

Park and Recreation Board

March 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The March 8, 2021 virtual meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Park and Recreation Board was called to order by Chair Bill Hoefer at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Park and Recreation Board: Chair Bill Hoefer, Vice Chair Robert Rupp, Member Jim Pearsall, Member Andy Reiss and Member Debbie Stasolla. Member Maryann Chibbaro was 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. Stasolla and was seconded by Mr. Reiss to approve the February 8, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Spring Field Use Request

Upper Makefield Youth Baseball/Softball League

Rob Polisenno presented the Upper Makefield Youth Baseball/Softball League (UMYBL) Spring 2021 Field Use Request and maintenance plan. In lieu of a field use fee, the club will provide the following maintenance at Lookout Park for 2021:

- Prepare fields for use at the beginning of the season, purchase and spread infield mix as needed, clean dugouts, set-up and replace/repair field equipment.
- Set up irrigation, fertilization and seeding plans as needed for fields.
- Mow and edge fields throughout the year as needed to maintain playability.
- Maintain fields, snack shed, batting cages and dugouts throughout the season.

Discussion followed and a motion was made by Mr. Rupp and seconded by Ms. Stasolla to approve the request of UMYBL for use of Lookout Park fields from March 29 - June 20, 2021 as submitted with the maintenance plan outlined. The snack shed will not be used for the spring season. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mt. Eyre Property Reforestation

Supervisor Tim Thomas presented a request to the Board to reforest the Township-owned 18-acre property in the Mt. Eyre area. Mr. Thomas reviewed the history of the property noting that it is located between two neighborhoods, which limits access, and has some flooding issues. He proposed that converting the area into a forested area using the Township Tree Fund would help alleviate flooding, maintain the land as park land and benefit the environment. Mr. Thomas said he will also seek input from the Environmental Advisory Council before any recommendations are forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Pearsall noted that use of that land has been discussed by the Park and Recreation Board frequently, but the location and layout of the space present unique challenges.

Mr. Cino explained that this land was donated to the Township by developers to meet park and recreation space ordinance requirements and that there is not an urgency for making a recommendation. He urged the Board to consider how they envision the land to be used in the future

(i.e. active recreation, passive recreation, meadow, forest, natural) when making a recommendation as reforestation would remove that area from a potential active park space.

Ms. Stasolla noted that reforestation is a long-term commitment, and she is not comfortable making a recommendation until physically walking the land. She also suggested that a joint meeting with the EAC could be beneficial when making a recommendation on future use.

Further discussion followed. Mr. Hoefler requested that members visit the property before the next meeting. This item will be placed on the April agenda for further discussion.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Reiss and seconded by Ms. Stasolla to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Caporiccio
Assistant Township Manager
Approved: April 12, 2021