

Park and Recreation Board

February 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The February 12, 2024 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Park and Recreation Board was called to order by Mr. Rupp at 7:34 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Park and Recreation Board: Robert Rupp, Debbie Stasolla, Melissa Carpenter, Andy Reis, and Lynn Trstensky. Also in attendance were Assistant Manager Judy Caporiccio and Supervisor Liaison Tom Cino.

Members of the public were also in attendance.

Reorganization

Election of Chair

A motion was made by Mr. Reis and was seconded by Ms. Carpenter to nominate Mr. Rupp as Chair of the Park & Recreation Board for 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Election of Vice Chair

A motion was made by Ms. Trstensky and was seconded by Mr. Reis to nominate Ms. Stasolla as Vice Chair of the Park & Recreation Board for 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Stasolla and was seconded by Ms. Trstensky to approve the September 11, 2023 minutes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Field Use Requests

Patriot FC

Rich Thomson, President of Patriot FC, presented the club's Spring 2024 Field Use Request for March 15 - June 30, 2024 for both youth and adult leagues. In lieu of a field use fee, the club will continue their approved maintenance plan below for Brownsburg Park. Patriot will collaborate with Township management, KJB Turf Management, and Hammer Landscaping to plan for, treat, and remediate the soccer fields. The pavilion is not being requested for Spring use.

- Patriot FC will commit to spending at least \$6,000 on landscaping and maintenance services at Brownsburg. These expenses will focus on weed control, fertilizer, seeding, rolling fields, and other treatments that will bring the greatest benefit to the fields.
- Field resting to be determined once final registration numbers for the season are known.
- Aerate and overseed fields on a needs-based schedule, exact fields to be determined following an evaluation in the early Spring (March-April).
- Patriot FC will pay to maintain or replace the soccer goals, equipment, and supplies used at the park.
- Patriot FC will reimburse the Township for the cost to winterize the irrigation system for all 5 fields.
- In addition to financial support, Patriot FC will continue to rotate goals and equipment, use areas between fields, and run practices outside areas of heavy use to preserve the fields.
- Volunteers and coaches will be at Brownsburg for portions of almost every day of the week during the soccer seasons and will be observant and report observed improper usage or mistreatment of the fields, equipment, or courts at Brownsburg to the Township. Trainers, coaches and volunteers will be instructed to call the police or 911 if they see something.

Discussion followed and a motion was made by Ms. Stasolla and seconded by Ms. Trstensky to approve the Patriot FC Brownsburg Park Use Request for Spring 2024 as submitted, with Patriot FC providing the maintenance plan outlined above in lieu of field use fees and reimbursing the costs of winterizing the irrigation system. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Thomson shared that registrations remain steady, and both the youth and adult leagues are active and engaged.

Upper Makefield Youth Baseball League

Mike Castello, President of UMYBL, presented the club's Spring Field Use Request and maintenance plan for Lookout Park:

- 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. This is an estimated \$10,000+ expense that the League will incur.
- Set up irrigation, fertilization and seeding plans as needed for fields.
- Mow and edge fields during the playing season as needed to maintain playability. In the spring/summer months, mowing will occur every 7-14 days.
- Maintain fields, snack-sheds, batting cages and dugouts throughout the season.

Discussion followed, and a motion was made by Mr. Reis and seconded by Ms. Stasolla to approve the request of UMYBL for use of Lookout Park fields and snack stand from April 1 - June 30, 2024 as submitted conditioned upon the club providing the maintenance plan above in lieu of field use fees and contributing 10% of concession stand proceeds to the Township. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Castello noted that emphasis was placed on tee ball this year, resulting in increased registrations. Baseball's Opening Day 2024 is April 6.

He noted that the fundraising game last year between the police and fire department helped to defray increasing costs, and another fundraising game is planned in May. Paperwork and documentation will be submitted to the Township when details are confirmed.

Temporary Banner Request

Upper Makefield Youth Baseball/Softball League

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2010-11-17-01, UMYBL submitted a Temporary Promotional Banner Permit request for Lookout Park and George's Field for 2024. A motion was made by Ms. Stasolla and was seconded by Ms. Trstensky to recommend approval of the 2024 Temporary Promotional Banner Permit Request submitted by UMYBL. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The request will be forwarded to the Planning & Zoning Department for review and approval.

Memorial Butterfly Garden

Mr. Cino provided background that the Township is planning to build a Butterfly Garden at Brownsburg Park in memory of the seven victims lost in the July 15 flash flood event in Upper Makefield. The families are supportive of the project, which is being assigned to the Park & Recreation and Environmental Advisory Committees for development. The Park & Recreation Board will consider items such as location, size, shape, and hardscape while the EAC will help determine which plantings are most appropriate. Before the next meeting, members will visit the park and research butterfly gardens for discussion at the next meeting.

Liaison Reports

Township: Ms. Caporiccio provided the following updates:

- Lookout Park Shade Canopy delivery is expected in April/May. Tri-State Engineers is developing specifications for the construction.
- Per recommendation of the EAC, annual Spring mowing of the no-mow areas at Lookout and Brownsburg Parks will be scheduled with the Public Works Department.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Caporiccio

Assistant Township Manager

Approved: March 11, 2024