

## **Park and Recreation Board**

### **September 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

The September 8, 2014, public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Park and Recreation Board was called to order by Chair Donna DeSimone at 7:34 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Park and Recreation Board: Chair Donna DeSimone, Member Jim Pearsall, Member Eric Schaal and Member Eileen Sichel. Member Bill Hoefler and Member Randy Reardon were not present. Also in attendance were Assistant Manager Judy Caporiccio and Supervisor Liaison Tom Cino.

Members of the public were also in attendance.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Ms. Sichel and was seconded by Mr. Schaal to approve the August 11, 2014 minutes. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **Upper Makefield Youth Baseball/Softball League 2015 Budget Request**

Craig Beverley, President of Upper Makefield Youth Baseball/Softball League, provided an overview of the Club's 2015 Budget request of \$40,000 for the construction of two softball dugouts at Lookout Park. The club determined their request after calculating the actual cost of constructing two dugouts in 2014. Discussion followed and the Board expressed appreciation and support of the contributions the club has made at the park. Due to the Township's limited park and recreation capital resources, the club was encouraged to research opportunities to provide some grant or matching funds to contribute to the project. They were also encouraged to solicit additional competitive bids. Mr. Beverley indicated he will pursue those options and return if the club develops an alternate request.

#### **Patriot FC**

##### **2014 Field Remediation/Usage**

Andrew Adams represented TruGreen and provided an overview of his background. He then addressed concerns related to field usage following remediation of Brownsburg Park Fields 1, 2 and 6. Ms. DeSimone explained the Board's concerns and provided an overview of the history of the field improvements, noting the improvement in field conditions following remediation when the fields were rested for 6-8 months.

Discussion followed and Mr. Adams was asked for a definitive answer as to whether he believes that using the fields in mid-March or early April following an October remediation would harm the turf. Mr. Adams stated that he does not believe that playing on the fields at that time would be harmful because he believes that allows an ample amount of growth time. He noted that ice is one factor that could change his determination of when fields are playable. Mr. Adams offered to evaluate the fields in mid-March with the soccer club and the Township and to donate bags of seed for spot seeding. He indicated his opinion is that rotating usage on fields is a significant factor in maintaining field conditions and reducing overuse of particular fields or areas.

Bob Hill said the soccer club is committed to monitoring field usage and rotating play.

The item will be placed on the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

### **Patriot FC 2015 Budget Request**

Mr. Hill represented Patriot FC and provided an overview of the club's 2015 Budget Request of \$9,400 for continued improvement and remediation of the fields at Brownsburg Park. The club has agreed to assume maintenance responsibilities for the remediated fields in 2015 in lieu of field use fees and requested that the Township continue to provide mowing services. Discussion continued regarding which fields to remediate in Fall 2014. This item will be placed on the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

### **Brownsburg Park Parking**

Mr. Schaal noted that there were many cars parking on the grass when he attended a soccer event at Brownsburg Park. Mr. Hill indicated that the club will be emailing all members, coaches and trainers with reminders not to park on the grass.

### **Yardley-Makefield Columbus Cup Soccer Tournament Request**

Yardley-Makefield Soccer submitted a Field Use Request to hold the Columbus Cup Tournament at Brownsburg Park from October 10-12, 2014. Patriot FC is supportive of the request. A motion was made by Ms. DeSimone and was seconded by Mr. Schaal to approve the YMS Columbus Cup Tournament Request with a refundable security deposit of \$3,000, a tournament fee of \$1,300 and the requirement that YMS provide portable toilets during the tournament. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Other Business**

#### **Dogs on Playing Fields**

The Board of Supervisors requested that the Park and Recreation Board review an issue brought to their attention regarding dogs running loose on playing fields and owners not cleaning up after them. Discussion followed and a motion was made by Mr. Schaal and was seconded by Ms. DeSimone to recommend the purchase of "No Dogs Allowed on Playing Fields" signs to be located on the fence of each Lookout Park field and on existing posts at Brownsburg Park; purchase of similar signs at each park entrance to also include wording to curb dogs; and to include reminders on the Township website, tv scroll and eNews that dogs are not allowed on playing fields. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Pet stations will be researched for 2015 Budget discussions.

#### **Brownsburg Park**

There was discussion about options to deter vandalism at the park, such as entrance gates. Consensus was to consider installation of a camera at the park exit to help identify vehicles in the park after hours. This item will be considered during 2015 budget discussions.

#### **Election of Vice Chair**

A motion was made by Mr. Pearsall and was seconded by Ms. Sichel to nominate Mr. Schaal for the vacant position of Vice Chair. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ms. DeSimone and was seconded by Mr. Pearsall to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approved: October 13, 2014