

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
DISABLED PERSONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016**

A meeting of the Disabled Persons Advisory Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, April 6, 2016. Chairperson Huchler-Smith opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Those present:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Lisa Huchler-Smith, Chairperson
David Rogers, Vice-Chairperson
Megan Dorko, Secretary
Trish O'Donnell, member (absent)
Barbara Williams, member (absent)
Jeff Benedetto, Supervisor Liaison
(attending Supervisors meeting)

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 2016 MINUTES

Ms. Huchler-Smith moved, Ms. Dorko seconded, and the February 2016 minutes were unanimously approved.

REAPPOINTMENTS

The Township has approved Ms. O'Donnell for two more years of service on the DPAB.

LETTER FROM COUNTY

Ms. Huchler-Smith recently received a letter from the Public Health Preparedness Program requesting that the DPAB partner with them to provide training for emergency situations. Since this is more of a matter for emergency management, the opportunity has been turned over to them. Ms. Huchler-Smith will write a letter to the Public Health Preparedness Program to thank them for their interest.

DOG PARK

A location has finally been chosen for the Lower Makefield dog park. The park will be located on Heacock Road near Makefield Glen.

HELPING HANDS

A new program has been put into place for citizens who may need help with snow removal during the winter months. Helping Hands is a volunteer-based organization currently headed by Chief Coluzzi of the LMT police department. In future, another officer will be chosen to lead the group, and the DPAB will work with that officer to provide any support that may be needed.

GOLF COURSE HANDICAPPED PARKING IMPROVEMENTS

The cutout has been completed, but other improvements to handicapped parking will be postponed for warmer weather. Re-paving, as well as new parking signage is scheduled to be completed by mid May.

PLAYGROUND

Bench – To date, one bench has been donated to the Secret Garden inclusive playground. The Township has sent a thank you letter to the donor and the DPAB will do the same. It will be possible for the DPAB to do a fundraiser for an existing bench, but no other benches will be added until others are paid for via donations. The DPAB is currently considering a raffle to help raise funds for the existing bench.

Trees – An Eagle Scout will be planting the trees for the playground. A trellis may also be built and placed at the entrance.

TOWNSHIP HANDICAPPED PARKING SIGNAGE

Proper signage is now present at the new ball fields. However, the older ball fields still require proper signage regarding penalties. Veteran’s Memorial Park, Schyler Tennis Courts, and the LMT pool are all still in need of proper handicapped parking signs. Remaining township properties will be reviewed and a complete listing provided to appropriate township personnel.

SURVEY FOR SENIORS AND VETERANS

The DPAB reviewed a survey that had been previously developed to help determine the needs of disabled citizens in Lower Makefield Township. The Board has decided that it may revisit that survey (with a few minor updates) and post it to the DPAB Web page to gather information. The survey will also be available at any community events the DPAB chooses to attend.

COMMUNITY EVENTS SCHEDULE

Community Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 4th, 2016. Attendance of the DPAB is to be decided at a later date.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Chief Coluzzi has tested the emergency management system (PA Ready Notify) and it looks as if those individuals who signed up for the service will have their information show up in the system. However, those that sign up for the service MUST check “Lower Makefield Township” for LMT police and emergency services to receive proper information (specifically, information regarding a person’s disability). Ms. Huchler-Smith pointed out that this is an important feature that may be overlooked. She has designed a flier to address the issue, and will discuss the issue further at the next meeting.

BROCHURE

Copies of the updated DPAB brochure have been placed in the lobby of the Township building.

BUILDING PLANS/ZONING OFFICER

Lower Makefield Township is presently outsourcing its zoning duties to an outside organization, and the DPAB would like to establish a relationship with the current zoning officer. Mr. Rogers has taken on the responsibility of getting in touch with the officer.

OPEN BOARD POSITION

A position for an alternate member is currently open on the DPAB. The Township has received a resumé from one possible candidate.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Meeting Dates are currently as follows:

MEETING: June 1, 2016; August 3, 2016; September 7, 2016

NO MEETING: May 4, 2016; July 6, 2016; October 5, 2016

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The May meeting has been cancelled. The Board will meet again on June 1, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Dorko, Secretary