

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

A meeting of the Disability Advisory Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Community Center on November 7, 2018. Chairperson Huchler-Smith opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Those present:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Lisa Huchler-Smith, Chairperson
David Mann, Vice-Chairperson
Trish O'Donnell, member
David Rogers, member
Kristin Tyler, Supervisor Liaison
(attending BOS meeting)

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2018 MINUTES

Mr. Mann moved, Mr. Rogers seconded, and the September 5, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

RESIGNATION

Barbara Williams, member of Disability Advisory Board resigned effective November 2018.

MAKE UP OF DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

It was noted by the township that we now have 1 opening for a member and 1 opening for an alternate. Positions will be advertised on the website, community channel and at Board meetings. It was suggested that we make up notecards and possibly post on community bulletin boards, etc.

Mr. David Mann contacted the township manager to request being moved to a permanent member from his position of alternate. Motion was made to elect Mr. Mann to the Vice Chair position on the Disability Advisory Board. Mr. Rogers moved, Ms. O'Donnell seconded.

NEW MEETING TIME

Beginning in January 2019 the DAB will meet in the community center on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm. The township advertises all meetings for the upcoming year in December.

SMART911

The Bucks County Courier Times had an article in the paper stating Bucks County joins program to speed 911 service. County residents can sign up with Smart911 and put in data into an online profile that could be helpful for first responders dispatched out to an emergency call. We reached out to the LMT police department to see how this will be used and will it replace the Special Needs Premise Form currently used by LMT. Captain Lewis stated that for now they will continue to use both options and before they make any changes. Residents are encouraged to create an account at <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/login.action>

VETERANS PARK PATHWAY

An Eagle Scout has installed a brick pathway from the street to the Veterans Monument. This is meant to serve the band during the Veterans Day parade. The Department of Transportation has ruled that this cannot be accessed by the public since Edgewood Road is not safe to cross at that location. Therefore, the township will be installing gates to prohibit the use of these during most of the year. The DAB is suggesting that all projects go through the zoning department before approval is given to proceed. Email to be sent to township manager.

MACCLESFIELD PARKING

Email was sent to Mr. Jim Majewski, Director of Zoning and Planning and Ms. Monica Tierney, Director of Parks and Rec discussing the need for adequate Handicapped Parking at Macclesfield. There appears to be no van accessible parking spots that have the stripes to allow his handicapped ramp to deploy safely. Will follow up.

UPDATES ON BUILDING AND OTHER PROJECTS

The entrance to the new Community Center will be changed to automatic opening doors in 2019. Will monitor progress.

Accessible hardware in the Township building is also in need of an upgrade, as some of the equipment (i.e. doorknobs), can be difficult for those with disabilities to use. Mr. Majewski in planning and zoning said that this project is still projected to be completed but currently not in the budget since it was approx. \$150.00 per door. Will keep us up to date on timeframe (likely in the next 2 years)

Mr. Rogers to follow up on the timeframe for the paved pathway connecting Edgewood Rd and Oxford Valley Rd. (is this still in the budget to complete in the upcoming year).

UPDATES ON BUILDING AND OTHER PROJECTS (continued)

Acknowledged that Mr. Majewski has updated wording in some of the zoning ordinances for parking and building to say “in compliance with ADA Rules”.

ROLL AND STROLL 2018 RECAP

Roll and Stroll was held Saturday, September 29, 2018 from 10:00-11:30 at Memorial Park. A thank you email was sent to all vendors. This event was well attended but will continue to work on getting someone to partner with DAB next year to help increase attendance. Groups that may be interested are YMS Special Stars and Potential, Inc. It was great to have the LMT Walking Group attend and the Yardley/Makefield Library there to promote their programs. Holding it near the playground encouraged more people to stop by vendors.

CHURCH/RELIGIOUS GROUP REACH OUT

The DAB has wanted to reach out to the Religious organizations in the community to potentially provide guidance, discussion or information on ADA. These institutions are exempt from the law but Mr. David Mann has suggested the board create an email to start a discussion about making the buildings accessible and introduce our Board to be a resource for them if needed.

Update- beginning in 2019 the DAB will compile a list of all religious groups and obtain contact info.

BUILDING PLANS

Mr. Rogers has talked with Mr. Majewski about trying to get Preliminary plans from builders instead of waiting and then making changes to more established plans. This may speed the process.

Mr. Mann inquired about the new building construction at the Park and Ride. This is the new Headquarters for the DRJBA. No plans have been reviewed and the DAB was going to contact Mr. Majewski to see if any plans have been submitted or if it falls outside of LMT jurisdiction. We thought that any building in LMT should be reviewed.

Next meeting to be held January 9, 2019

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Huchler-Smith
Chairperson, Disability Advisory Board