

Important Background To Current Field Location/Cost Crisis

1970 - LYA begins providing recreation services to West Pikeland Township children at Uwchlan Township fields, per LYA letter to WPT 9/07

Interim – WPT offered Hallman’s Field to LYA, which was not acceptable due to lack of parking and later, in the absence of parkland, WPT offered Montgomery School, which was rejected. WPT was temporarily suspended, and paid \$15,000 for not having fields

1998 – WPT, working with LYA, creates 2 fields at newly acquired, Pine Creek Park at a cost of almost \$400,000 with amenities and access road. WPT enrollment is approximately 250. LYA says it expects an additional field when WPT child enrollment hits 300. There were also “non LYA play” days so the residents could use the fields, which was later eliminated.

2000 - WPT enrollment hits 270. A Task Force is established to search for a new field outside of PCP to prepare for hitting the 300 level, but are unable to locate any suitable spot without deed restrictions. Source - Bill Cracas brochure for Supervisor Fall 2003. Bill was 1st head of Park and Rec and the Twp liaison with LYA. See Exhibit # 1.

2001 – 2007 – Deed restrictions enacted at the end of 2001 that eliminated future fields at PCP was reversed and eliminated in 2004. WPT growth slows and population ages. LYA enrollments stagnate in the 260-290 range.

2004 – In Oct WPT 24 acres on Rte 401 known as Windolph Knoll, for \$652, 000 for the express purpose of active recreation, and municipal use.

March 2006 – An update to the WPT Comprehensive Plan, entitled Open Space Recreation & Resource Plan was approved by BOS. This included a survey of residents and workshops. Adding active recreation fields at PCP would be contrary to the Plan update . See summary – Exhibit # 2.

2006 – Downingtown Area School District releases it’s growth projections for the eight municipalities it serves as part of it’s massive school building program. The study confirms that WPT new home creation has slowed to a crawl and is by far the least growth of any of the DASD areas. In the period of 2005 – 2009 WPT is projected to add only 62 units. That number is 100 less that the next in line, Uwchlan, and almost 1000 less than Upper Uwchlan. It is dramatically less than the 3 prior 4 year periods in WPT which ranged from 157 to 207. See, Exhibit #3.

2006 – In the fall LYA, when it appeared WK could be sold to DASD, talk began about a new field on PCP situated well back in the park to the left. LYA asked the Lionville Fire Chief to visit and comment on the more remote location for safety/rescue. He felt that PCP needs another entrance/ exit for safety, and raised the problem of no bridge access in

times of flooding. Subsequently in 2008, Yerkes calculations on weight limits for the main bridge indicate it would not support the Lionville primary rescue vehicle nor Kimberton's either. Bridge spec are on file in the Twp office

2007 – In Jan minutes of BOS Mtg of 1/2/07 the TWP engineer is commissioned to “evaluate a 2nd entrance to Pine Creek Park that does not include flooding” and “to design a preliminary plan for a playing field”. See Exhibit # 4.

2007 – In Feb, BOS announced WK would not be sold to DASD and introduced Dorothy Foster of LYA to discuss a LYA/ WPT partnership whereby WPT would build the parking lot for \$250,000 and LYA would secure grants for most of the remaining \$1,000,000. for the 2 fields proposed immediately. If 4 fields, the gross cost would be about \$2,500,000. WPT reaffirms WK as the active recreation destination of the future. Covered in DLN, Feb 23, 2007. See Exhibit # 5.

2007 – Nothing transpired from Feb until LYA's letter to BOS dated Sept 13, 07 . LYA stated rules for WPT future participation, that are apparently new. It states WPT has only 1 ½ fields, so are short 1 ½., Many felt we were only short one field, under a 1 field per 100 kids formula. LYA wanted the fields immediately (deadline May 20, 2008), located with their approval or WPT must pay \$15,000 in lieu of these fields. See same 2003 brochure indicating we had two fields and only needed a third . Exhibit # 1

2007 - In the Oct 1 BOS meeting a practice field near the area requested by LYA was approved with temporary parking on the grass. This could be accomplished for less than \$20,000. When the BOS was asked what had been done to satisfy the demands of the Lionville Fire Chief regarding another entrance/exit for safety of the kids, “ WPT BOS and office staff couldn't find the Chief's letter and the chief couldn't remember writing it” See Exhibit #7

2007 – Nov 5, BOS Mtg, Ted Giacomis (township engineer) presents a 1 ½ field, two phase plan entering thru the Palmer Property. This has multiple bridges and does not remedy any flood problem. He also says the new “full size” field will cost \$100,000 to \$150,000 for the field alone and could be ready in the fall of 2009. He says there are many stone options available for the parking lot. DLN article 11/10/07 Exhibit #8

2007 – In the Dec 2007 special meeting for the following year budget, the BOS approved \$20,000 for all of 2008.

2008 – At the June BOS meeting, the new field was approved, based on an total cost estimate of less than \$100, 000, versus a budget line of \$20, 000. It was also stated that the \$15, 000 penalty payment for not having the full size field ready, must be paid but would be returned by LYA toward actual field construction. FRC thinks BOS approved the field without the parking lot and other essential and intangible costs that will be presented 7/14/08.

