done with volunteer labor, and a lot of the fencing was donated.

Mr. Wysocki stated he feels there is an opportunity to take advantage of this Grant, and he feels it would be senseless not to take advantage of it for something.

Mr. Gordon stated this would mean pushing off the Dog Park to the spring of 2017, but they are not certain they could get it done in the fall of 2016 anyway.

Mr. Fritchey stated assuming they decide they are going to do the Dog Park, they would do it whether they got the Grant or not so they could start doing things.

Ms. Goldstein stated if they are going to use the Grant for the construction of the Dog Park, they could not start any activities for which they would be going for reimbursement for from the Grant. She stated this summer, they could proceed with the design/development and Permits so that they are in hand when they are ready.

Mr. Wysocki asked if it would be possible to switch the location for the Dog Park before the Grant was issued if it was approved at the Heacock location, and

Ms. Goldstein stated she is not sure they would approve of a different site once it was approved although they could discuss this with the representative when they come to Heacock for the site visit.

Ms. Liney stated the public input could be held at the March meeting even though they would have identified Heacock to the DCNR before the March meeting.

Ms. Liney stated Mr. Fedorchak wanted a recommendation from the Park Board to the Board of Supervisors as to what project they should do.

Mr. Malinowski moved, Mr. McNamara seconded and it was unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they apply for a Grant for a Dog Park at the Heacock site.

Mr. Wysocki stated as they proceed with the public hearing for the Dog Park, he also feels they should have a public hearing about the plan for the facility

enhancements that involve lights across the street. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels this is a separate issue and would involve separate groups of people coming in.

Mr. Newbon stated he feels they are tied together since they are going to take away a soccer field for the Dog Park. Mr. Simon stated if they were to have lights,

PAA would completely abandon Mac H all the time, and this would free up that space for YMS. Mr. McNamara asked about football at Mac H, and Mr. O'Hara stated YMS would still be all right.

Ms. Liney asked if the financing of the lights across the street has been worked out. Ms. Goldstein was asked if lights could be part of a Grant; but Ms. Goldstein stated she did not feel lights in and of themselves would be funded. Mr. Fritchey asked if they know how much the lights would be since the last time lights were done he felt they were approximately \$150,000 some years ago. Mr. Simon stated this is why he does not want them to move forward with this piece they are recommending because he feels it is tied together with the lights. He stated if they get agreement on Heacock for the Dog Park, and YMS does not get a replacement, there is a trickle-down effect. He stated both PAA and YMS support the Dog Park at Heacock; but they also want to make sure that as that displacement takes place, that the rest of the opportunity is explored. He stated they have not yet had a chance to consider all of this.

Mr. Malinowski asked who was going to come back with a light quote, and Mr. Simon stated the Township is responsible for doing that; and they did select a permanent engineer two weeks ago, and he felt they were waiting for Boucher & James to get confirmed. He stated Boucher & James were under the direction of Mr. Fedorchak to do the primary research on that.

Mr. Wysocki stated the cost of the lights is different from the concept of lights. Mr. Fritchey stated the first issue is the concept of lights, and this has always been a controversial issue in the Township which he feels is a huge hurdle to get over before they get into the issue of how much they will cost and who will pay for them. Mr. Fritchey stated he does not feel they will be able to link everything into one package. He stated he feels they will have to have public hearings on the lights, and there is the possibility that there will be substantial opposition. He stated he feels the Board of Supervisors are enthusiastic about proceeding with the Dog Park done in "real time." He stated to the extent that they link all of these things as a package could result in nothing getting done.

Mr. Simon stated at the last Park & Rec meeting there was unanimous agreement by the Park & Recreation Board to pursue the cost of lights and to put this project in motion. Mr. Simon stated he gave an extensive presentation on the new light technology available that will probably offset some of the concerns related to light overflowing in the neighborhoods. Mr. Simon stated he is concerned that they have talked about this and now it will come apart because former Supervisor Smith wanted to make an issue out of building a Dog Park and creating momentum in the last six months. Mr. Simon stated there are major user groups who are funding the Township through user fees, and now they are being told they are going to

uncouple this and put the user groups projects on the “back burner.” Mr. Simon stated Mr. O’Hara has a real problem since the soccer rules are being vastly changed with regard to field sizes, and YMS does not have the space to accommodate these changes. Mr. Simon stated when he was a Supervisor, they were going to build out Snipes, but it got reversed and they did not do it. Mr. Simon stated they did not come to the Park Board a month and a half ago asking that they build out Snipes completely, rather they asked that they transfer existing inventory so that everyone can be accommodated and get their games and practices in. Mr. Simon stated before they bring the Dog Park into public view, they should have everything decided so that they do not pass these problems along.

Mr. McNamara stated if they do not move forward by next Wednesday, they potentially lose the Grant opportunity; and Ms. Goldstein stated they would lose the opportunity for this year. Ms. Goldstein stated from March 13 to the March 16 she is at a Conference; and while people at her office could do work on this, the DCNR is also at that Conference so none of them would be available to do the site meetings or anything else which is why the timing is critical.

Mr. Newbon stated he recognizes the concerns for YMS since the regulations are changing regarding fields, and they will be taking away Heacock for the Dog Park which creates even more of a challenge. He stated they also understand that the use of Field H would solve problems for YMS. He suggested that they go forward with the Dog Park keeping in mind that they will work in conjunction with both PAA and YMS to try to go forward with the lights across the street. He stated PAA and YMS needs to understand they have a very small window to get approximately \$75,000 to help build the Park. He stated in the event that they cannot get the lights across the street, they could withdraw the Application. Ms. Goldstein stated they could also accept it but not do it in the first year and defer construction to the next year.

Mr. McNamara asked about the use of Memorial Park; and Mr. O’Hara stated currently Memorial Park is not a Permitted Park, and it is for passive recreation. Mr. Wysocki stated he also feels Memorial Park would need grading and re-surfacing since it would not be suitable for today’s quality of soccer play.

Mr. Newbon asked Mr. O’Hara to respond to his comments about proceeding with the Dog Park and the issue of lights and the fields. Mr. O’Hara stated he feels they are moving ahead with the Dog Park but there does not seem to be a plan to replace the Heacock field for YMS. Mr. Wysocki stated he had indicated that this was not part of the Dog Park Committee’s responsibility. Mr. O’Hara stated his interpretation of that was that there was no plan for replacement of that field which he was surprised to hear, and he is uncomfortable with this. He stated he understands that

they have a small window to apply for the Grant and that Heacock would be a great location for the Dog Park, but he does not get the feeling that they understand that he needs fields.

Mr. Gordon stated they do understand this, and everyone is on record about supporting the lights as well. Mr. Newbon stated they also learned from Mr. Simon's presentation about light technology today that there is not as much impact from lights, and this would make it more palatable to those who might have been opposed to the lights.

Mr. Simon stated he was very comfortable with the discussions they had at the last Park Board meeting, but now he feels differently. Mr. Newbon stated the opportunity they are proceeding on with regard to the Grant does not mean that the Park & Recreation Board will not work with them on the replacement of the Heacock field. Mr. Simon stated they do support Heacock, but the problems will not go away even if they get the Grant; and they need to consider everything and not just the Grant.

Mr. Gordon stated they are waiting for information with regard to the cost of the lights which Mr. Simon has indicated is being work on. Mr. Simon stated he is not sure now that this is being done, and he asked Ms. Liney who indicated she would have to check with Mr. Fedorchak on that. Mr. Gordon stated the other question is who will pay for the lights since he felt the idea at one point was that YMS was going to pay for the lights, but then that was not as clear at the last meeting. He felt there was going to be a quid-pro-quo that baseball would give up Field H and YMS would pay for the lights at Caiola. Mr. Malinowski stated he felt they were going to help pay for the lights, and Mr. O'Hara agreed that they would help pay for them although they would not pay entirely for the lights. Mr. Gordon stated the Township would have to come up with the difference.

Mr. Simon stated these conversations are extremely "frustrating," and they are talking about the two largest user groups that generate significant amount of user fee revenue to the community and enhance the Park & Rec systems. They stated these are investments in the community that make the community more valuable. Mr. Simon stated there are opportunities for them to consider financing; and while he appreciates YMS's offer, they are community groups who operate "small businesses" unsupported by the Township for the most part although not completely unsupported. He stated the investment of lights opens up Macclesfield significantly, and what they are asking for is not arbitrary.

Mr. Gordon stated everyone supports that concept; but until they get an idea of the cost, they cannot proceed. Mr. Simon stated Mr. Fritchey just indicated he would support a \$150,000 to \$200,000 Dog Park in front of their project. He stated that is an expensive venture where there are two "giant" user groups that have hundreds of thousands of families involved which is being put behind a Dog Park that they are going to find a budget for. Mr. Simon asked if there is a budget for the Dog Park, and Mr. Fritchey stated there is not. Mr. Simon stated Mr. Fritchey just indicated that they were going to move expeditiously on the Dog Park this year, and Mr. Fritchey stated the Board of Supervisors would like to move forward on it.

Ms. Wendy Simon asked about the funding adding that even if they get the Grant, they need to have matching funds. Mr. Fritchey stated there is going to be a community fundraising effort. Ms. Simon stated she feels it will take a long time to fund raise that kind of money. She asked if the Board is allocating any tax dollars to the Dog Park, and Mr. Fritchey stated that has not been determined yet.

Mr. Malinowski stated he does not feel they could have the Dog Park until 2017. Ms. Simon asked if next year's Budget would have a line item for the Dog Park, and Mr. Fritchey stated there may be funds moved around in the Budget from other Park & Recreation things for it although he is not sure.

Mr. Simon stated he is suggesting that they are going to have a problem with the public on an idea that was born on Facebook to build a Dog Park from people who will now see a six figure cost to build a Dog Park, and there are going to be user groups who will find themselves standing behind a Dog Park even though they are contributing to the Budget. He stated if they go down the Dog Park path tonight and set up this public hearing as they are suggesting without the rest of the "dominoes" in place behind it, the Dog Park will not get built. Mr. Simon stated they are moving too fast on this, and there are other components involved.

Mr. Newbon stated they have an opportunity to get \$75,000 that would help pay for half of the Dog Park, and that is what they are trying to gain. Ms. Wendy Simon stated they are not telling when they will get the other \$75,000. It was noted the Park would not get built until 2017.

Mr. Simon stated Mr. O'Hara's soccer field problems would start in the fall of 2016, and Mr. Gordon stated it would not at this pace. He stated there would be no building of the Dog Park in 2016. Mr. Simon stated Mr. O'Hara still has a problem starting in the fall. Mr. Gordon stated the biggest issue is determining who is going to pay for the lights. Mr. Newbon asked if they have any idea how much the lights would cost, and Mr. O'Hara stated it is \$50,000 to \$60,000 a light.

Ms. Goldstein stated they usually estimate it costs between \$150,000 to \$175,000 to light a baseball field. Mr. Gordon stated they want to light the two new fields, and Mr. Simon agreed. Mr. Newbon stated if they are saving \$75,000 for the Dog Park if they get the Grant, this would be half of the lights for one field. Mr. Gordon asked what Mr. O'Hara was considering in terms of a YMS contribution, and Mr. O'Hara stated it was nowhere near \$75,000.

Mr. Simon asked if this Grant opportunity was public knowledge before this evening, and Mr. Newbon stated this is the first time they heard about it. Mr. Simon asked when Boucher & James knew about this Grant opportunity, and Ms. Goldstein stated she knew about the Grant in November; but they did not identify it as project for Lower Makefield until they met with Lower Makefield since it is a 50% matching Grant. She stated they advise all of their Municipalities of the Grants each year and some apply for them and some do not. She stated the discussion with Lower Makefield happened on Tuesday a week ago, and Boucher & James had just been appointed as Township engineer. Mr. Simon asked if anyone at Lower Makefield knew about these Grants before they met with the Township on Tuesday, and Ms. Goldstein stated they sent their information out to the Townships. Ms. Liney stated Mr. Fedorchak forwarded it to her a week ago, she called Ms. Goldstein the same day, and they met the next day.

Mr. Gordon stated the Motion has been approved. He stated the Park & Rec Board fully supports YMS and PAA and the concept of lights.

Mr. Newbon asked if they should also not have something on the docket to speak about the lights, and Mr. Gordon suggested that they consider this later after the rest of the reports are given this evening.

#### RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Liney stated a formal ribbon cutting ceremony for the two new fields at the Caiola baseball complex is planned for Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> following the PAA Opening Day celebration that day, starting at 9 AM. All Park Board members are welcome.

Ms. Liney stated the Park crew will begin field preparations as soon as the ground permits. The fields must first thaw from the winter freeze and then harden sufficiently to allow access without rutting. Permits will be issued the end of the month as they are still awaiting paperwork from some of the users.

Ms. Liney stated Carr & Duff has been scheduled for light bulb replacement and repairs at Macclesfield next week. Lights that can be reached from the parking lot will be done first; and when the ground hardens, the lights from the field side will be completed. Ms. Liney stated they anticipate approximately twenty-five lights will be replaced on Fields A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H during the annual maintenance startup.

Ms. Liney stated registration for the Community Pool at the early discount rate of \$395 for resident families is underway. The discount period will end March 4<sup>th</sup>, at which time the regular family rate of \$440 for the season will be in effect. Ms. Liney stated Associate families and individuals who are not Lower Makefield Township residents are not eligible for the discount rate, August membership, or Senior limited memberships. The Pool will advertise for memberships with a front page ad on the Courier Times paper Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> after the end of the discount period.

#### LEAGUE LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. O'Hara thanked Mr. Fritchey for all his hard work over the years he has been involved with the Park & Recreation Board.

Mr. Simon stated PAA will be holding coaches meetings and parents nights in March. There are enrollment increases in both boy and girl programs. There will be a Memorial Day Softball Tournament hosted by PAA. Mr. Simon stated PAA has also put a bid in to host States this year. PAA would like assistance from the Township in promoting and educating residents on the good things PAA and YMS are doing in the community. Mr. Simon stated PAA would like the residents to be educated that the user fees pay for the maintenance in the Park system.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Newbon, Secretary