

**Upper Makefield Township
Board of Supervisors
And
Park and Recreation Board
October 16, 2012 Joint Meeting Minutes**

The October 16, 2012 joint public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors and Park and Recreation Board was called to order by Chair Dan Rattigan at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Dan Rattigan, Bud Baldwin, Larry Breeden, Tom Cino and Mary Ryan. Also in attendance were the following members of the Park and Recreation Board: Randy Reardon, Dawn Wyatt, Donna DeSimone, Bill Hoefler, Tom Kovalcik and Jim Pearsall. Interim Township Manager David Nyman and Assistant to the Manager Judy Caporiccio were also present.

**UPPER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP PARK & RECREATION VISION ALIGNMENT
DISCUSSION**

Mr. Rattigan welcomed the members of the Park and Recreation Board, thanking them for all of their dedicated service to our community and introduced their Chairman, Randy Reardon.

Mr. Reardon thanked the Supervisors for their support as well.

FUTURE CAPITAL FUNDING

Mr. Reardon asked what potential sources of funding might be available for parks and recreation as the existing Capital Funds are depleted.

Mr. Cino noted that General Fund funding would be dependent upon the health of our economy and that there is still a possibility of developer funds, but to a much lesser amount.

Mr. Hoefler suggested consideration of more efforts to secure grant funding.

Mr. Reardon noted that the sports clubs, i.e. soccer and baseball, had increased their contributions to development and maintenance of facilities that they utilize.

Mr. Breeden suggested seeking some level of corporate sponsorship for projects.

SPORTS LEAGUE TRENDS

Projection of Future Participants

Mr. Reardon noted that we have three primary club programs (soccer, baseball and lacrosse) utilizing our Parks.

Andy Block highlighted the status of the Upper Makefield (Patriot FC) soccer program noting that they have increased efforts to raise resources to assist with facility development and maintenance. They have a renewed emphasis on their intramural program which primarily uses the Brownsburg Park fields and are not forecasting any significant growth in participants. The club continues to be concerned with field turf conditions and are making investments in those improvements.

Derek Sylvester highlighted the Upper Makefield baseball program that has fields at Lookout Park. He indicated that their numbers are down, that they are putting a renewed emphasis on younger participants and have spent \$75,000 on field improvements. He thanked the Board for their support.

Mr. Hoefler noted that soccer has open enrollment area versus baseball which is tied to boundaries.

Mr. Kovalcik indicated that baseball is looking to grow its Connie Mack program.

Contingencies Sol Feinstone No Longer Available

Both soccer and baseball noted this facility is still available and they use it as needed, but prefer to centralize their activities at our parks when possible. Neither organization forecasts a need for additional fields in the immediate future.

BROWNSBURG PARK

Future Improvements

Ms. DeSimone shared highlights of other possible improvements for Brownsburg Park including tennis courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts and additional playground equipment.

Ms. Ryan noted the value of volleyball and basketball courts.

Mr. Breeden expressed concern that basketball might need lighting.

Ms. Wyatt questioned how these improvements could be funded.

Mr. Cino suggested that some level of interest in these possibilities be determined so that priorities could be established for implementation, possibly a survey. He also suggested referring back to the original park plan. He solicited a consensus from the Supervisors that these improvements could constitute an appropriate use for the Park Three-Year Capital fund.

Mr. Baldwin noted that a multi-use surface for basketball and tennis might be considered.

Mr. Reardon interjected that the uniqueness of our playground equipment has increased its popularity.

LOOKOUT PARK

Mr. Pearsall suggested consideration of a volleyball court and playground equipment. He further thanked baseball for their cooperation in development of Lookout Park.

Mr. Reardon referenced a sketch of possible additional parking developed by Gilmore & Associates which the Park & Recreation Board considered to be cost prohibitive.

Ms. Ryan asked how often parking is a problem, and Mr. Hoefler indicated that by staggering the game schedule, parking might be less of a problem.

MT. EYRE PARK

Mr. Reardon noted the possibility of developing some passive recreation at the Mt. Eyre open space, indicating that its location between two neighborhoods makes its use for active recreation unlikely.

Mr. Baldwin noted drainage problem with the site.

Ms. Ryan shared that the site has limited access through the two neighborhoods and the Township has considerable trails already.

Mr. Cino suggested prioritizing its development as needed with no current need foreseen.

Public Comment

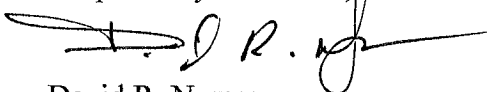
Cathy Magliocchetti, 65 Spring Court, indicated that we need to be cognizant of maintaining the mulch at the playground and also consider any maintenance implication if a volleyball court is developed.

Mr. Rattigan suggested that the Park & Recreation Board consider requesting a volleyball court for the 2013 budget.

Barbara Rintala, 1570 River Road, indicated that the desires of residents not involved in organized sports be given consideration (stay-at-home moms and playground facilities, local youth and basketball courts, etc).

At 7:25, Mr. Rattigan thanked the Park & Recreation Board for taking the time to meet with the Supervisors and declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Nyman
Interim Township Manager

Approved: November 13, 2012