

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, April 9, 2025
7:00 PM (Approximately)**

Chairperson: Gilda Kramer
Vice Chairperson: Maggie Harper Epstein, Sean Whalen

REVISED AGENDA

- 1. SWIMMING POOLS MEMBERSHIP OPTION AND FEE SUBSIDY AT THE KAISERMAN JCC FOR 2024 ARDMORE POOL MEMBERS AND TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS WITHIN ONE MILE OF THE ARDMORE POOL**



AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

ITEM: SWIMMING POOLS MEMBERSHIP OPTION AND FEE SUBSIDY AT THE KAISERMAN JCC FOR 2024 ARDMORE POOL MEMBERS AND TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS WITHIN ONE MILE OF THE ARDMORE POOL

Consider for recommendation to the Board of Commissioners approving a letter of understanding with the Kaiserman JCC to allow 2024 Ardmore Pool members and current Township residents within one mile of the Ardmore Pool to be members at the JCC for the same rates and terms as the Belmont Hills Pool with the Township providing a subsidy for the difference between rates.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
 Issue Briefing - Pool Options - REVISED	Issue Briefing

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Parks & Recreation Committee

Issue Briefing

Topic: Swimming Pool Membership Option at the Kaiserman JCC and Fee Subsidy

Prepared By: Donna L. Heller, Director of Parks & Recreation

Date: April 4, 2025

I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:

Approve a letter of understanding with the Kaiserman JCC to allow 2024 Ardmore Pool members and current Township residents within one mile of the Ardmore Pool to be members at the JCC for the same rates and terms as the Belmont Hills Pool with the Township providing a subsidy for the difference between rates.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

The Board sought options for pool access for Ardmore Pool members and nearby Township residents for the summer of 2025 while the Ardmore Pool is closed.

III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable): N/A

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

During the discussion of the Ardmore Pool closure at the March 5, 2025, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting, staff was directed to investigate potential partnerships with other pool facilities to determine if any arrangements could be made for Ardmore community use.

Staff has been able to partner with the Kaiserman JCC in Wynnewood to provide an option that is one mile closer to the Ardmore Pool versus the Belmont Hills Pool. From the Ardmore Pool, Belmont Hills is 3.8 miles and JCC is 2.8 miles.

The cost and types of membership at JCC differ from the Township membership structure. Below is table showing the Belmont Hills rates and JCC rates based on the membership options the JCC offers. The JCC has generously offered to split the difference in the cost of the subsidy with the Township to equal Belmont Hills rates. That information is shown in the following chart.

Full Season Membership Category	Belmont Hills Rates	JCC Rates	Subsidized Cost for LMT (50% of Difference)
Family (2 Adults 3 Children)	\$458	\$575.00	\$58.50
Single Parent Family (1 Adult 3 Children)	\$432	\$515.00	\$41.50
Adult Individual	\$190	\$430.00	\$120.00
Adult Couple	\$380	\$485.00	\$52.50
Seniors *JCC offers free membership with Insurance Based Wellness Programs such as Silver Sneakers(65+) and <i>Active Silver & Fit</i> (65+)*			
Half Season Membership Category	Belmont Hills Rates	JCC Rates	Subsidized Cost for LMT (50% of Difference)
Family (2 Adults 3 Children)	\$276	\$345.00	\$34.50
Single Parent Family (1 Adult 3 Children)	\$257	\$310.00	\$26.50
Adult Individual	\$116	\$255.00	\$69.50
Adult Couple	\$232	\$290.00	\$29.00
Seniors *JCC offers free membership with Insurance Based Wellness Programs such as Silver Sneakers(65+) and <i>Active Silver & Fit</i> (65+)*			

The Township would continue to offer discounted membership fees to eligible Lower Merion residents based on HUD income guidelines, which considers annual income levels and family size. In 2024, less than 1% of pool members applied for a discounted membership fee. Some CDBG funds may be available for this additional subsidy.

The details of how the memberships will be processed and tracked will be worked out between JCC and Township staff and information will be sent out to qualifying residents.

Staff is continuing to investigate options with other partners for local pool access and will bring them forward as they become available. Additionally, staff continue to investigate options for periodic transportation from the Ardmore Pool to the Belmont Hills Pool and the Kaiserman JCC.

V. Impact On Township Finances:

The total cost of the subsidy will be based on the number of residents and types of memberships purchased at the JCC.

VI. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approving a letter of understanding with JCC to allow 2024 Ardmore Pool members and Township residents within one mile of the Ardmore Pool to be members at JCC for the same rates and terms as the Belmont Hills Pool with the Township providing a subsidy.