

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – JUNE 14, 2016

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on June 14, 2016. Mr. Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Gordon, Chair
 Patricia Bunn, Vice Chair (joined meeting in progress)
 Douglas Krauss, Member
 Bryan McNamara, Member (left meeting in progress)

Others: Donna Liney, Park & Recreation Director
 Barbara Kirk, Township Solicitor (left meeting in progress)
 David Fritchey, Supervisor Liaison

Absent: Andrew Newbon, Park & Rec Secretary
 David Malinowski, Park & Rec Member
 Dennis Wysocki, Park & Rec Member

CAMP/PROGRAM CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS – PRE-SCHOOL ENROLLEES

Mr. Gordon stated there are representatives present this evening on behalf of some of the user groups including Mr. Jason Simon, PAA, Mr. Dave Gerity, Lower Bucks Lacrosse, and Mr. Jim Dunne, Lower Makefield Football.

Ms. Kirk stated she is one of the attorneys from Hill Wallack and works with Mr. David Truelove, who is the Township solicitor. She stated she is also one of the attorneys for Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency so she is very familiar with these requirements under the new Law. She stated in July of 2015 our legislative body passed a very comprehensive Amendment to the Child Welfare Laws dealing with the requirements for employees dealing with children.

Ms. Bunn joined the meeting at this time.

Ms. Kirk stated one of the sweeping changes requires that any volunteer who has direct volunteer contact with a child, defined as an individual under the age of eighteen years, and that volunteer is responsible for either care, supervisor, guidance, or control of the child or has routine interaction with that child, must obtain a Child Abuse Clearance Report, a Pennsylvania State Criminal Record Check, and possibly an FBI Clearance Report if that volunteer individual has not lived in the State of Pennsylvania for ten years or more and has not signed an Affidavit to that effect. She stated these Clearance Reports are required every sixty months for volunteers. Ms. Kirk stated those reports are required to be obtained by the organization for the volunteer before the volunteer can work with children. She stated this is required not only for a licenses day care facility but for any type of activity or organization involving children that requires ongoing contact with a child. Ms. Kirk stated the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services maintains a Website that is very clear as to how you can obtain these different Certifications. She stated the Website's email address is wwwdhs.pa.gov and it will also provide general information as to different publications. Ms. Kirk stated failure to obtain these documents and reports before an adult individual has interaction with children can subject the organization/entity to sanctions. She stated the other thing that is important that most people do not realize is that this new Statute states that any individual paid or unpaid who has a regular, on-going contact with a child or who is responsible for a child's welfare, is now a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse. She stated you can no longer just rely on employees such as Teachers and Guidance Counselors, and volunteers who may overhear a child say something that could be abuse, becomes a mandated report; and this means that you have to report it to the Abuse Hotline, and failure to do that if learned by the governing bodies can result in potential criminal action. Ms. Kirk stated there are also State regulated training programs through that Website as to what a volunteer needs to know about when to report suspected child abuse. Ms. Kirk stated it is important that the organizations look into this as well.

Ms. Kirk stated because these individuals are in a volunteer capacity, the fee for the Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance Report and the fee for the Pennsylvania State History Report are waived; and they can be applied for directly on-line. She stated the Fee for the FBI Clearance Report is not waived if a volunteer is required to obtain that because they cannot sign the Affidavit of living in the State of Pennsylvania for ten years or more and not being charged with any sort of child abuse or any crime that is enumerated that relates to involvement with children.

Mr. Gordon noted that Mr. Sean O'Hara, YMS, joined the meeting when Ms. Kirk started speaking.

Mr. O'Hara stated they did know about the law changes last year, and they have implemented all the requirements Ms. Kirk referred to. He stated their Administrator collects all the background checks and validates that all the coaches have completed the background checks before they are issued an ID card.

Ms. Kirk asked if they just do this for individuals acting as coaches, and she asked if they have any other individuals who are not coaches that are involved in the program. Mr. O'Hara stated they do have other individuals involved who are not acting as coaches just as Board members who are involved in the Club heavily as well as other members who handle the fields and they are all also required to go through the background checks and also get ID cards as being part of the Club. Ms. Kirk stated she was going to recommend that even if you are not a Coach, any adult they have that is working with children, it is better to be safe and get the checks especially since there is no fee involved; and they should have them on file rather than run the risk of something happening.

Mr. Simon stated PAA implemented this in the spring for the season; and while they do not have the ID cards, they keep comprehensive lists. He stated they also screen everyone who is involved with the League whether they are coaching or not which includes the Board members, and the Snack Bar Managers.

Mr. Gordon asked if they provide any in-service education or include as part of the orientation information on the reporting requirements, and Mr. Simon stated they discuss this pretty intensively in their meetings leading into the season. He stated they have been doing background screenings for years, so it is just a matter of adjusting their process to accommodate the new requirements. He stated they have zero tolerance.

Mr. Fritchey asked about umpires and officials; and Mr. Simon stated they have a Contract with the umpiring service, and it is mandated in the Contractual Agreement that they are all screened and approved. Mr. Simon stated their youth umpires are not subject to the Law.

Ms. Kirk stated they might want to have the Contract adjusted to require that the umpire service provide a copy of the Clearance Reports. Mr. Simon stated there are different umpires at every game. He stated he feels as long as the service has a copy on file, they are very comfortable with that.

Mr. Dunne stated they have been doing background checks for years. He stated they have an individual in their group whose responsibility is to deal with that. He stated they recently have used a company that helps them with the background checks. He stated they anticipated the changes a number of years ago. He stated the only issue that they may have in their program which may be fixed has to do with the concession stands. He stated the concession managers are definitely part of the screening process, but they also have parents and older siblings help to run the concession stand; and he asked how the other groups deal with this. Ms. Kirk stated this new Statute keeps getting “tweaked;” but at this point if there is no specific exemption if there is an adult eighteen or older that is volunteering and has direct contact with children, they should have the clearances. Mr. Dunne expressed concern with the timing since he is not sure how he could get this done in time so he feels he should only have eighteen and younger to help them at the concessions, and Ms. Kirk stated that this would solve the issue. Ms. Kirk stated the only other option would be if they can get another group of adults who will be concession stand managers to fill in as needed. Mr. Dunne stated they charge a service fee; and to get the service fee back, you have to work the concession stand, and most people do which guarantees them help. Ms. Kirk stated if they had a core group of parents who are volunteers, they could support their Clearances at the beginning of the season; and if they need them, they could contact them. Mr. Dunne stated he probably have 150 to 200 people who work at the concession stand before the year is out.

Ms. Kirk stated the definition states, “routine interaction with children;” and Mr. Simon stated he does not feel that volunteer parents who are working at the concession stand for a two-hour shift is routine contact. He stated coaches who are with the players on a regular basis and oftentimes alone with players would be routine contact. Ms. Kirk stated she is not equipped at this point to say whether that is correct or not. Mr. Simon stated this law has been in place since July of last year, and they are only discussing it tonight. He stated in membership organizations like theirs with hundreds of families, it is time consuming and a burden on the administrators of the Leagues to execute this; and he feels the Leagues are using their best judgment in identifying what they feel the word “routine” means. He stated having volunteers in the snack bar is very different than a coach who will spend hundreds of hours with the children. Ms. Kirk stated while she is not necessarily disagreeing, she likes to err on the side of caution as opposed to trying to defend something that may happen. She stated she does not know if the organizations have a State-wide group that may be able to provide more guidance as to how this has been interpreted. She stated she feels it is easier to get the information up front rather than have a parent come back and indicate someone at the concession stand touched their child inappropriately.

Mr. Krauss stated he feels the bigger concern would be if you have someone under the age working at the snack bar with an adult which he feels would be a routine interaction. Mr. Dunne stated his plan to have those under eighteen working in the snack bar may then be a problem. Mr. Krauss stated if there is a child under eighteen working side by side with an adult in a confined area, that adult would definitely have to have the Clearances. Mr. Dunne noted that many of their volunteers are female.

Mr. McNamara stated if you volunteer at any of the Schools, you now have to have Clearances so the vast majority of people may have them already.

Ms. Bunn stated even if the volunteers are female, that does not mean that there could not be abuse since many recent inappropriate activities between minors and adults have been with female adults and minor boys. Ms. Kirk noted there is also physical abuse.

Mr. Kirk stated under the Law anyone who has the Certifications as part of employment can use them for volunteer positions as well. Ms. Bunn stated a volunteer can use their Certification for any volunteer position.

Mr. Krauss stated they used to do them every year; but now that they have this Law, they are good for sixty months so the burden is on the organizations to go back and make sure they are up to date.

Mr. David Gerity stated they were doing them annually for years. He stated they also pay for their Coaches to go to training, and they go over Certification and working with child abuse cases.

Mr. Gordon stated when they started the e-mail chain, there was another issue about preschoolers and children under four and concerns about Day Care Certification, and he asked Ms. Liney if this is still an issue that they need to address. Ms. Kirk stated she is not sure what the Day Care Certification issue is if there is contact with children, it does not matter if there is Day Care Certification or not; and if there is ongoing regular routine contact with the child based upon being a volunteer or providing a service that is governing the care and control of the child, they need the Clearance Reports.

Ms. Liney stated the issue was if you had children who were Pre-School age, the program had to be Certified for Pre-School children the same as a Day Care. Ms. Kirk stated she is not aware of this. Mr. Dunne stated they start at five. YMS stated they start at three. Lacrosse starts at Kindergarten. Mr. Simon stated they start at four and a half. Mr. Gordon stated Mr. Truelove is going to give them an answer on this.

Ms. Kirk left the meeting at this time.

UPDATE FROM TOWNSHIP USER GROUPS

Mr. O'Hara, YMS, thanked everyone for the hard work done in getting Snipes approved. He thanked Mr. Fritchey and all those in the other Leagues who helped in the planning as well. Mr. O'Hara stated he has previously discussed that U.S. Soccer is changing the field sizes, the goal sizes, and the number of players on the field; and that is all taking place starting in September. He stated they are modifying the goals as much as possible, and they will be re-arranging the fields a little bit. Mr. O'Hara stated they put in their own security system at the shed, and they have cameras and a recording device which is being monitored by a third party. He stated they have four cameras around the shed which are monitoring the equipment. He stated there were cameras installed at Macclesfield, but none of them reached back to where their shed/equipment were.

Mr. McNamara asked when the turf is being replaced, and Mr. O'Hara stated it will be next summer. Ms. Liney asked if they have plans for the old turf, and Mr. O'Hara stated currently they do not. Ms. Liney stated there may be a request from another user group. Mr. O'Hara stated it is near the end of its life, and to get it off the surface, they have to cut it into pieces. Mr. O'Hara stated they did bring on a gentleman with a marketing background who is part of the Club, and his job is to sell marketing for the turf field to hopefully offset a good bit of the cost.

Mr. Jason Simon, PAA, stated they completed their regular season on Saturday for in-house, and it went extremely well. He stated they are heading into the play offs and tournament season for the travel teams. He stated this weekend they have the Pennsbury Invitational Tournament with 124 teams. Games start Thursday afternoon, and tomorrow is a College Showcase Event. He stated teams come from across the United States. He stated they will be playing on all the fields, and No Parking signs have been put up. He stated this is one of the few Platinum events on the East Coast. Mr. Simon stated on the baseball side, they will host District Play for Cal Ripken for the 10s, and will also host Babe Ruth Districts for the 15s and the State Tournament for the 9s. He stated they will also initiate a Baseball Tournament the end of July called the Pennsbury Summer Slam. He stated they are also initiating a Baseball Camp in August run by Joe Pesci and his High School coaching staff exclusively for PAA players aged seven to twelve. Ms. Simon stated on the softball side they will be hosting the 12U Babe Ruth State Tournament here as well. He stated they just completed their first Memorial Day Madness Softball Tournament which is a C level Tournament, and they were able to attract eighteen teams in their inaugural year. He stated they used all six fields, and they worked with Ms. Liney and the staff to knock the mounds down and rebuild them. He stated there has been

a lot of cooperation coming out of the Park & Rec team. He stated they are having some discussion about a fall softball tournament as well. Mr. Fritchey asked if they used the Pool fields at all; and Mr. Simon stated they did not, and they were contained to the six fields which were close to the snack bar.

Mr. Simon stated with regard to security cameras, he does not believe that Stoddart or Allan have cameras; and he asked if this is being considered. Ms. Liney stated she does not believe so. She stated they are just finishing Macclesfield and Memorial Park. She stated that is all that the Township Manager authorized this year. She noted it was an expensive project running the lines, and she estimated the cost was approximately \$50,000. Mr. Simon asked if there was a reason that PAA facilities were left off, and Ms. Liney stated the Township decided that Macclesfield Park was being targeted with turfing, etc. and they wanted to address that; and they do not have that issue at Stoddart or Fred Allan. She stated the playground is at Memorial Park, and there was an interest in having that under surveillance as well. She stated Stoddart is very close to the Police Department, and they felt it got a lot of drive-by attention from the Police Department. It was noted by some present that there have been issues at Fred Allan. Mr. Simon stated there are frequently people at Caiola at night, and there are cars there that do not belong. He stated they would like to be put on the list for cameras at some point.

Mr. Simon stated they will be building new batting cages between Caiola 70 and 90 with the help of the Township, and PAA will be funding the construction and completion of those. He stated they can afford one at this time. He stated they could use some turf, and he would like to discuss this with Mr. O'Hara.

Mr. Simon stated they will be putting their fall ball program together shortly. He stated they moved t-ball to the outfield of 90, and this was well received. He stated when they do the tour on the 12th they need to have a serious discussion about the condition of the two new fields which need work. He stated they need to have a plan for the fall to take advantage of the growing season and properly irrigate, aerate, and seed those fields. He stated there is injury risk as there are balls changing direction because of the gaps in the grass. Mr. Simon stated he walked the fields with Mr. Benedetto on Saturday, and they are not in good condition; and for new fields that they spent \$700,000 to build, they should be in much better condition. Ms. Bunn stated she agrees with Mr. Simon about this. She stated her son was in a Tournament this weekend, and there are problems with the unpredictability of the balls.

Mr. Simon asked if they are locking 70 and 90 for the Tournament this weekend, and Ms. Liney agreed.

Ms. Bunn asked if they will be doing another survey this year, and Mr. Simon stated they are working on it right now.

Mr. Jim Dunne, Lower Makefield Football, stated Ms. Liney always helps with whatever he needs. He stated they have had some difficult years, and two years ago it was probably their worse; and they switched from what used to be three separate divisions and sixteen teams to two years ago when they had an in-house program which was just one group. He stated they felt that this was due to the decline in enrollment in the Schools, but now those numbers are up. He stated last year they fields eleven in-house teams, three travel teams, and approximately fifteen to twenty flag teams. He stated as of May 31, he has over 300 players in the program. He thanked them for the work at Snipes. He stated they are always asking for field space for practice. He asked if there is any thought being given to Permitting Memorial Park, and Mr. Gordon stated there is not. Mr. Dunne stated they do not really need a field, and they just find areas throughout the Park. Ms. Liney stated Football was not issued a Permit, but they would just use the facility as a Team if someone wanted to use it. Mr. Dunne stated this year he will have many more Teams than he had last year, and will be begging for space. Mr. Dunne asked if he could line Memorial Park, and Ms. Liney stated the one field is a multi-purpose field. Mr. Dunne asked if he could just line the off areas he is using, and Ms. Liney agreed to get back to Mr. Dunne on this.

Mr. Dunne stated he is going to be having a difficult time this year because of the increase in the number of players as they have 300 signed up as of May 31. Mr. McNamara asked what their peak number was, and Mr. Dunne stated at one point they had over 500 players. He stated he is not sure that the heavyweights will ever come back. He stated two years ago they fielded a 15U and a 14U last year. He stated usually those 14 or 15 are playing football for school, while in the past they would play for both. He stated the workload for School is very difficult for that age group.

Mr. Dunne stated with regard to the fields, he feels Snipes will solve a lot of their issues going forward. He stated he understands they would be available in 2018; and Mr. Fritchey stated they have to go through the Land Development process, and realistically they would be ready by 2018. Mr. Dunne stated he feels their numbers will grow based on the numbers they see at the Schools. Mr. Dunne stated they also have had security problems at Macclesfield, and they lost their field liner which cost \$1,800 to replace; and they also lost both of their sleds – a two man sled and a five-man sled. He stated there are a significant number of bolts which held them together, and they took out all the bolts and took the side pieces; and he questioned the amount of time this must have taken. He stated they have also tried to break into their shed. Mr. Dunne stated he is concerned about putting these sleds back together as they could get taken again. He stated he is hoping that the security cameras will help with that.

Mr. Gordon asked if there is any coordination with the High School team, and Mr. Dunne stated he is friends with Coach Snyder and he would run their camps and bring his coaches and players. He stated they would have 125 to 150 children at camp each Saturday. Mr. Dunne stated Coach Snyder is no longer the Coach at the High School. Mr. Dunne stated he is the President of the Pennsbury High School Football Association also so he is intimately involved in their program. He stated he feels the new Coach will be even more involved with the younger players. He stated the coaches for Notre Dame and Egan often come out to his practices, and Mr. Dunne stated he feels if the Pennsbury Middle School coaches would get more involved selling their program they could keep a lot of the football players that go to Egan and Notre Dame. Mr. Gordon asked the percentage of Pennsbury High School players that when through the Lower Makefield Football program, and Mr. Dunn stated it is approximately 80%.

Mr. Dunne stated currently they have a shed at Macclesfield Park, and he needs to plan to deal with that for the Snipes property. He stated what he would like to do is give his existing shed to YMS and work with Ms. Liney to help pay for an attachment to the building at Snipes that would allow them to put their equipment there. Ms. Liney agreed to work with him on that.

Mr. Dunne stated they ran a Winter Combine at the NAC with 100 children in attendance. He stated they also ran a spring flag program for the first time since he has been involved with over 100 children involved also at the NAC. He stated this will also be the first year, hopefully of many, that they will host the Punt, Pass, and Kick Contest at Macclesfield, and they anticipate a couple hundred participants.

Mr. McNamara stated his son played at Pennwood this year, and he feels the equipment and number of coaching staff was better at Lower Makefield Football.

Mr. David Gerity, Lower Bucks Lacrosse, stated their numbers are flat which they feel is a success in today's market with numbers down in School systems and sports in general as he has read that youth sports are down approximately 9% Nationally across the board. He stated currently they have 350 players which is flat from last year with 218 boys and 132 girls. He stated 216 of their players are from Lower Makefield. He stated currently they play at Middletown Community Park and they help with the development of the fields and help pay for the lights which are an important part of their program. He stated currently they do not use Lower Makefield fields. He stated he was not involved when Lower Bucks decided to move from Lower Makefield to Middletown; and he understands that there was some crowding going on, and it was the beginning of their girls' program approximately nine to ten years ago. He stated with Lacrosse balls are flying and it is a dangerous situation so they needed more space, and they

had an opportunity to move to Middletown at that time. He stated when they heard that there would be new fields available at Lower Makefield, they were very interested because of the numbers that they draw from Lower Makefield.

Mr. Gerity stated he coached previously at YMS and Lower Makefield Football as well as baseball and basketball. He stated he is U.S. Lacrosse Certified three levels and has two Certifications in soccer for coaching. He stated at Lower Bucks Lacrosse he mandated that the coaches get Certified which the program pays for. He stated they also require re-Certification.

Mr. Gerity stated to get more players, they have a program at the Schools for boys and girls. He stated he also instituted a small-sided game which he described that helps with the development of the players. He also discussed their Cradle Lacrosse Program where they brought in a professional organization, NXT, which does this Program and the first-year children who have never played the game before that are Fourth Grade or younger go into this Program. He stated the equipment is different, and the Program is Certified to go into the School systems; and they are trying to get this into the Schools by working with Pennsbury to get the sport into their athletic curriculum. He stated the Cradle Lacrosse Program has helped them retain some of the players. He stated it is expensive to get into Lacrosse because of the registration and equipment which can add up to over \$200.

Mr. Gerity stated they also look at who they can partner with to develop the multiple sport athlete. He stated they had Lower Makefield Football Association have a booth at their end-of-year ceremony last Monday to help promote their program as he feels children should be playing football or soccer in the fall and Lacrosse or baseball in the spring. He stated they have also reached out to basketball.

Mr. Gerity stated during the winter they offer development programs, and they go to Nation Nine which is a baseball training center; and in December they book forty to fifty hours of time to be used by the different teams/age brackets to get off-season stick training. He stated they stop the end of May and go into playoffs, and they had two teams on the girls side make it into the Finals and one team won the Championship. He stated on the boys side, two made the playoffs. He stated once the season is over, many children go to camps which are listed on their Website. Mr. Gerity stated their Program feeds Pennsbury, Notre Dame, Neshaminy, Holy Ghost, LaSalle, and St. Joe's. He stated approximately 80% of those on Neshaminy and Pennsbury teams have gone through their Program.

Mr. Gerity stated two years ago they started a Bobble Head Tournament that came out of their Youth Program when they went to smaller sided fields for the Third and Fourth Grade bracket. He stated this began when they played teams from Council Rock and Warrington. He stated last year they made it a Tournament where over 300 players on sixteen teams were involved, and this year they had twenty-two teams with over 600 players.

Mr. Gerity stated they have a PHS Day where the players get in free when they wear their uniforms, and it introduces them to the big field with the home field environment of Pennsbury.

Mr. Gerity stated at the new facility, he would be looking for some things; and he would be willing to share his services. He stated they would like lights since they run until 9 p.m. at Middletown Community Park. He stated he feels Football would appreciate that as well. He stated Middletown had asked them what they would like if they were able to get a Grant, and he had provided them a list. He stated now there are covers so that people can get into the shade, and steps were put in at the slant that at the fields which they helped fund. He stated at Snipes he would also request a scoreboard and a shed.

Mr. Gordon stated they can and are surviving without the Lower Bucks Lacrosse User Fees, and this is not about User Fees. He stated they all take pride in the community, and the sports programs are a big part of that. He stated Lacrosse is a growing game, and they would like them to be part of the discussion as they are an important part of the community. He stated the Snipes Tract presents them with a unique opportunity. Mr. Gerity thanked Mr. Krauss for discussing this opportunity with them, and he stated they are definitely interested. Mr. Krauss stated he feels it would be great to get them back into the community with the new fields. Mr. Gerity stated the girls do practice at the Middle Schools and they also use the Middle School Football field for their premier games. He stated he had come into the Township in the spring about fields at Memorial Park, and he was told that they could use them, but they could not get a Permit for those.

There was further discussions about the possibility of lights at Snipes, and Mr. Fritchey stated it is a line item. Mr. Gordon stated they fully realize that in October and November, they cannot have any practices if they do not have lights.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McNamara moved, Mr. Krauss seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of May, 2016 as written.

PROPOSAL FROM ADVANTAGE TENNIS INDOOR FACILITY

Mr. Partha Bhattacharya, Mr. Dan Mascal, and Mr. Sing were present. Mr. Bhattacharya stated this is their third visit, and a few things have transpired since they were last before the Park & Rec Board. He stated he and the Newtown Athletic Club owner, Mr. Worthington, have had some discussions about trying to convert 2.1 acres near the water slide at the NAC and turn that into a tennis dome with six courts for younger players; but the challenge there is the cost of the Lease which is very expensive for a short term Lease. He stated they continue to be determined to construct something in the area since it is evident that there is a great sporting tradition in the area and an opportunity to do something with tennis.

Mr. Bhattacharya stated they visited a property that was mentioned to them next to Bright Farms which has great highway exposure. He stated this would be a high performance, high-end tennis facility. Mr. Gordon stated that is part of the Patterson Farm, and the Park & Rec Board has no control over that facility; but he understands that it took a lot of work and there was a lot of controversy even to get what is there now, and they are not looking to do any other construction projects at the Patterson Farm. Mr. Krauss stated he understands that they want it to remain farming as its primary purpose as opposed to developing it.

Mr. Bhattacharya stated apparently someone suggested that property since the general contractor they are working with took them there specifically to see that as one of the potential sites, and they liked it very much. He stated they are open to suggestions if there are any other places. Mr. Gordon stated they did previously discuss the Snipes Tract, and Ms. Liney agreed there is thirty-three acres although she is not sure how much space would be left after they have the football and Lacrosse fields. Ms. Liney stated she felt as a result of the last meeting, that Mr. Bhattacharya was going to contact her so that they could look at some sites, but she never heard anything further from them. Ms. Liney stated the Township wants to keep the Patterson Farm open space farming, and what is there now is considered farming even though it is under roof.

Ms. Bunn stated she feels the problem with the Snipes Tract is that there is so much existing wooded area, and you cannot clear it without replacing mature trees according to the Township Ordinance. She stated she is not sure how much space will be left at Snipes. Mr. Bhattacharya stated for six courts they would need three acres.

Mr. Bhattacharya asked if there is any possibility of covering up the existing four tennis courts and building two more next to them near the Community Pool, and Mr. Gordon stated this would be a problem since those are currently 24/7 public

access and are the main courts that are used. Ms. Liney stated that is because they are lighted courts. Mr. Gordon stated the community would not have any interest in giving up the 24/7 access as that would be taking away time from the public.

Mr. McNamara asked if there is ground left at Snipes that could be used since he feels this would be the only area left in the Township, and Ms. Liney stated she could check with the engineer. Ms. Liney stated there is a pre-approved plan for Memorial Park, and she is not sure the residents in that area would be receptive to these courts at Memorial Park.

Mr. Gordon advised Mr. Bhattacharya that he needs to have more communication with Ms. Liney outside of the Park & Rec meetings. He stated the Park & Rec Board is only an advisory board made up of volunteers that only meet once a month. He stated Ms. Liney is a full-time employee of the Township who reports directly to the Township Manager, and she understands areas that are possibilities to consider. Ms. Liney stated the Board had asked for some additional information from Mr. Bhattacharya in the form of a proposal. Ms. Liney asked how much acreage they need, and Mr. Bhattacharya stated they could manage with three acres including parking and retention. Ms. Liney suggested that they look at a minimum of four acres.

Mr. Bhattacharya asked if there is any need in the area for an indoor turf field with all the sports in the Township. Mr. Gordon stated the closest one is in Robbinsville. He stated although an attractive possibility since all the sports have indoor needs, the Township is not considering building one. He stated the outdoor turf field is used almost year round.

Ms. Liney stated there is a Road Tour in July, and they can put the Snipes Tract on to visit to see if there would be four acres that would be manageable. She stated she will get back to Mr. Bhattacharya the end of July.

SUPERVISORS' REPORT

Mr. Fritchey stated the Board of Supervisors accepted the Park & Recreation Board's recommendation to proceed to Land Development for Snipes. Mr. Fritchey stated they will have to get the Plan to the Planning Commission, Bucks County Planning Commission, and get engineering specifications and Bids; and hopefully they will be able to break ground in 2017. Mr. Gordon asked if it is to be funded through a Bond, and Mr. Fritchey stated the Board voted to borrow \$15 million to do a variety

of projects including Snipes. He stated the estimated allocation to Snipes was \$2 million. He stated the data they got from Boucher & James suggests that was a realistic sum that they could bring it in at. He stated the Bid will include a line item for lights.

Mr. McNamara left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Fritchey stated they also included money for the Community Center in the Bond. Mr. Fritchey stated they may also use some of the money for the purchase of open space and some other Park items.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Liney stated the annual Park & Recreation Road Tour is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12 at 6:30 p.m. Sites to be visited include Memorial Park, Revere tennis, the Heacock Dog Park, Macclesfield, Snipes, and the Pool. She asked that the Board advise her of any other sites they wish to visit.

Ms. Liney stated the Lower Makefield Seniors held Elections today for two new Board of Director members, and the positions went to peg Miller and Bob Gussick.

Ms. Liney stated the Township Park crew has completed over seeding Fields E and G at Macclesfield. As always, in order to promote growth the Township will close the re-seeded areas to traffic for the next few months.

Ms. Liney stated the Park crew is currently preparing for the Annual PAA Fast pitch Softball Tournament beginning this week and ending Fathers Day with what promises to be some terrific softball in the Township over the next several days. Ms. Liney stated PAA will be hosting District playoffs at the Stoddart Complex following this Tournament, and the Park crew will reinstall the mounds for that play.

Ms. Liney stated the Township has added a sandbox and will be adding play cars to the tot area at Veterans Square, and the Farmers Market has e-mailed their appreciation for these new items.

Ms. Liney stated paving contractor Morrissey will begin repairing the base at the Revere tennis courts next week, June 20th. There will be a couple of weeks in between the repairs and the actual overlay of the wearing course. Mr. Gordon asked that they add Revere to the Road Tour.

There was discussion about the possibility of installing fencing around the basketball courts at Memorial Park. Ms. Liney stated there are some cracks at those courts, and they will bridge it with a plastic piece.

Ms. Liney stated the Park office has been contacted by resident Tom Minehart who would like to meet with the Township engineer about the possibility of extending the bike path on his property fronting Lindenhurst and completing a missing link in the path in that section of the Township. She stated this is certainly good news as the Township looks to fill in the missing pieces connecting greenways.

Ms. Liney stated the Township has issued a Permit for a fundraiser for the Garden of Reflection on Saturday, September 10th in the morning and the early afternoon at the Caiola Complex for a Home Run Derby and softball games. She stated this is being coordinated by Jordan Reiss, who is working with PAA, and has plans to close Edgewood Road from Mill Road to Oxford Valley creating a food truck court in that area. Jordan and Judi Reiss are planning on media coverage for this event, and funds raised will be deposited into the Township account supporting the current maintenance for the Garden of Reflection.

Ms. Liney stated in the Board's packets they will find a request received by the Township engineer's office requesting consideration of a Miracle League field be included for installation at the Snipes Tract. She stated logistical as well as cost considerations would need to be discussed. She stated if the Park Board would like she could schedule a presentation for this proposal in the fall. Ms. Liney stated they are requesting a miracle field, and they play with a wiffle ball. Mr. Gordon stated they also want a turf field, and the Township has not provided a turf field for anyone. Ms. Liney she could tell him that it is probably cost prohibitive for the Township to do it. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel there would be any interest in spending substantial funds on this. Ms. Liney stated she knows that they do a lot of fundraising. Mr. Krauss stated when they are talking to the engineer about the tennis, they could ask about this as well to see if there is space. Ms. Liney stated she does not feel it should be at Snipes, and if they were to have it, it should be at Memorial Park. Mr. Fritchey asked why they need to have a turf field as opposed to playing wiffle ball on grass, and Ms. Liney stated it would be to accommodate wheelchairs and children who have physical issues who play in these Leagues.

Mr. Fritchey stated they have discussed in the past what they were going to do with the east end of Memorial Park. Ms. Bunn stated a bridge to that area would be very costly. She stated the only way they could do it would be if they could get another entrance into that site so that they would not have to cross the stream. Mr. Fritchey stated he feels they need to do something or they are giving up one third of the Park which is approximately twenty-one acres of prime recreation space. Mr. Gordon asked that they look at this space on the Road Tour.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Bunn asked what was decided regarding Permits for the Garden of Reflection services moving forward since she does not want what happened this year happen every year with people yelling. Ms. Liney stated in 2014, the Park Board did make a recommendation, and at the meeting in 2016, she feels the Supervisors re-affirmed that; and Mr. Fritchey agreed. Ms. Bunn stated she understood that Ms. Saracini's group indicated they were going to quickly get the Permit for the coming year so that they could set the terms. Ms. Liney stated she does not issue Permits for 2017 until 2017. Ms. Bunn stated she does not want one side rushing in to get a Permit since she does not feel it is fair for one side to hold the Permit and the other side have to "beg."

Mr. Krauss stated he feels there should be no activity there on 9/11 so that people can go there and remember as they see fit. He stated he does not have a problem with a Permit issued for 9/10 or 9/12. Ms. Liney stated they do have a morning ceremony on 9/11 that coincides with the timing of the attack. Mr. Krauss stated he would be in favor of that, but he does not feel that any one group should own that; and the Township should run it, and the rest of the day would then be free. Ms. Liney stated there has been discussion about the Township running the events there for the entirety of the weekend. Mr. Fritchey agreed that the Township may do this if the groups cannot agree. Mr. Fritchey stated there are groups that want to use it that need to come into compliance with Township requests.

Mr. Krauss stated he is on the Dog Park Fundraising Committee, and they do have a Website LMTdogpark.com which is on LMT's main page. He stated currently there is a fundraiser for a raffle for an August membership to the Pool, they had a Baskin Robbins fundraiser last night, and they have been selling T-Shirts. He stated a brochure has been printed, and they will be at the Farmer's Market. He stated to date they have raised \$3,300 in the couple months they have been meeting. Mr. Fritchey asked if they are going to have a Doggy 5K, and Mr. Krauss stated there are several things they have been discussing. He stated they are also soliciting sponsors, and they have a verbal commitment from one major sponsor but nothing committed yet. He stated they are looking at a 5K and a Black Tie event.

Mr. Gordon asked Mr. Fritchey at what point can they say that Snipes and the Dog Park are going to happen since he feels they should put "Future Home of" signs up which lets people who are driving by know what is going to happen. Mr. Krauss stated he believes the Grant may come back at the earliest in October.

Ms. Liney stated Mr. Truelove is supposed to be working on the Township getting ownership of the Makefield Glen piece.

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Mr. Fritchey asked if they are looking at advertising on the fencing like the do at the ball fields; and Mr. Krauss stated they have different types of advertising, and the brochure describes the different types of sponsorships similar to what they did at Veterans Square.

There being no further business, Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Krauss seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Gordon, Chairman