

Park and Recreation Board

October 8, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The October 8, 2012, public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Park and Recreation Board was called to order by Chair Randy Reardon at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Park and Recreation Board: Chair Randy Reardon, Vice Chair Dawn Wyatt, Member Bill Hoefler and Member Eileen Sichel. Members Donna DeSimone, Tom Kovalcik and Jim Pearsall were absent. Also in attendance were Supervisor Liaison Tom Cino and Supervisor Larry Breeden.

Members of the public were also in attendance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Wyatt and was seconded by Ms. Sichel to approve the September 10, 2012 minutes as corrected. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Upper Makefield Youth Ball League - Lookout Park Project Update

Derek Sylvester, President of Upper Makefield Youth Ball League, provided an update of 2012 park improvements. He said the following improvements were made at the middle and upper fields: dugout construction, field modifications for multi-age use, infield sod and irrigation sprinkler installation. In addition, softball backstops were improved and a booster pump was installed for the irrigation system. Improvement to the batting cage floor is budgeted for the fall, followed by installation of donated Astroturf. The club was reminded to contact the township prior to beginning any improvements to assure that all township requirements are met. The club hopes to add senior field fencing and improved bleachers in the future as funds allow.

Additionally, a walkthrough of the park will be scheduled with township staff and a representative of the Environmental Advisory Council to discuss increasing no mow zones and stormwater management.

2013 Budget Request

Patriot FC (formerly Upper Makefield-Newtown Soccer Club)

Following last month's meeting, a subcommittee Park and Recreation Board and soccer club members met to further discuss more cost-effective alternatives for Brownsburg Park field improvements. Keith Miller of Patriot FC explained that TruGreen evaluated the fields and put forth a proposal to aerate, slit seed, chemically treat and water Field 3 for a cost of \$4,500. Their work is guaranteed to provide a playable field for spring 2013 and the slit seeding carries a one-year guarantee. With the township's permission, the soccer club financed this treatment for Field 3 in order to avoid delay and take advantage of the optimal treatment period. With a proper maintenance schedule, the treatments would not be required annually once the grass grows and the roots take hold. The subcommittee recommended evaluating Field 3 in 2013 and contingent on successful results, schedule one or two of the remaining fields for treatment each year.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoefler and seconded by Ms. Wyatt to recommend allocating \$20,000 in the Park and Recreation Capital Fund for remediation of five fields at Brownsburg Park by utilizing the treatment plan stated above for Field 3. Motion carried unanimous vote.

Consensus was that the long range plan is for soccer to assume all maintenance and mowing responsibilities of the soccer fields as they are successfully remediated, hopefully beginning in 2014.

The club also agreed to work cooperatively with other sports groups, like lacrosse, that express interest

in using the fields.

It was noted that the soccer club also provided seeding/aeration to Fields 1 and 2 consistent with the 2012 commitment as discussed at the previous meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Sichel and seconded by Ms. Wyatt to recommend maintaining the 2012 funding level for the 2013 Park Maintenance Budget with the following clarifications:

- The Township will mow all fields and chemically treat Fields 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6
- The soccer club will be responsible for chemical treatments of Field 3
- Soccer's 2013 Field Use Fee will be waived in consideration of the work they completed on Field 3 remediation

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Lookout Park Parking Lot Improvements

Increased parking has been identified as a need at Lookout Park, and Gilmore & Associates provided two alternatives with cost estimates to add spaces. Option 1 would add 39 spaces at a cost of \$57,800 and Option 2 would add 10 spaces at a cost of \$19,590. Consensus was that this project was cost prohibitive, and that except for Opening Day and tournaments, the parking issue could be alleviated by staggering game times.

Joint Board of Supervisors/Park and Recreation Board Meeting Proposed Agenda

A draft agenda for the October 16, 2012 joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors was reviewed. Topics for discussion include vision alignment, anticipated sports league trends and planning for future needs at township parks.

Other Business

November Meeting Date

The November meeting date was changed to Monday, November 19, 2012 because the regular meeting date falls on the Veterans' Day holiday.

Columbus Cup Recap

Ms. Magliocchetti said the YMS Columbus Cup Tournament was a success, five fields were utilized continuously throughout the weekend and the participants and their families were very impressed with the facility. Mr. Miller explained that during the cleanup from the tournament, a cap to the water lines was cracked. Water to the lines was turned off until the cap is repaired.

Brownsburg Park Snack Shed

Ms. Magliocchetti relayed that some soccer club board members have been asked by their membership why the soccer club donated a portion of their snack shed profits and the baseball club did not. Mr. Reardon explained that baseball has assumed full responsibility for field maintenance at Lookout Park and that when soccer assumes those costs as the Brownsburg Park fields are remediated, that procedure will be re-evaluated.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Wyatt and was seconded by Ms. Sichel to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approved: December 10, 2012