



NEWS AND INFORMATION from the Grand Traverse Bay YMCA  
3000 Racquet Club Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684  
[info@gtbayymca.org](mailto:info@gtbayymca.org) | [www.gtbayymca.org](http://www.gtbayymca.org) | 231-933-YMCA (9622) |  
<http://newsgtbayymca.blogspot.com>

CONTACT: Tom Van Deirse, CEO, 231.933.9622, [tvd@gtbayymca.org](mailto:tvd@gtbayymca.org)

Thursday, April 15, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

GARFIELD TOWNSHIP APPROVES Y PLAN

At its April 14 meeting, the Garfield Township Planning Commission approved the Grand Traverse Bay YMCA amendment request for the New YMCA site on 3700 Silver Lake Road.

This amendment allows for the building of a 3,200 square-foot pole building that will be used for storage and equipment to support the maintenance of the new Meijer Athletic Fields for the coming soccer, lacrosse, and football season this fall. The building will be set back 160 feet from the northern property line. A revised light plan and expanded landscaping will block parking lighting to neighbors and comply with the Township's dark sky standards.

The amendment further allows for a revised phasing plan for the building of the New Y and a 6 foot bituminous pathway along Silver Lake Road.

"If we get lucky and the grass grows strong, we will be using the fields for soccer, lacrosse and football this fall," according to Tom Van Deirse, CEO of the YMCA. "We built these fields now because of the community need and the success of our programs. Construction of athletic fields, parking, and site preparations was completed this last summer. We only need another \$6.6 million donated from people to build the building," says Van Deirse.

Additional information about our over 65+ programs can be found at [www.gtbayymca.org](http://www.gtbayymca.org) contact our Front Desk at 933-YMCA (9622) or our blog site at <http://newsgtbayymca.blogspot.com> for more information.

The Grand Traverse Bay YMCA is a faith-based charity that served last year more than 10,000 members and program participants including over 6,400 kids and 2,800 members each year through 65+ programs that build body, mind, and spirit. The Grand Traverse Bay YMCA is part of the largest charitable group in the country, received over \$200,000 in donations and granted financial assistance to 500 families in 2009. Nearly 500 volunteers donated nearly 33,000 hours of their time to ensure the Y could fulfill its Judeo-Christian mission of building strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.