

**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARKS COMMITTEE**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Township Hall**  
**August 14, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order** Skurski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Atkinson, Dahl, Karczewski, Skurski, Dreier (absent), Murphy, Milliken, Mielnik, Director of Planning
4. **Approve Agenda**  
**Action-Motion** Karczewski moved to approve the agenda with a second by Murphy. **PASSED UNAM**
5. **Brief Citizens Comments-for items not on the agenda** None
6. **Conflict of Interest** None
7. **Consent Agenda:** any member of the board, staff, or the public may ask that any item on the consent agenda be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion.

A. Minutes from July 10 , 2019

B. Reports/Correspondence

- a. Memo from Monica Stokes/Plein Air Festival
- b. Memo from Bill Stott & Bill Ryan/Lighthouse Park
- c. Memo from Kate Tuttle/Releaf Michigan
- d. Park Financial Summary

**Action-Motion** Atkinson moved to approve the consent agenda. Second by Karczewski.

**PASSED UNAM**

**8. Business**

A. Election of Officer-Vice Chair – tabled until there is a volunteer.

B. Assignment of Park Contacts –committee members are the contacts for the parks and their contact information will be available in the township office.

Skurski- Bowers Harbor Park

Atkinson-Haserot Beach

Dahl- Lighthouse Park and grounds

Ridgewood Trail- Karczewski

Archie Park- Milliken

Murray Road- Dreier

Pelizzari Natural Area- Murphy

C. Planner Update (Mielnik)

- a. Haserot Boat Ramp Grant – the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grant application was applied for in March, 2019. The grant was awarded for \$350,000 with half of the funds coming from the township Enterprise Fund, which is separate from taxpayer dollars. The town board discussed the grant last night at their meeting. There

were citizen emails sent and multiple citizen comments during the meeting. There was no action taken regarding the grant and there will be discussions with the DNR about options going forward.

- b. Proposal for Wayfinding/Logo development – presented a timeline from 2b Creative Studio regarding uniform signage throughout the peninsula with a cost estimate of \$9,940.

**Action-Motion** Karczewski moved the park committee support the proposal and pass the recommendation to the town board with a second by Dahl. **PASSED UNAM**

D. Buildings and Grounds Director (Wilkinson)

The trees around Pavilion 1 at Bowers Harbor Park are a serious safety risk. Wilkinson requested the committee have the arborist come out and mark the trees for removal and pruning. Wilkinson is still waiting for the Haserot Beach Buoy Permit from the DNR. From a maintenance perspective the concerts held Friday nights in Bowers Harbor Park presented no issues to date.

**Atkinson:** We need to recommend the planting of significantly mature trees to replace the ones cut down. These trees help maintain the areas park atmosphere.

E. Lighthouse

- a. Manager Report- Gross sales through July 31, 2019 are \$98,840.47 versus \$88,265.59 for the same time period in 2018. The five portable toilets are serviced twice a week. The vault toilet still smells. John Fraigogl visited the lighthouse and donated another piece of the Metropolis shipwreck along with a \$5,000 donation to the lighthouse.
- b. Update on M-37 signage The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has put up one sign with a no parking/loop graphic that has not stopped cars from parking on the U. Additional solutions need to be explored and it would be good if cars could be ticketed.

F. Haserot Park – Beach Maintenance – the standing water behind the berm at the beach is stagnant and green. The Army Corp of Engineers has jurisdiction for issues 500 feet from the shoreline and a permit for filling in the stagnant water with sand presents a solution for this season. The estimated amount of sand is 40 yards. Engineering help needs to come from Gourdie-Fraser.

**Action-Motion** Karczewski moved to have sand placed at Haserot Beach as a stop-gap measure for this season. Seconded by Atkinson.

**PASSED UNAM**

G. Finalize Recommendations

- a. Historic properties- The Park Committee will have a supportive and cooperative relationship with the historic parks.
- b. Park Committee roles- A draft of the Parks Committee Roles and Responsibilities was presented and edits made. This set of recommendations will be presented to the town board.

**Murphy:** suggested that the history of each park be documented for the citizens.

H. Meeting Schedule- the Park Commission met on the second Wednesday to provide the township with financial information for bill paying. A reduced budget now exists with the change to a committee from a commission. In order to provide the town board with the

committee input before the town board meetings on the second Tuesday of the month, the parks committee will meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

**Action-Motion** Karczewski moved that the park committee meetings be held on the first Wednesday of the month, beginning September 4, 2019. Murphy seconded. **PASSED UNAM**

**9. Citizen Comments** Nancy Heller 3091 Blue Water Road

I recommend placing the Wayfinding/Logo development project on hold. While I am not opposed to this idea, this proposal is for spending ~~\$10,000~~ \$9,940 of taxpayer money. The township board has many projects right now and some of these items need to be completed before beginning another. These include the master plan steering committee, blight committee, ordinance rewrite committee, winery chateau/B&B committee, PDR, Haserot Beach boat launch, DNR trail expansion, and finalizing the parks committee roles and responsibilities. I think this wayfinding project needs to be tabled for a future date. At the town board meeting last night a resident stated two meaningful ideas. It is important to talk to people before building a plan and listen to ideas coming from the bottom up and then top down implementation. Mielnik gave a good explanation of the Haserot Beach grant last night and I recommend each park committee member read this and have in their file. This is on the township website. I would like to know the fire department's plan regarding the parks.

**10. Board Comments - None**

**11. Adjournment** Karczewski moves to adjourn the meeting with a second by Dahl. **PASSED UNAM**  
Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.