

## Summary of Changes to Parks and Recreation Element

The following document was originally based upon a document created by the Long Hill Township Recreation Committee. The Master Plan committee has modified the document into its current and includes recent comments (Sept 4, 2018) from the Recreation Committee.

1. The Element continues to promote the recommendations are noted in the 1996 Master Plan and 2013 Re-examination Report, which was previously reported under COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND RECREATION, namely:
  - To augment existing recreational facilities with the development of additional facilities, including ballfields, soccer fields, trails and other facilities designed for the benefit of all segments of the Township population.
  - To continue the development of Township pocket parks.
2. Trails form an integral part of the 1996 Master Plan and continues to be a high priority use within this Element and the Open Space Element
3. Since the 1996 Master Plan there is been an expansion of Active Recreation facilities, namely at Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park. While the 1996 Master Plan raised concerns about extensive recreation development, this Master Plan Element reflects that controlled growth in facilities provides improved resources for all Township residents.
4. As with other Master Plan Elements there is an interest to leverage the expertise and enthusiasm of Long Hill Township committees/commissions to help maintain assigned Elements to ensure future improvements or changes are reflected in the Elements to create a more dynamic update process.
5. Maps will be updated at a later date once a catalogue of maps has been created.
6. Appendix 1 and 2 Data will be updated at a later date.

### Post Oct 23 2018 Planning Board Discussion

- Track Changes to accommodate comments from the Planning Board Oct 23 108 meeting
- Metrics in Appendices 1 & 2 to be updated
- Recommendations for Active and Passive Recommendations have been bulleted rather than numbered

**Township of Long Hill**  
**Parks and Recreation Element**

**DRAFT VERSION**

~~Oct 19, 2018~~ Nov 13 2018

For Planning Board Discussion

1 **Introduction**

2 Recreational activities are an important consideration in Long Hill Township  
3 where there is strong community involvement.

4 The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommend that a park  
5 system be comprised of a range of 6.25 acres to 10.5 acres of developed open space  
6 per 1,000 residents. According to this equation, Long Hill Township should have  
7 between 54.37 and 91.35 acres of developed open space. Long Hill Township does  
8 meet this recommendation with 103 acres currently developed for active and  
9 passive recreation (which are not mutually exclusive), located as follows:

- 10 • Hicks' Tract – 59.2 acres
- 11 • Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park – 23 acres
- 12 • Long Hill Baseball and Softball Stirling Complex – 10.4 acres
- 13 • Stirling Lake Park – 7 acres
- 14 • Meyersville Field / Complex – 2.15 acres
- 15 • Turtlerock Park – 1.26 acres

16 Recreational planning is a continuous process that adapts to new social values and  
17 changing life-style patterns while meeting the recreational needs of all residents.

18 The Long Hill Township Parks and Recreation Department provides a variety of  
19 active and passive activities for residents of all ages while maintaining our parks  
20 and facilities to the highest safety and aesthetic standards. Maintenance and  
21 improvements to current facilities are managed through the Public Works  
22 Department.

23 **Active Recreation**

24 The 1996 Master Plan's Overall Goals, re-endorsed in subsequent Reevaluation  
25 Reports in 2003 and 2013, contained the following goal for active recreation:

26           “To augment existing recreational facilities with the development of  
27           additional facilities, including ballfields, soccer fields, trails and other  
28           facilities designed for the benefit of all segments of the Township  
29           population.”

30 Long Hill Township Parks and Recreation Department run many active  
31 recreational programs throughout the year that fully utilize the townships  
32 recreational assets, as well as the Long Hill Board of Education facilities. Space is  
33 also rented from a local church for a pre-school program. By employing many local  
34 residents as seasonal employees the Parks and Recreation Department is able to  
35 support a wide range of local activities, including Travel and Recreation Basketball  
36 (Youth & Adult), a Summer Recreation Camp and swimming at Stirling Lake. Long  
37 Hill Township also provides a bicycle route between Stirling and Millington Train  
38 stations

39 In addition to Township orchestrated recreational activities there are a number of  
40 associations operating within Long Hill who use recreational facilities.

- 41       • Long Hill Baseball and Softball Association (LHBSA) operate:
  - 42           ○ 3 fields at the LHBSA Stirling Complex
  - 43           ○ 1 fields at the Meyerville Complex
  - 44           ○ Fields at 3 local public schools
- 45       • Watchung Hills Soccer Association use 2 fields at Matthew G. Kantor  
46        Memorial Park.
- 47       • The Hills Lacrosse Club use 1 field at Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park.

## 48 **Passive Recreation**

49 The 1996 Master Plan’s Overall Goals, re-endorsed in subsequent Reevaluation  
50 Reports in 2003 and 2013, contained the following goal for passive recreation:

51           “To develop a trail system throughout the Township that will provide  
52           circulatory links to the Township's residential, business, recreational, and

53 open spaces areas and enhance local appreciation of, and recreation in, the  
54 Township's many natural resources.”

55 This plan continues to endorse that goal where residents are provided an  
56 opportunity to walk, relax or otherwise enjoy passive recreation in natural or man-  
57 made environments such as (See Map X1):

- 58 • Hicks’ Tract (Millington).
- 59 • Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park (Gillette).
- 60 • Stirling Lake Park (Stirling).
- 61 • Turtlerock Park (Stirling).
- 62 • And other areas as identified in the Open Space Element.

### 63 **General Recommendations**

64 Recreation activities cover a wide range of interests and purposes that have a  
65 major impact on land use within Long Hill Township. To fully realize the  
66 recommendations set forth a great deal of co-operation by landowners and  
67 governmental agencies will be required to ensure all residents have easy access to  
68 recreation that is dispersed throughout the township.

- 69 1. Encourage development of new recreation opportunities through partnerships  
70 with private and public entities:
  - 71 a. Property developers to provide, where feasible, common open space with public  
72 recreation opportunities.
  - 73 b. Develop opportunities with NJ Transit Railroad.
    - 74 a. Example “Rails with Trails” to connect the 3 NJ Train Stations with a paved trail.
  - 75 c. Develop opportunities with Public Utilities.
  - 76 d. Develop opportunities with the Passaic River Coalition.
  - 77 e. Develop opportunities with the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge and the  
78 Great Swamp Watershed Association.
  - 79 f. Develop opportunities with Morris County and neighboring Counties and Towns  
80 especially where shared use of the Passaic River and other common public spaces  
81 are available.

- 82 2. Explore opportunities, as they arise, to use environmentally constrained lands  
83 in and around the Downtown Valley Business Zone for possible recreation  
84 uses and leisure activities and pedestrian and bike access in partnership with  
85 land owners.
- 86 3. Explore recreational opportunities that the Passaic River could offer as it is  
87 currently an underutilized asset for Long Hill Township.
- 88 4. Recreation covers a wide range of activities, many of which are under the  
89 oversight of the Township, Township Committees or Commissions, therefore,  
90 the following should be, in part, responsible for the future success of this  
91 Element:
- 92 a. Long Hill Township Parks and Recreation Department.  
93 b. Open Space Advisory Committee.  
94 c. Central Park Vision Committee.

## 95 **Active Recreation Recommendations**

- 96 • Additional Trails to expand the trail system suitable for hiking, bicycle, cross  
97 country skiing and pedestrian use throughout the township that will provide  
98 circulatory links to the township's neighborhoods, commercial centers and  
99 open spaces areas. Trails should be a mix of paved and natural/wood chipped  
100 pathways. **See Map xx – Open Space Element**
- 101 • Additional multi-purpose lighted turf field (soccer, lacrosse, football) field  
102 with 400m Track.
- 103 • A total of 4 lighted tennis courts in close proximity to each other to support  
104 USTA sanctioned competitions.
- 105 • Provide a self-funded dog park for residents only to exercise their dogs, off  
106 leash but with curbing the dog.
- 107 • Build a Swimming Pool Complex (Outdoor), without detriment to Stirling  
108 Lake Park swimming facilities, that provides residents with:
- 109 a. A Long Course 50m Pool with a smaller pool for under 5 year olds  
110 b. Changing Rooms and Toilets

- 111 c. Picnic area
- 112 d. Playground
- 113 e. Flooded area for winter ice skating
  
- 114 • Continually update existing playgrounds as improved safety equipment is
- 115 developed and needs change.
  
- 116 • Add and/or fully utilize any existing Indoor Recreation Space to support
- 117 programs that cover a wide range of activities that are suitable for residents for
- 118 all ages.
  
- 119 • Encourage ecotourism and promote river, hiking and biking leisure activities
- 120 where appropriate in the Township.
  
- 121 • Increase recreational opportunities along the Passaic River notably in creating
- 122 access points for non-motorized water craft.
  
- 123 • Create ~~paved~~-walking paths that encourage residents to actively exercise
- 124 through walking in a looped circuit with outdoor for stretching and exercising
- 125 stations. For example, the pathways around the playing fields at Matthew G.
- 126 Kantor Memorial Park.

127 **Passive Recreation Recommendations**

- 128 • Promote the development of a rail-with-trail system of easements along the
- 129 New Jersey Transit rail line to link with other parts of the Long Hill Township
- 130 trail system as well as providing a unique opportunity for connecting non-
- 131 motorized transportation with public transportation, such as when a trail
- 132 leads to a train station.
  
- 133 • Encourage establishment of an outdoor open area to use for dining, local art,
- 134 music and other events.
  
- 135 • Develop pocket parks, where practical, ~~within the Downtown Valley Business~~
- 136 ~~Zone.~~

- 137 • Build an open air Amphitheatre for Performing Arts, such as theatre and  
138 music, near the large scale Township facilities such as Town Hall and the  
139 Library.
  
- 140 • Create a Community Garden/Greenhouse to be operated and funded by a local  
141 group of residents that could be built upon Open Space that is either private  
142 or public land. The facility may produce fruit, vegetables, and/or ornamental  
143 flowers.
  
- 144 • Build bird hides, or other such structures, along the Passaic River to encourage  
145 residents to stop and stay by the river.



146 **APPENDIX 1: RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
 147 **NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

APPENDIX 1 NEEDS TO BE UPDATED  
 WITH CURRENT NUMBERS

148 **Playing Fields**

149 The Long Hill Township youth sports programs are  
 150 popular outlets for residents under the age of 18 (particularly, residents ages 5-14).  
 151 The Long Hill Parks and Recreation Department organizes sports programs in the  
 152 following areas by number of Participants.

153

| <i>SPORT</i>                 | <i>Ages / Grades</i> | <i>2015-16</i> | <i>2014-15</i> | <i>2013-14</i> | <i>2012-13</i> | <i>2011-12</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Recreation Basketball</i> | <i>Grades 1-8</i>    | ?              | 242            | 279            | 271            | 272            |
| <i>Travel Basketball</i>     | <i>Grades 4-8</i>    | ?              | 107            | 112            | 111            | 113            |
| <i>Adult Basketball</i>      | <i>Adults 18+</i>    | ?              | 32             | 26             | 24             | 17+            |
| <i>Girls' Lacrosse</i>       | <i>Grades 5-8</i>    | Hills LAX      | Hills LAX      | Hills LAX      | 31             | 42             |
| <i>Girls' Field Hockey</i>   | <i>Grades 5-8</i>    | 51             | 40             | 36             | 40             | 39             |

154 *Source: Recreation Committee Report October 2015*

155 In addition to the sports programs, the Parks and Recreation Department also  
 156 organizes clinics throughout the year in Lacrosse, Field Hockey, and Volleyball.

157 The Parks and Recreation Department also works with several local sports clubs.  
 158 Through partnership agreements with these organizations, which are organized  
 159 along regional sending district lines (Long Hill, Warren, Watchung, Green Brook),  
 160 Long Hill Township lends its fields to these programs at no charge. Oratory Prep  
 161 uses the turf field for practice under a lease agreement.

| <i>SPORT</i>                                     | <i>Ages / Grades</i> | <i>2015</i> |              | <i>2014</i> |              | <i>2013</i> |              | <i>2012</i> |              |
|--|----------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
|  |                      | <i>LHT</i>  | <i>Other</i> | <i>LHT</i>  | <i>Other</i> | <i>LHT</i>  | <i>Other</i> | <i>LHT</i>  | <i>Other</i> |
| <i>Recreation Soccer (WHS) Fall &amp; Spring</i> | <i>Pre K-8</i>       |             |              | 296         | 1519         | 304         | 1,556        | 295         | 1,612        |
| <i>Travel Soccer (WHS) Fall &amp; Spring</i>     | <i>2-8</i>           |             |              | 55          | 424          | 48          | 480          | 48          | 428          |
| <i>NJ Elite Soccer (WHS) (New '14)</i>           |                      |             |              | 3           | 92           |             |              |             |              |
| <i>Hills Lacrosse (Boys Only) Spring</i>         | <i>3-8</i>           | 46          | 160          |             |              | 54          | 187          | 67          | 242          |

|                               |     |    |    |  |  |                         |                         |
|-------------------------------|-----|----|----|--|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Hills Lacrosse (Girls)</b> | 3-8 | 20 | 80 |  |  | N/A - Long Hill Program | N/A - Long Hill Program |
| <b>Oratory Prep (new)</b>     |     |    |    |  |  |                         |                         |

162 Source: Recreation Committee Report October 2015

163 The Long Hill Township Baseball Softball Association (LHBSA) operates from the  
 164 Baseball and Softball Fields located at the end of Poplar Drive in Stirling. The  
 165 township owns this property and leases it to the association. In addition, the  
 166 LHBSA also books additional time at Meyersville Field.

| SPORT           | 2012   |        |      | 2013   |        |      | 2014   |        |      | 2015   |        |      |
|-----------------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|------|
|                 | Spring | Summer | Fall | Spring | Summer | Fall | Spring | Summer | Fall | Spring | Summer | Fall |
| <b>Baseball</b> | 290**  | 90     | 20*  | 242**  | 78     | 30*  | 222**  | 75     | 25*  | 191**  | 100    | 25*  |
| <b>Softball</b> | 179    | 62     | 75*  | 183    | 68     | 78*  | 178    | 72     | 75*  | 174    | 70     | 72*  |

167 \* Fall Programs combine teams with sending district towns, but report shows only LHT players.

168 \*\* Spring numbers do not include Senior Boys (ages 13-15) which are registered through the Warren  
 169 program, but these boys do also utilize Long Hill facilities.

170 Residents and non-residents can rent the fields/facilities for events such as  
 171 birthday parties. Several local clubs including adult and children's sports  
 172 organizations also rent the fields. The charts below detail the number of hours  
 173 field permits were issued at Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park Field #1, Matthew  
 174 G. Kantor Memorial Park Field #2, and Meyersville Field.

175

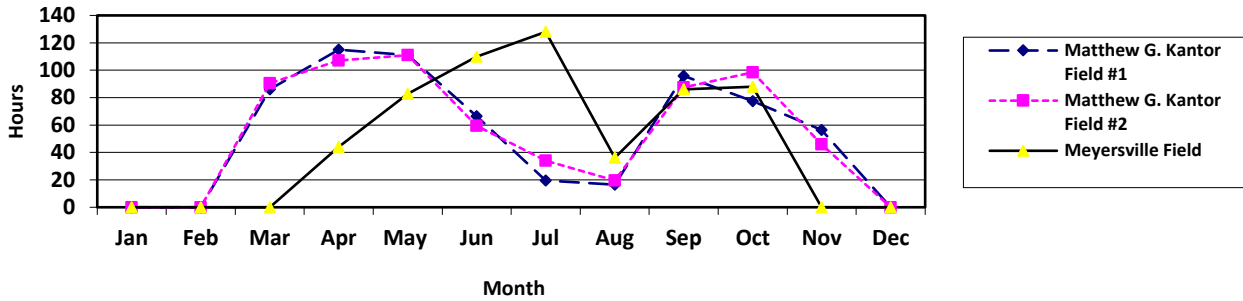
176 **2012**

177

| ORGANIZATION                        | Matthew G.<br>Kantor Field #1 | Matthew G.<br>Kantor Field #2 | Meyersville<br>Field | TOTAL<br>ORGANIZATION |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Watchung Hills Soccer Assoc.</b> | 488                           | 276                           | 0                    | 764                   |
| <b>The Hills Lacrosse Club</b>      | 122                           | 16                            | 0                    | 138                   |
| <b>LHT Recreation</b>               | 11                            | 336.5                         | 0                    | 347.5                 |
| <b>LHBSA</b>                        | 0                             | 0                             | 322.25               | 322.25                |
| <b>All Other</b>                    | 23.5                          | 25                            | 252.5                | 301                   |
| <b>TOTAL FIELD</b>                  | <b>638.5</b>                  | <b>658.5</b>                  | <b>574.75</b>        | <b>1,872.75</b>       |

178

Field Hours By Month (2012)



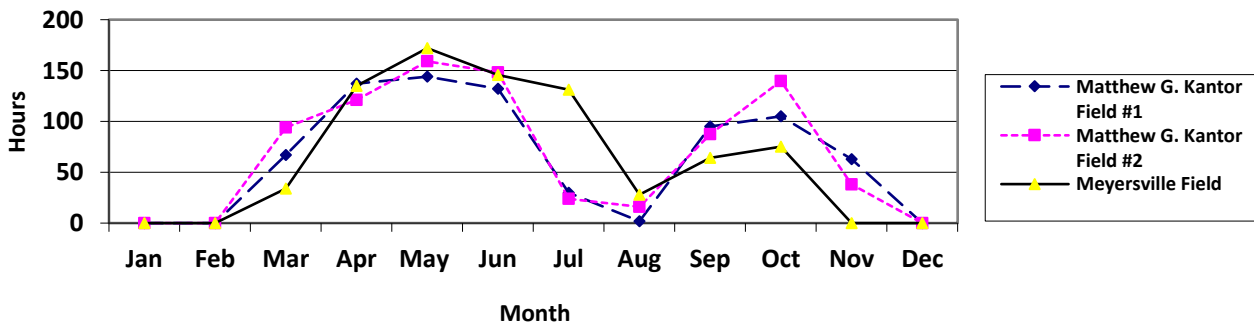
- 179
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- Note 1: The charts only show when a permit was issued and not when the field(s) was used without a permit.
- 181
- Note 2: Fields usually open March/early April and close mid November. Kantor Field#1 closed Oct '15 due to turfing.
- 182
- 183

184 **2013**

185

| ORGANIZATION                 | Matthew G. Kantor Field #1 | Matthew G. Kantor Field #2 | Meyersville Field | TOTAL ORGANIZATION |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Watchung Hills Soccer Assoc. | 367.5                      | 248                        | 0                 | 615.5              |
| The Hills Lacrosse Club      | 350                        | 154                        | 0                 | 504                |
| LHT Recreation               | 10                         | 374.5                      | 0                 | 384.5              |
| LHBSA                        | 0                          | 0                          | 515               | 515                |
| All Other                    | 47.5                       | 50.5                       | 269.5             | 367.5              |
| <b>TOTAL FIELD</b>           | <b>775</b>                 | <b>827</b>                 | <b>784.5</b>      | <b>2,386.5</b>     |

Field Hours By Month (2013)



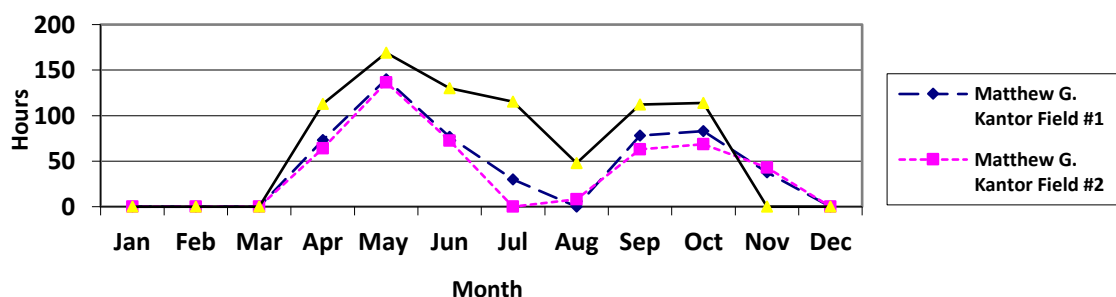
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- Note 1: The charts only show when a permit was issued and not when the field(s) was used without a permit.
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189 • Note 2: Fields usually open March/early April and close mid November

190 **2014**  
191

| ORGANIZATION                 | Matthew G.<br>Kantor Field #1 | Matthew G.<br>Kantor Field #2 | Meyersville<br>Field | TOTAL<br>ORGANIZATION |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Watchung Hills Soccer Assoc. | 266.5                         | 216                           | 0                    | 482.5                 |
| The Hills Lacrosse Club      | 189.5                         | 146.5                         | 0                    | 336                   |
| LHT Recreation               | 7                             | 85                            | 86                   | 178                   |
| LHBSA                        | 0                             | 0                             | 601.5                | 601.5                 |
| All Other                    | 55                            | 8                             | 114                  | 177                   |
| <b>TOTAL FIELD</b>           | <b>518</b>                    | <b>455.5</b>                  | <b>801.5</b>         | <b>1,775</b>          |

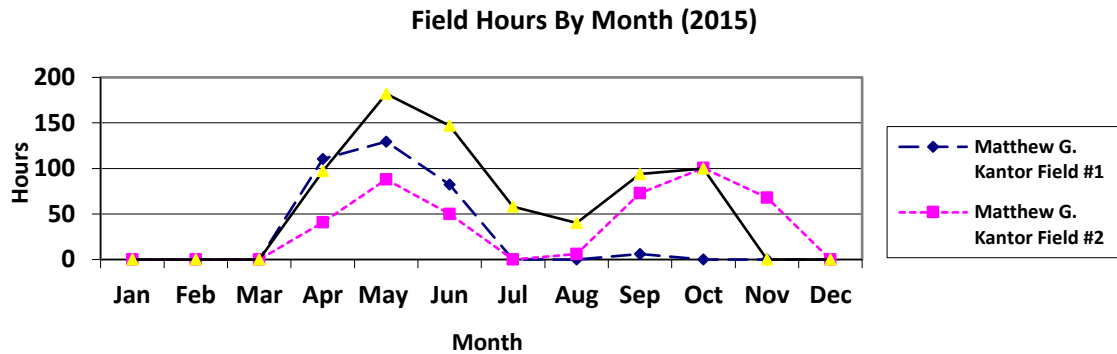
Field Hours By Month (2014)



192

193 **2015**  
194

| ORGANIZATION                 | Matthew G.<br>Kantor Field #1 | Matthew G.<br>Kantor Field #2 | Meyersville<br>Field | TOTAL<br>ORGANIZATION |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Watchung Hills Soccer Assoc. | 304.5                         | 203                           | 0                    | 507.5                 |
| The Hills Lacrosse Club      | 0                             | 123                           | 0                    | 123                   |
| LHT Recreation               | 0                             | 90.5                          | 96                   | 186.5                 |
| LHBSA                        | 0                             | 0                             | 413                  | 413                   |
| All Other                    | 24                            | 10                            | 209                  | 243                   |
| <b>TOTAL FIELD</b>           | <b>328.5</b>                  | <b>426.5</b>                  | <b>718</b>           | <b>1,473</b>          |



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- 199
- Note 1: The charts only show when a permit was issued and not when the field(s) was used without a permit.
  - Note 2: Fields usually open March/early April and close mid November. Kantor Field#1 closed Oct '15 due to turfing.

200 **Dog Park**

201 Long Hill Township currently does not have a dog park and by default, many  
 202 residents walk their dogs in the Hicks' Tract and Matthew G. Kantor Memorial  
 203 Park. The Parks and Recreation Department has received numerous requests from  
 204 dog owners for a separate dog park where they can let their dogs run and exercise.  
 205 While dog walkers use Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park to exercise their dogs,  
 206 dogs are not permitted on the playing fields. There are issues controlling dogs  
 207 where they are permitted and getting dog owners to clean up after their dogs. As  
 208 of July 2013, there were 890 dogs licensed to homeowners living in Long Hill  
 209 Township. In 2015 a total of 727 licenses were issued.

210 **Indoor Recreation**

211 The LHT Recreation department has identified opportunities to run additional  
 212 indoor programs for the community but with limited access to indoor recreation  
 213 space, they are unable to do so. The LHT Recreation department has tried to run  
 214 programs utilizing the Community Room in the Library but have found scheduling  
 215 issues to be difficult.

216 Additional recreation programs could be considered with access to indoor  
 217 recreation space. The LHT Recreation department are fortunate that they are able  
 218 to use the public school gyms for our basketball programs and volleyball clinics  
 219 during the school year and also utilize the facilities in the summer to run our

220 summer camp (grades K-8). However, the Long Hill Recreation department still  
221 faces constraints with programming given available space and program demand.  
222 The LHT Recreation department still rents space at a local church to house our  
223 very successful pre-K summer camp program.

224 Long Hill has a Community Center that offers indoor space for recreational use.

### 225 **Swimming pool**

226 Although Long Hill has Stirling Lake for aquatic recreation and swimming, there  
227 are still other residents who request a swimming pool. Many residents go outside  
228 of Long Hill Township to join community pools in neighboring towns because they  
229 do not like swimming in a lake. Having a pool as an alternative to Stirling Lake for  
230 swimming in Long Hill should be considered in the future.

### 231 **Multi-age playground**

232 An additional multi-age playground should also be considered. With more than  
233 25% of our population under the age of 18, the Long Hill Recreation department  
234 wants to make sure there are ample opportunities for our youth to stay active.

235 Increased emphasis on child health and childhood obesity issues are an important  
236 consideration for us in future planning.

### 237 **Local Access to Active Recreation**

238 Active Recreational facilities are located in Stirling and Meyersville. Residents of  
239 Millington and Gillette have limited active recreation opportunities within walking  
240 distance.

241 **APPENDIX 2: INVENTORY FACILITY**  
 242 **OVERVIEW (DEVELOPED)**

APPENDIX 2 NEEDS TO BE UPDATED  
 WITH CURRENT NUMBERS

243

|  | <i>Matthew G.<br/>Kantor<br/>Memorial Park</i> | <i>Stirling<br/>Lake<br/>Park</i> | <i>Meyersville Field /<br/>Complex</i> | <i>LHBSA<br/>Stirling<br/>Complex</i> | <i>Hicks'<br/>Tract</i> | <i>Turtlerock<br/>Park</i> |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Acres</b>                                 | 23   | 7                                 | 2.15                                   | 10.4                                  | 59.2                    | 1.26                       |
| <b>Active Recreation</b>                     |  |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Tennis court (78 feet)</b>                | 3  |                                   | 1                                      |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Multi-purpose grass playing field</b>     | 2  |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Basketball court</b>                      | 1  |                                   | 1                                      |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Baseball/Softball Field 46x60</b>         |  |                                   |  | 2                                     |                         |                            |
| <b>Baseball/Softball Field 60x90</b>         |  |                                   |  | 1                                     |                         |                            |
| <b>Baseball/Softball Field 50x70 / 46x60</b> |  |                                   | 1                                      |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Batting Cage</b>                          |  |                                   | 1                                      | Yes                                   |                         |                            |
| <b>Field(s) with Lights</b>                  |  |                                   | 1                                      | 1                                     |                         |                            |
| <b>Swimming Lake / Beach</b>                 |  | Yes                               |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Beach Volleyball Court</b>                |  | 1                                 |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Playground</b>                            | Yes<br>(ages 5-12)                             | Yes<br>(ages 5-12)                | Yes (ages 2-5)                         |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Bike Path</b>                             |  |                                   |  |                                       | Yes                     |                            |
| <b>Passive Recreation</b>                    |  |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Bocci Ball</b>                            | 2  |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Horseshoe pit</b>                         | 1  |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Boat Launch</b>                           | Yes (canoe/kayak)                              |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Fishing Pond</b>                          |  | Yes                               |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Walking Path</b>                          | Yes  | Yes                               |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Walking Trail</b>                         |  |                                   |  |                                       | Yes (5)                 |                            |
| <b>Facilities</b>                            |  |                                   |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Restroom</b>                              | Yes  | Yes                               |  | Yes                                   |                         |                            |
| <b>Food and Beverage</b>                     |  |                                   |  | Yes                                   |                         |                            |
| <b>Covered Picnic Area</b>                   | Yes  | Yes                               |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Open Picnic Area</b>                      |  |                                   | Yes                                    | Yes                                   |                         |                            |
| <b>Barbecue Grill</b>                        |  | Yes                               |  |                                       |                         |                            |
| <b>Bench Seating</b>                         |  |                                   |  |                                       |                         | Yes                        |

| <b>Dogs Permitted</b>           | Yes<br><i>(except playing fields and courts)</i> | No        |           |           | Yes |                      |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----|----------------------|
| <b>Parking</b>                  | 200 spaces                                       | 40 spaces | xx spaces | xx spaces | No  | Yes (Street)         |
| <b>Handicap Parking</b>         |  | 4 spaces  |           |           |     |                      |
| <b>Other points of interest</b> |  |           |           |           |     | Historical artifacts |

244 **Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park** (formerly known as Riverside Park) is  
 245 located next to the Town Hall building. Efforts were underway in 2013 to repair  
 246 and resurface the existing tennis courts and the basketball court. This is an active  
 247 park which caters to a lot of different activities. There are quite a few dog walkers  
 248 that visit the park daily.

249 There are several walking paths within the park. The main contiguous path which  
 250 encircles Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park Field #1, measures 1,590 feet (slightly  
 251 larger than ¼ mile). There are additional paved pathways around Matthew G.  
 252 Kantor Memorial Park Field #2. Many walkers visit Matthew G. Kantor Memorial  
 253 Park daily.

254 Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park Field #1 is a multi-purpose regulation sized turf  
 255 field and lined for soccer, lacrosse and field hockey. Matthew G. Kantor Memorial  
 256 Park Field #2 is also a multi-purpose grass field typically utilized and lined for  
 257 soccer, girls' lacrosse, and field hockey. The fields are utilized by our residents as  
 258 well as local sports associations: WHSA (Soccer), Hills Lacrosse, Long Hill Girls'  
 259 Lacrosse, Long Hill Field Hockey, and others.

260 An outside building houses rest rooms and a storage closet for sports equipment  
 261 and sprinkler system controls.

262 **Stirling Lake Park** is located adjacent to residential streets. The property was  
 263 deeded to the township by the local homeowners' association with the stipulation  
 264 that it had to remain as recreational property. A swimming lake is staffed and  
 265 operated through the Parks and Recreation Department and is open during the  
 266 summer season. Seasonal memberships are required, and the lake is staffed by  
 267 certified lifeguards during regular business hours. (Swimming is prohibited when  
 268 not staffed by lifeguards.)



269 The swimming lake is spring-fed by two pumps which run constantly during the  
270 summer season ensuring a constant flow of fresh water. Water overflow runs into a  
271 tributary which leads into the Passaic River. In addition, there is a system of  
272 aerators which run continuously to maintain needed water movement and  
273 circulation. The facility is tested weekly, and samples are sent to an outside  
274 contracted lab. Results are submitted to the Parks and Recreation Department and  
275 the local Board of Health. In addition, an outside company is contracted to treat  
276 the water for algae. The lake is a non-chlorinated, spring-fed, body of water.

277 The Stirling Lake Park provides an excellent venue for swim lessons as well as  
278 outdoor events such as: Family Fun Day; the annual Parks and Recreation  
279 Department and the Recreation Advisory Committee sponsored Summer Kick-Off  
280 Concert; lake dances for middle school students, and movies on the beach.

281 Kayaking is available with three (3) kayaks purchased and made available for use to  
282 the members along with paddleboards, and an inflatable aquatic obstacle course.  
283 A floating dock system has been installed that improved the swim lane area,  
284 provided better accessibility and safety of the facility, and included a water slide.

285 The fishing pond is stocked annually just before the Local PBA Fishing Derby in  
286 April. Fishing is permitted in the pond, with NJ State fishing license, when the  
287 park is open.

288 **Meyersville Field/Complex** sits on land that was deeded to the Township in 1961  
289 by Mr. & Mrs. Bailey Brower and Mr. & Mrs. John Noe for the expressed purposes  
290 that the land be used exclusively for a public park and playground. There are no  
291 restroom facilities, but a port-o-john is at the location. There is limited parking  
292 available which can be insufficient depending upon events taking place at the  
293 location. This facility is bordered by wetlands. Because there are lights for the  
294 baseball/softball field, play is allowed on the field until 10pm nightly.

295 Currently, this field is used by LHBSA teams, Fall Ball teams, a women's softball  
296 league with two (2) Long Hill teams that play against teams from neighboring  
297 towns, township residents, our local schools, and by local club teams.

298 This field gets a lot of usage, and there are differing opinions as to the purpose of  
299 this field stemming from disagreements over the original purpose of this field.

300 Baseball players want to see this field as a 50x70 field with a pitching mound  
301 (higher than what exists today), while softball players want to see this field remain  
302 as a softball only field. This field also has the added attraction because of the  
303 lights. Currently the field can accommodate two different measurements for two  
304 different groups - a 50x70 field for 11 years to High School age, and a 46x60 field for  
305 under 11 years players.

306 **Long Hill Baseball Softball Association Stirling Complex** is located at the end  
307 of Poplar Drive. The complex is located right next to wetlands, borders the Passaic  
308 River and is subject to periodic flooding. The complex is leased by the town to the  
309 Long Hill Township Baseball/Softball Association. Most routine maintenance for  
310 the complex is covered by the Association, and many volunteer hours are given.  
311 The complex is stretched to meet demands for field time, and the LHBSA Teams  
312 do utilize the Meyersville Field often. The complex does not have any softball only  
313 fields. (Softball fields have dirt infields – unlike baseball which has grass infields)

314 There are lights on what is called “The American Field” while the two other fields,  
315 “National Field” (46x60) and “Senior Field” (60x90) do not.

316 **Hicks’ Tract** is a tract of land located between Millington and Stirling. This 59+  
317 acre piece of wooded property was purchased by the Township with an Open  
318 Space grant in 1963 from Mr. & Mrs. Halsey Hicks. Hicks’ Tract is accessible by  
319 road from Knollandale Road in Millington and from Largo Lane in Stirling. There  
320 are also walking trails that lead into the area behind Millington School. Hicks’  
321 Tract is a wooded area with several walking/hiking trails that have been developed  
322 and maintained by our Public Works Department along with our local Boy Scout  
323 troops. There are 5 trails in the area delineated as: blue, red, orange, white and  
324 yellow.

325 There is a paved pathway that provides emergency vehicle access through the  
326 property and allows for bicyclists to cross through the park plus pedestrian traffic.  
327 The park is open sunrise to sundown.

328 During Super Storm Sandy (October 2012), the park sustained a lot of damage  
329 which uprooted many trees. Due to concerns that the normally heavily shaded  
330 forest floor covered with pine needles would become a fire hazard, a concerted

331 effort was made to remove fallen trees, clear trails, and re-plant new trees. Today,  
 332 the work continues to restore the trails and the trail markings. Over the years,  
 333 many local Boy Scouts have taken on improvement projects (including Eagle Scout  
 334 projects) in the park such as the Fall 2014 project to clear and blaze trails.

335 **Turtlerock Park** is a small park located next to the Stirling Train Station. This  
 336 park is an area designated for passive recreation with several park benches and  
 337 planted gardens.

338 **Board of Education Playing Fields**

339 The Long Hill Township Public Schools also have playing fields behind their  
 340 facilities. There are 3 school buildings and each has fields. The school field  
 341 inventory is shown in the chart below.

| <i>School</i>            | <i>Playground</i> | <i>Baseball/Softball</i>            | <i>Soccer</i>        | <i>Outdoor Basketball</i> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Gillette School</i>   | <i>Yes</i>        | <i>One baseball /softball field</i> | <i>No</i>            | <i>No</i>                 |
| <i>Millington School</i> | <i>Yes</i>        | <i>One Softball</i>                 | <i>Yes</i>           | <i>One hoop</i>           |
| <i>Central School</i>    | <i>No</i>         | <i>One 60x90 Baseball</i>           | <i>Practice only</i> | <i>Yes</i>                |

342 All Board of Education playing fields are grass, and they have no access to a turf  
 343 field for any sport. None of the three school buildings have a running track. The  
 344 Middle School (Central School) sponsors both a fall Cross Country Team and a  
 345 spring Track & Field Team. The school teams come to Matthew G. Kantor  
 346 Memorial Park to run on a paved path, and they run Cross Country meets across  
 347 the fields and on the perimeter of Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park. Once a year,  
 348 the local schools attend a Track Meet at the local High School (Watchung Hills  
 349 Regional HS) to compete with sister sending district schools.

350 Additional local school sports teams also utilize the town facilities. The Central  
 351 Middle School soccer teams occasionally uses Matthew G. Kantor Memorial Park  
 352 for soccer tournament games.

353 The Board of Education manages the school athletic facilities/fields, and permits  
 354 are needed to reserve time. Several of the school fields are in need of some  
 355 repair/upgrades. In addition, the lack of rest rooms at the facilities makes use of  
 356 these fields less desirable.

357 The Parks and Recreation Department pays a fee each year to the Board of  
358 Education to cover additional janitorial expenses incurred to run programs in the  
359 schools. Both Millington and Central Schools are used to run the following  
360 programs: Basketball (Oct. – May), Volleyball clinics, and Summer Recreation  
361 Camp (6 weeks).

