

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
PARK & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – NOVEMBER 12, 2019

The regular meeting of the Park & Recreation Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on November 12, 2019. Mr. Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Those present:

Park & Recreation Board: David Gordon, Chair
 Douglas Krauss, Secretary
 Michael Brody, Member
 Patricia Bunn, Member
 Bryan McNamara, Member
 Dennis Wysocki, Member

Others: Monica Tierney, Park & Recreation Director
 John B. Lewis, Supervisor Liaison

Absent: David Malinowski, Park & Rec Vice Chair

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. McNamara seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2019 as corrected.

BOY SCOUT PROPOSAL – COMMUNITY CENTER SIGN ENHANCEMENTS

Mr. Michael Krajci, 16 W. School Lane, was present. He stated he is a Troop 10 Eagle Scout candidate, and he is proposing enhancements at the Community Center sign. Mr. Krajci stated he met with Ms. Tierney and Ms. Giles in August and consulted with staff at Stony Hill Perennials about design costs and appropriate plants for this area. He also cross checked the recommended plants from Stony Hill Perennials with the LMT approved plants list. He stated he also reached out to an organization about a sculpture donation; however, that did not work out. He stated he learned how to use landscape design software, and he received approval from his Scoutmaster and Eagle advisor to proceed with the project.

Mr. Krajci showed a picture of the proposed design. He stated all of the plants are deer resistant and on the approved LMT list of plants. He stated the sign is perpendicular to the road. Mr. Gordon asked if you would see it driving both directions, and if it will look the same on both sides; and Mr. Krajci agreed. Ms. Bunn stated the sign has already been installed, and he is just doing the bed around it.

Mr. Krajci stated in addition to making sure the plants were deer resistant and on the approved LMT plant list, he had to consider the average height of the plants, the exposure, the water needed, and the hardiness to insure year-round interest. He stated he wanted it to be as low maintenance as possible, and he wanted to make sure the plants would not cover the sign.

Mr. Krajci stated he will install topsoil and it will be slightly elevated. Mr. Brody asked if he is showing a wall, and Mr. Krajci stated they were not going to have any bricks. He stated from the ground to the bottom of the sign, it is a very small area; and he wanted to have as much space as possible. Ms. Bunn stated from the picture, it looks like there is some type of edging around the bed, but she does not believe that is the intention; and Mr. Krajci agreed.

Mr. Brody asked if there will be mulch, and Mr. Krajci agreed they will put mulch down. Mr. Krajci stated with regard to maintenance, Troop 10 would like to continue to work on this since they are required to perform conservation hours in the community. Mr. Gordon stated they could do work in the Five Mile Woods as well, and Mr. Krajci stated that is their main location for their service hours.

Mr. Brody asked when Mr. Krajci plans to do the installation, and Mr. Krajci stated it would probably be in April. Mr. Brody asked the expected cost, and Mr. Krajci stated they have estimated it to be \$1,000 to \$1,200; and he will have to do a lot of fundraising. Ms. Bunn stated the Fairless Hills Garden Center is very good at working with Scouts and may provide the materials at cost. Ms. Bunn suggested Mr. Krajci start talking to them now so that they will have the plants ready for him in April. It was noted all the proposed plants are perennials. Mr. Krajci stated the key items considered were deer resistance and low maintenance.

Ms. Bunn stated as soon as the project is done, Mr. Krajci should take pictures because even though the plants are considered deer resistance, there are very few plants that are actually deer resistant particularly in the spring.

Mr. Lewis asked Mr. Krajci if he will put netting down before planting to control weeds. Ms. Bunn stated that is no longer done. It was noted that some people use newspapers for that; however, Ms. Bunn stated that can cause rot as the soil gets wet.

Mr. Brody stated when he talks to the Garden Center, Mr. Krajci should have his list since they may not be able to get certain plants at a reasonable cost.

Mr. Brody moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the development of the Community Center garden outside the sign as proposed by Michael Krajci within relative proximity to the Plan presented today.

Ms. Bunn stated if there is a need to make minor changes, Mr. Krajci would not have to come back to the Park & Rec Board; and he can work those out with Ms. Tierney. She stated he should keep in touch with Ms. Tierney as the process goes along.

Mr. Krauss stated while there is a list, he would suggest having a secondary list in case specific plants are not available; and Ms. Bunn stated the Garden Center would make suggestions.

There was a question about fund raising, and Ms. Bunn stated the Park & Rec Board does not get involved with that; and the Troop would take care of that. Ms. Bunn stated if information is provided to Ms. Tierney possibly she could put that in the Township newsletter. Mr. Krauss stated it could also go on the Township Facebook page. Ms. Tierney stated they should make sure that they call this project the Community Center Sign Project rather than a Community Garden project as there is a Community Garden at Memorial Park. Mr. Lewis stated if someone were to write a check it should be written to the Boy Scout Troop. Mr. Lewis asked if he could use a Go Fund Me, and Ms. Bunn stated he has to follow the Scout guidelines.

LIAISON REPORTS

PAA Proposal for Improvements

Ms. Noelle Codispoti, PAA Commissioner, was present. She stated they are looking to get approval for a new shed at the Pool softball field. She stated currently the softball coaches drive tractors from Caiola to groom the pool fields as they are some of the most-highly utilized in the Township; and they would like to have a shed there to store a tractor, some maintenance equipment, and some portable mounds so that in the future they can use those fields for the growing baseball population as well. It was noted the field is to the left of the tennis courts.

Ms. Codispoti stated the Field Maintenance Director reviewed locations, and two pictures were shown. She stated the bottom picture is to the left of the tennis courts and to the right of the first base line, and the top picture is down the third base line. Ms. Codispoti stated the location shown in the top picture would be their preferred location because it would be less expensive to put the shed on the asphalt rather than pour a slab of concrete on the grass to support the shed. Ms. Bunn asked the size of the shed; and Ms. Codispoti stated depending on the location, it would have to support portable mounds that are approximately 6' long by 5' wide. Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel there is a lot of room next to the dumpster. Mr. Gordon stated they also have to consider that a truck needs to come in to empty the dumpster.

Mr. Gordon asked what the road is used for other than going back to empty the dumpster, and Ms. Tierney stated the Township uses it for maintenance trucks for the Pool and for chlorine delivery. Ms. Tierney stated she is not sure there should be a shed that close to the fence. Ms. Codispoti stated she feels at that location creating an extension of the asphalt or concrete to put the shed on would be easier than the location shown on the bottom picture. She noted there are hills in that area. Ms. Codispoti stated while she has no preference as to the location of the shed, the softball people do.

Ms. Tierney stated she would like to look at the location where the asphalt is before a decision is made. She stated there is a large truck that goes back into that area, and she would need to make sure that they would be able to make the turn.

Mr. Gordon asked who uses the dumpster, and Ms. Tierney stated it is used for the Pool and general clean up in the area. Mr. Gordon asked if the dumpster could be moved. Ms. Tierney stated it is difficult to visualize a shed at this location just looking at the picture, and she would need to go out to the site.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels the Park & Recreation Board is in agreement with the concept, but Ms. Codispoti will have to go out on site with Ms. Tierney. Ms. Codispoti stated they would be in agreement with that, adding they are not in a rush to have this done; but they wanted to discuss it earlier rather than closer to the season.

Mr. Wysocki asked what type of material will the shed be constructed of, and Ms. Codispoti stated it will be similar to the sheds that they have a Stoddard and Caiola which are pre-fab sheds.

Mr. Brody moved, Ms. Bunn seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve installation of a shed at a location to be approved by the Township by the Pool field.

Ms. Codispoti stated PAA just finished the fall season, and they used Township fields and had a partnership with Levittown Continental to increase the number of teams that can play against each other in the fall because fall baseball is less popular than in spring. She stated they recently opened spring registration and coaches have met. She stated baseball and softball are strong sports at this time.

YMS Report

Mr. Mike Hanson, YMS Vice President, was present and stated they had a strong season. He stated there were good numbers with the in-house program and travel was stable. He stated this is the second season they put almost all of the older in-house team games on the turf field which is middle-school age to high-school age players. He stated they got good feedback by doing that. He stated this also enabled them to rotate more games off the grass fields since there have been discussions with Ms. Tierney about the efforts to rehabilitate and upgrade some of the grass fields; and in this way, they are able to rest some of those locations.

Mr. Hanson stated they are celebrating their 40th Anniversary as a Club, and this Saturday evening, they will have a dinner/DJ event at Shady Brook Farm. He stated as a precursor to that, they were able to get Carli Lloyd from the U.S. Women's National Team to come and people can come and take pictures and get autographs.

Mr. Hanson stated they held the Columbus Cup over Columbus Day weekend. He stated they have seen a lot of competition with larger tournaments in New Jersey so the team count is down from where it used to be; however, they did have approximately 160 teams. He stated they have found that there are more professional coaches and trainers who are training and coaching multiple teams, and they are hearing that there are problems when there is just one boys or girls group at a tournament since some of the teams that are coached by the same coach do not want to come since they could not be at two places at once.

Mr. Hanson stated they are looking at trying to have some of the younger aged boys play during the Epic Tournament in May as well to see if that will generate more interest among the tournament community as tournaments are an important revenue stream for YMS and that is how they are able to invest in the turf and some other projects.

Mr. Gordon asked if they have considered having some girls teams at the Columbus Cup; however, Mr. Hanson stated there was a reason why that was not as attractive although he does not recall the reason.

Mr. Wysocki asked if the 40th Anniversary event is open to the public; and Mr. Hanson stated there is a link for that event on their Website and Facebook page, and he believes that there are tickets still available. He stated the event with Carli Lloyd was restricted to players in the Club, and they sold out all the tickets in 12 minutes. He stated the 40th Anniversary event at Shady Brook is \$30 per person and that includes food and the DJ with a cash bar.

Mr. McNamara asked for an update on the shed/trailer that they were attempting to have put in; and Mr. Hanson stated his understanding was that the trailer was met with less than enthusiastic response, and they do not have any other storage proposals at this point. Ms. Bunn stated the Park & Rec Board did not oppose having storage itself, it was the container that they were proposing that were not in favor of.

RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

Community Center Sign Follow Up

Ms. Tierney stated the Community Center sign has been installed. Mr. Gordon stated he just drove by it but did not notice it, and Ms. Tierney stated she feels they need to add lights. She stated when the sign was installed, they noticed that the address was not on the sign; and that was fixed right away. She stated the sign is consistent with the other Township signs.

Memorial Park Discussion About Limited Permitting

Ms. Tierney stated there had been some prior discussion about light Permitting of Memorial Park. She stated she and Mr. Majewski did a lot of research about this issue, and the outline that was provided to the Board was the result of that research. Ms. Tierney stated she would like to start this as a topic of discussion. She stated everything she has read indicated that it was approved for some percentage of Permitted usage from 30% to 50%. She stated there had been discussion about Permitted use by younger players for practices. She stated they do not have the infrastructure there to support games as there is not sufficient parking for that although they may be able to accommodate something while they are waiting for Snipes to open; and this would be a good way to mitigate some of the over usage at other fields.

Mr. Gordon stated you cannot predict what the future will hold when you are planning things, but he feels Memorial Park was definitely intended to be different from Macclesfield. He stated Memorial Park was before 9-11 and before they knew that the Garden of Reflection would go there. He stated there is decent space, and he feels some light usage by the proper groups such as the Shooting Stars and younger players would be appropriate. He stated it is a Township asset, and he is not opposed to pursuing some limited Permitting of the Park; and he feels it is worthy of discussion. He stated this is an asset he feels they should take advantage of. Mr. Gordon stated he understands that Ms. Bunn was the only Park & Rec member who was on the Board when Memorial Park was being planned.

Ms. Bunn stated there was significant discussion with many “angry residents” when this was getting built because they did not want another Macclesfield. She stated the Park & Recreation Board assured them that this was not going to turn into Macclesfield or be a Permitted Park, and it was going to be a Park for everybody. She stated she feels if they let isolated groups come in, it will open it up for everybody. Mr. Gordon stated Ms. Bunn is making an assumption that by opening it up a little bit, it opens it up for everybody. Ms. Bunn stated she feels it will. Mr. Gordon stated he feels it can be contained, and he does not feel anyone feels that it should be another Macclesfield. Ms. Bunn stated if they open it up to one Permitted group, and that works, they will then do more. She stated that is what happened at the Pool as originally it was just to be for sponsored families, and now it is open to other people. Ms. Bunn stated she feels it is disingenuous since they told the residents that Memorial Park was not going to have that kind of use, and it was to be open to the people on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel that allowing limited Permitted use such as the Special Stars or younger players will turn it into Macclesfield. He stated it is taking a Township asset and using it in a way that is very much needed and will help take some pressure off some of our other assets.

Mr. Wysocki stated he understands what it was intended to be when it was put in; however, time passes, and things change. He asked if it would not be appropriate to get a current pulse from the public with a comment period about modified use of the Park to see if the same sentiment exists. Ms. Bunn agreed that they should hear from the surrounding residents that live up there. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel they should just hear from the surrounding residents, and they should hear from all of the residents. Ms. Bunn disagreed and stated it is about the residents who are closest to the Park since they are the ones that are impacted by traffic and noise. She stated she does not feel people who live at some other part of the Township should have a voice; however, Mr. Gordon stated it is a Township field which belong to all the residents. Ms. Bunn stated she feels it should not be Permitted at all.

Mr. McNamara asked how many fields can fit there. Ms. Tierney stated she feels they need to assess that. She stated there was a space where the football team was practicing on. Mr. Brody stated there are football fields there with goal posts. Ms. Tierney stated LMFA was scheduling out there because they did not have enough space to practice, but she had to stop it because that is not allowed. Mr. McNamara stated for practice, they just go out there. Ms. Tierney stated if they allow that and do not have some regulation, that could create a problem; and she feels they should set some standard about what they are going to allow. She stated she was scheduling a regular practice on Tuesday nights at Memorial Park, but they do not have any regulations for that.

Mr. Gordon stated Ms. Bunn has always represented that it was not to be Permitted at all, and he asked Mr. Majewski what he found in his research. Mr. Majewski stated Ms. Bunn is correct in that the assurance was made that this would not be Macclesfield North, that it would not be a Permitted facility, and that it would be primarily for open play. He stated there is nothing however “set in stone with that,” although that is what people have said. Mr. Brody stated when this was approved by Grace Godshalk and Dave Fritchey when they were on the Board of Supervisors it was “clearly voted” that, if needed, they would allow Permitting. Mr. Brody stated he feels they should make this discussion very public and follow the notification requirements, and they should not decide on this tonight. He stated he feels they should lightly Permit the fields until Snipes or another field is developed, or they could indicate that they are going to allow soft Permitting for three years or some other time period. He stated the fields that Leagues other than soccer and baseball are using are “atrocious.” He stated rugby does not have anything, flag football needs more, and he assumes field hockey and Lacrosse need more. He stated there are four teams practicing at Memorial Park, not only those from LMFA. He stated track teams are also practicing there. He stated there is a significant amount of land at Memorial Park and two football fields. He stated he feels they should decide what can be put on the two football fields. He stated with the seven and eight-year olds, they can take one football field and split it into four for practice since they do not need a full field for practice. He stated they could potentially have eight teams practicing there just using the two football fields for a few hours a day. He stated if they are saying the fields are for “everybody,” he feels these teams are “everybody.” He stated there are not enough fields, but this land is available. He stated they should open this up for public comment so everyone can be heard, and find a reasonable way to use the Township assets we have. He stated he agrees this should not be turned into Macclesfield.

Mr. Gordon stated when he drives by Memorial Park, most of the time it is pretty empty; and he does not see a lot of use. Mr. Wysocki stated he lives near there, and something is always going on there, but it is not high volume.

Ms. Tyler asked where in Lower Makefield there is a passive park where people could go for a picnic or with their family other than Memorial Park. Ms. Bunn stated that was the intention for Memorial Park. She stated there is no baseball or soccer field that someone could go to on a Saturday or at other times that is not being used by the Leagues. She stated the intention of Memorial Park was that someone could go there with their children to play ball. She stated if someone goes to Stoddard or Macclesfield, they are Permitted for League play. Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel they would take that ability away as he feels there is enough there that you could still have that.

Ms. Tyler asked what they would propose to put at Memorial Park. Mr. Gordon stated they could have the Special Stars play there as well as the younger players. It was noted that the Special Stars currently play at Edgewood. Ms. Tyler asked how this would relieve pressure from Macclesfield. Mr. Gordon stated if they move something from Edgewood to Memorial Park, they could move something from Macclesfield to Edgewood. Mr. Brody stated LMFA could use Edgewood as currently they are playing on dirt. Ms. Tierney stated last year the Park & Recreation Department did a significant amount of rehabbing the fields where LMFA is playing, and now they look just as bad or worse. Mr. Brody stated he would not agree with moving anything from YMS, and he would look at the other Leagues who are not able to use our assets at all such as flag football, Lacrosse, rugby, and field hockey. Ms. Tierney stated she does not believe that field hockey would use the grass there. Ms. Bunn stated Lacrosse has historically not used our fields because they do not want to pay our User Fees. Mr. Krauss stated that was only part of the reason, and there were not ample fields for them to be scheduled on as well. Ms. Bunn stated if they are going to assume Football wants to use Edgewood, she would like to hear it from them that would be acceptable since they are making assumptions for their League, and she is not comfortable with that.

Mr. Brody stated he is not assuming that, but he feels everyone knows that we need fields. He stated this is the reason that the Board voted in favor of Snipes. Ms. Tyler stated there is also a belief that the Township should have a passive park, and Mr. Brody agreed. Ms. Tyler stated Memorial Park is the only passive park. Ms. Bunn stated they do need passive park space under the Comprehensive Plan; and if they start Permitting it, that takes away the passive recreation. Mr. Brody stated he feels they could limit how often it is Permitted. Mr. Brody stated they are Permitting two fields out of the whole Park for two hours a day, five days a week for six months a year. Ms. Bunn stated she feels Permitting would go against the calculation.

Mr. Brody stated they also have Veterans Park which is a passive park, and Mr. Majewski stated Five Mile Woods is also a passive park. Ms. Bunn stated you could not have a pick-up game at either of those locations. Mr. Brody asked how many pick-up games are taking place at Memorial Park now. He stated he is not proposing to take all of the space. He stated there are two full football fields there with field goals.

Mr. Gordon stated he feels this issue is worthy of debate. Mr. Krauss stated he feels they should ask the user groups to suggest what could possibly go at Memorial Park and understand their needs. He stated they may only need a few hours on a Saturday, and they could communicate to the public what would then still be available as a passive park.

Ms. Tyler stated Park & Rec needs to consider League play, but they also need to consider the non-League use of that Park. Mr. Krauss stated they are considering both, and he feels there is a lot of space at Memorial Park to do more than one thing. He stated all the residents are members of the public, and there are other places for people to go in the area for passive recreation. He stated Township residents walk the Canal, use Tyler State Park, and use Core Creek Park. Ms. Bunn stated Lower Makefield has to provide a certain amount for our residents regardless of what is surrounding us. Mr. Krauss stated they are not saying that they are going to take that away. He stated there is a need, and it could be communicated that there is a temporary need until they solve the problem. He stated there are a lot of residents who use Township facilities for organized sports, and it is becoming complicated and dangerous, and the fields are not up to what would be considered good standards. He stated there was one group of people who did not want use of a facility, and there is another facility where they is open space, and a group of people may say they do not want that used either; and he feels there needs to be a compromise.

Mr. Gordon stated he does not feel limited use of Memorial Park takes away from it being a park, and it would not interfere with the Garden of Reflection or the Community Gardens if there was some light play in the soccer field area for a couple of hours a day. He stated he feels there will be plenty of park space while that is going on for people to use it as a passive park, and there would still be a lot of time when it was non-Permitted. He stated there are some big fields there that could help take some of the pressure off. He stated he feels the Park should be used more completely.

Mr. Wysocki asked how Snipes is characterized at this time, and he asked if it is considered a passive park. Mr. Gordon stated it is not open to the public. Mr. Wysocki asked if there could be a plan on a temporary basis such as a three-year plan until Snipes get developed, if Snipes could be opened up as a passive park. Mr. Majewski stated at one time they were two soccer fields up in the

corner along Dolington Road and I-95, but there were not used because they were isolated and had no facilities. Mr. Wysocki stated he was asking if they could open up Snipes temporarily to the passive user to walk their dog, etc. since there is nothing happening there. Mr. Majewski stated it is not safe. He stated it is a former nursery and a lot of trees were dug out so there are a lot of holes.

Ms. Tierney stated she could begin by reaching out to the Leagues asking what their needs would be if the Township could find fields on a temporary basis. She stated at the next Park & Recreation Board meeting she could bring in a map of Memorial Park, and they could spec out what areas could potentially be used. Mr. Brody asked if there could be a Usage Study. Ms. Bunn stated they do that every few years, and they bring the Leagues in. Mr. Brody stated he is not talking about the Leagues rather he is asking if they could do a study as to how many residents are actually using the fields at Memorial Park. Ms. Tierney stated that would be very difficult to determine since Memorial Park is an open, passive park; and they would have to have someone there monitoring it. Ms. Tierney stated Memorial Park could not become another Macclesfield since it does not have the same infrastructure, but she feels it could be considered for light usage.

Mr. Krauss stated possibly they could tell YMS that they could have three teams practice there a few hours a week and that Football could have three teams practice there, and that would alleviate some pressure. He stated they would not be scheduling “whole Divisions worth of games there every week.” He stated he feels they should get in touch with the Leagues to see if this would help them. Ms. Tierney stated she understands that the next step would be that she would contact the Leagues, and she suggested that the Board vote on moving forward with seeking information on possible Permitting of Memorial Park.

Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel they need to make a Motion on that, and they could just give Ms. Tierney direction. Mr. Krauss stated he did not feel a vote was necessary, and they do not yet know what would be the amount of Permitting they are considering. Ms. Tierney stated there is one multi-purpose field.

Ms. Bunn stated she does not feel the Park Board should be having this conversation without getting feedback from the surrounding residents. Ms. Tierney stated they would not be rushing into anything, and it would be a slow process; however, they need to have information that they can give the residents. Ms. Bunn stated she would rather hear from the residents before they involve the Leagues since if the residents give “such back lash, it would not be worth involving the Leagues and getting their hopes up.” Ms. Bunn stated if the residents are in favor of it, they could involve the Leagues and move the process along. Ms. Bunn stated she feels the residents are

more important than reaching out to see what the Leagues need. Mr. Gordon stated the Leagues may not have a need. Mr. Krauss stated he would rather present the residents with a proposal. Ms. Bunn stated the proposal is that they are going to Permit the fields. Mr. Krauss stated he feels they should have a proposal of what they are suggesting they have there. Ms. Bunn stated the residents' voice were very loud last time, and she feels they should be considered this time.

Mr. Gordon stated a majority of the Board is comfortable with Ms. Tierney reaching out to the Leagues to see what they need in terms of light usage. Ms. Tierney stated she could ask the Leagues if the Township were able to help them in some way, what would they be looking for.

Mr. Wysocki stated there is a demand that they cannot satisfy for fields under the current situation. He stated there is one park that has space, but there are restrictions on it, and there is another piece of land that was designed to relieve the pressure on the fields, but they are not able to use it. He stated he feels they should be able to figure out a way to get something resolved. Mr. Wysocki stated he hopes that the Board of Supervisors understands the pressure on the fields, and that they continue to look at accelerating the development of Snipes because without that, they will continue to have this conversation.

Mr. Lewis stated at the last meeting he offered a potential pathway forward, and he feels they should continue to look into this.

Events Update

Ms. Tierney stated this year she changed the way we did the First Friday events at the Community Center, and they had themes this year. She stated they had a Monster Mash with a DJ, Halloween treats, and a costume contest. She stated there were over 100 families present. Ms. Tierney stated they had their first Howl-O-Ween at the Dog Park, and there were 30 to 40 dogs registered in the costume contest with prizes. Ms. Tierney stated she feels that people were expecting a bigger event with more vendors, and next year they will bring in more vendors. Ms. Tierney stated they will have the Holiday Family Fun Night at the Community Center, and there will be crafts, music, and Santa. Ms. Tierney stated the event was very popular last year with approximately 200 people present. She stated it has gained popularity on Facebook, and there were 1,700 indicating they were interested, and last year it was 1,000 so they will prepare for a larger group. She stated they do need volunteers for this event.

Mr. Krauss asked Ms. Tierney if the Youth group is still working with her, and Ms. Tierney stated they are. She stated at the Veterans Day Parade, the Youth Committee volunteered and collected toiletries for Vets. She stated it was very cold, and there were not as many people lining the street as there were last year; but they had over 600 people participating in this year's Parade which is more than they have had since she has been with the Township. Ms. Tierney stated the ceremony went very well.

Fields Maintenance Plan: Memorial Park, Caiola/Fred Allan/Stoddard, Macclesfield Park

Ms. Tierney stated they have been working on aerating some of the fields particularly Caiola, and they are also doing some of the fields at Macclesfield. She stated they are also working at Memorial Park. She stated they are working on trying to get rid of the crabgrass by treating, aerating, and seeding. She stated they will continue to over seed.

Mr. Krauss asked about the shrubs that were dying at Memorial Park. Ms. Tierney stated they hope to take care of that in next year's Budget. Ms. Bunn asked if it was determined why they were dying. Ms. Tierney stated they are going to have to take them out to know, but they believe that there was a pesticide that was applied to them at some point. She stated they want to get it done before the 20th Anniversary. She stated it is going to cost much more than they anticipated, and it will cost approximately \$50,000 because of how careful they have to be around the monument and because of the wiring in the area. She stated the first Budget meeting is tomorrow, and that item will be proposed in the Budget. Ms. Tierney stated it has been determined that most of them are dead; and if they take out some of them, they would have to take out all of them because they have to match them so that they would all be the same.

Bike Path Maintenance Plan

Ms. Tierney stated they are working on a Bike Path Maintenance Plan which will also be in the proposed Budget, and she will bring that to the Park & Rec Board at the next meeting.

Seniors Update

Ms. Tierney stated they have been working with the Seniors on a Contract with regard to the space at the Community Center, as the Seniors have been pushing for something that is in writing. Ms. Tierney stated she came up with a User Agreement

similar to what they use for other groups, and they are still working on refining that. She will advise the Board once that is approved. Mr. McNamara asked about the fees for Seniors, and Ms. Tierney stated the Seniors were told that the fees would be held for a few years, and she believes the fees will be held for two more years. She stated currently they are charged \$20 for non-residents, and \$15 for residents.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Krauss asked about usage and rentals at the Community Center. Ms. Tierney stated she will provide numbers on this next month. She stated they are very full, and there are nights when every room is being used.

Mr. Brody asked if there have been any weddings at the Golf Course since the outside company took over weddings and expanded the tent. Ms. Tierney stated that is outside her purview. Mr. Lewis stated while he is not the Liaison to the Golf Committee this year, he knows that the Golf greens and cart revenue has rebounded from last year. He stated they still have work to do on the food and beverage side in terms of revenue. Ms. Tyler stated she is the Liaison to the Golf Committee, and they are going to reconsider the Contract with the wedding vendor. She stated the main focus has been on food and beverage and the restaurant. She stated the restaurant revenue has been growing, and they have hired a new chef. Ms. Tyler stated it is not possible to accommodate a large wedding unless the tent is used. Mr. Gordon asked the capacity if the tent is used, and Ms. Tyler stated she believes it is under 200. Mr. Gordon asked what is the capacity if the tent is not used, and it was noted it is between 50 and 75 people.

Ms. Tyler stated she does not know if they will be able to work with the current vendor they have for the weddings. She stated the way they are currently filling it for functions is through Mr. Attara and not the wedding vendor. Mr. Lewis stated they have done well with Bar Mitzvahs, Bat Mitzvahs, Sweet 16s and other similar events. Mr. Wysocki stated he feels the food is now better at the Golf Course.

Mr. Brody stated with regard to Memorial Park even though he understands the concept of why they would want to wait to get resident feedback until they know the need, he feels it would be good to get opinions on the Website as to what the residents would like to see done. Ms. Tyler stated it could be put on the Supervisors Agenda. Mr. Brody stated nothing would change without it going before the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Brody stated part of the complaint about Snipes was that only the people from the sports leagues had an opinion on Snipes because it was not made public. He stated he feels they should learn from

the past. Mr. Brody stated the residents are going to want to speak about this as soon as possible, and the reality is that by the time a project gets to the Board, the project already has momentum. He stated in an effort to provide the residents a chance to create their own momentum while the Board is considering it, the Township should consider having a vehicle to allow for the residents to make some degree of comment.

Mr. Wysocki stated if they just ask for thoughts about developing the Park with organized sports, it very easy for someone to say “no.” He stated we have “Park systems” and they should consider which they feel is the preferred one to build. Mr. Gordon stated there are people who are going to say “no.” He stated there were people who said “no” to Macclesfield and “no” to the Pool, and he is glad that they have both of them. He stated they cannot give too much credibility to all the people who say “no” or nothing would ever get done. He stated they do want to hear from people; and if a majority say “no,” they have to give that credence. He stated he feels they should still look into it, and that is all that they agreed to tonight; and Ms. Tierney will be gathering more information.

Ms. Bunn moved, Mr. Wysocki seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Douglas Krauss, Secretary