

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 10, 2026**

A meeting of the Disability Advisory Board of the Township of Lower Makefield was held at the Township building on June 10, 2026. Chairperson Huchler opened the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Those present:

Lisa Huchler, Chairperson (in person)
Abbey Yeatts, Vice Chairperson (in person)
Kierstyn Zolfo, Member (absent)
Larisa Gambale, Member (in person)
Jody Smith, Member (in person)
Matt Ross, Supervisor Liaison (absent)

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 8, 2026 MINUTES

Ms. Yeatts moved, Ms. Smith seconded, and the April 8, 2026 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment this week.

OPEN POSITIONS AND REAPPOINTMENT

Ms. Huchler stated that there are 2 alternate positions open for the Disability Advisory Board (DAB). Anyone interested, please send a letter of interest with a current resume to Township Manager at admin@lmt.org. For further information, please email dab@lmt.org or leave a message at the LMT main number at 267-274-1100. You can also reach out to any LMT Disability Advisory Board Member.

EVENTS

LMT Parks and Rec will be holding a few events this year. We will partner with them to provide a sensory friendly room at the Community center and assist in any other way with events that support accessibility in the township.

Halloween Custom Party	10/2/26
5 K Anyway Color Fun Run	10/11/26
Family Fun Holiday Party	12/4/26

UPDATED ADA TRANSITION PLAN 2.0

Ms. Huchler and Ms. Yeatts attended the May 20, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting and the updated ADA Transition plan 2.0 was approved.

LMT PARKS AND REC PROJECT UPDATES

5 Mile Woods

The outdoor classroom area at Five Mile Woods is being renovated and they want to make this an extension of the new ADA trail and be accessible. John Heilferty has come up with a plan alongside an Eagle Scout Project to “enclose” the area and fill with ADA compliant material so it can be accessed by all.

Extension of Boardwalk Update – materials have been received and they will begin soon on the expansion of the accessible Boardwalk.

Memorial Park

The new playground, adjacent to the Inclusive Playground, will be started sometime this fall. Updated plans were sent to the DAB prior to the April meeting and Ms. Yeatts attended the BOS in May where they approved the playground plans.

The DAB says now is the time to take some of the feedback from the inclusive playground and make some changes. Users have asked if there could be infant/toddler swings in that area (bucket seat type swings). While the inclusive playground does not have any age restrictions it does tend to have younger aged children that would benefit from having a bucket swing. The new playground area will have plenty of regular swings so it might be a chance to switch out some swings on the existing swing structure.

Shade

Shade cannot be part of the grant funds used for the new playground. The BOS included additional funding from the township to make sure we have some shade to protect the children. There will be a fence separating the 2 playgrounds but fortunately the placement of some of the shade structures along this fence line may provide some coverage in the Inclusive Playground area.

New Bathrooms

The prefabricated 2-unit restroom structure will have the requested special needs changing table. This will help parents of these children to attend to their needs while visiting the playground. Ms. Yeatts reviewed the plans and noted the tables are not “adult” size but can accommodate someone up to 4’10” such as an older child. For a playground area this should be adequate. In addition, the table will not be adjustable so it should be installed at a height between 19”-23” per guidelines.

Shade Grant

Ms. Yeatts explained before applying we have to have a Sun Safety Awareness program in place for 1 year. This would be a grant up to \$8,000 and it is non-matching. Ms. Yeatts is working with Parks and Rec department and has approached Yardley Dermatologists to sponsor the program.

Handicapped Parking Signs – Schuyler Tennis Courts

Ms. Huchler noticed that the signs were still not installed after the renovation of the tennis courts. She spoke to Public Works Director, Derek Fuller and he will be ordering and placing signs to be in compliance with PA law.

Projects for future

- Pool Bathroom updates
- Community Center handicapped door and additional parking
- Bike paths
- Kids Kingdom
- Veterans Park
- Macclesfield Field

New class offered

Parkinson Dance Class “Good moves for Parkinson’s”

A new class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers starts 6/25-8/27. So far 12 participants have signed up via the Parks and Rec online class portal.

BUILDING PLAN REVIEW

Ms. Huchler wanted to make sure we ask the LMT Manager/Community Development Dept to continue the procedure of sending all plans to our committee for review/comments as soon as possible. All Board/committees in the township usually would get an update and the plans.

Prickett Plan Updates -No updates.

The Point – No updates. Construction is underway.

Planning Study

The township has engaged Michael Baker International to conduct a planning study for the SR 332/Stony Hill Road/Edgewood Village area. This initiative specifically advances many of the recommendations for action outlined in the Township’s Master Plan Update, which was adopted in August 2019; specifically, those relating to Housing, Land Use Planning, Historic Preservation, and Transportation.

The consultants are working on a new questionnaire that will be in more layman terms for all recipients to respond. We had already made suggestions at our last meeting. The DAB feels the most important items related to accessibility, housing and safety.

Looking for residents/future residents to have the experience of work/live/play all in one vicinity.

We would like to see more open space with clustering of buildings with a creation of a center square fostering community. Interested in something with an old time feel, convenience of parking once and then not having to get back in the car to get to another store/apartment/home within the same complex. Incorporate open space, walking paths, manmade ponds, provide areas to sit and rest in between.

The consultant will forward the new questionnaire once it is completed. The DAB will submit our comments discussed above.

ROLL AND STROLL

The Roll and Stroll event potentially will be held in 2027. Since the new playground will be under construction next year at Memorial Park next to the Inclusive playground Secret Garden. The DAB determined we might want to hold a different event in the Spring at Macclesfield Park. We could focus on inclusive sports opportunities within the township. We can reach out to the many inclusive sports programs in our area to see if they would be receptive to this idea and attend the event in the Spring. Some of these groups we know of are: YMS Special Stars, Cheer abilities, Tuff Club, Magik BB, etc. Ms. Huchler said we could also have vendors attend that are nonprofits groups inside or outside of our area that provide services to our residents such as Autism cares, Special Olympics, Veterans groups, health providers, hospitals and clinics, library, Scouts, Alpha Bravo service animals and any other group interested. Since this event might be geared towards children some of the vendors that have participated in the past might want to wait until we resume the Roll and Stroll. A different name for this type of event might be necessary and then we can resume the Roll and Stroll at another time.

Vendors would bring their own tables and set up. They can provide info for children and adults of all ages and abilities. The DAB will continue to discuss and plan at future meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

Accessible garden

Ms. Gambale will continue to see if there is interest in setting up raised beds in the community gardens. It still could be an Eagle scout project. Ms. Gambale asked if we would provide materials and assistance. Ms. Yeatts stated that they have to put together the entire project and show that they provided the leadership, instruction, coordination, material, supplies, etc. for it to meet the requirements.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Yeatts informed the DAB that the LMT library has recently painted the handicapped parking spots. We are always pleased to see the continued maintenance on these important infrastructure items. Striping helps visually and makes it apparent that these spots are reserved for handicapped vehicles.

Ms. Huchler discussed Slate Hill Cemetery with Historical Commission Chair, Cathy Hanville. They had an inquiry from a resident asking if there could be more access to the cemetery. While many areas in a cemetery cannot comply with the 3-foot requirement we discussed an opportunity to make the entrance area more accessible. Using a more stable and sturdy surface material and a wide-open area give a person in a wheelchair, walker or stroller the ability to view the cemetery. The group is planning on having plaques with information so anyone can read about the cemetery history and they can have speakers discuss and give presentations in this accessible area when they hold events at the entrance area.

When they eventually work on this project, our Board would be happy to assist with any questions, input or assistance.

LMT Volunteer Appreciation

LMT is providing volunteers with a free day pass to the pool or golf course. Members can pick up the passes at the Community Center. We thank the BOS for acknowledging the volunteers in the community.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Next meeting August 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Township Building meeting room.
Will meet every other month.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Smith moved, Ms. Yeatts seconded to adjourn, approved unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Huchler
Chair, Disability Advisory Board