

**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSION**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Township Conference Room**  
**Tuesday, September 18, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.**  
**Minutes**

1. **Call to Order** Griffiths calls meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Atkinson, Snow, Griffiths (Skurski arrives at 9:50)  
Citizens: John Jacobs, Nancy Heller
4. **Approve Agenda**  
*Action-Motion* Atkinson moves that the Michigan Nature Resolutions be added to the agenda as Item C. Snow seconds. **PASSED UNAM**
5. **Brief Citizens Comments**  
Nancy Heller 3091 Bluewater Rd. Offered suggestions to improve discussion and decision-making at Park Commission meetings.
6. **Conflict of Interest** None
7. **Consent Agenda** None
8. **Business**

A. Discussion of Kelley Park Plans/Concerns

The content of the Park Commission feedback to the DNR during the public comment time, which ends October 1, 2018, was discussed. Two plans (A and B) were offered by the DNR. Concerns of citizens are the location of parking and the of amount parking. Where the parking lot is proposed would potentially impede future development. The Park Commission is only making recommendations; the final decision is made by the DNR. The following items are going to be part of the Park Commission report and feedback to the DNR.

1. Drop off zone for soft launch crafts to be as close to the water as possible.
2. ADA accessibility with approved pathway to the launch site.
3. As much parking as possible.
4. Have parking go in the direction to avoid headlights shining into neighboring properties (Per Plan A).
5. Vegetative buffer zone to mitigate headlights shining into adjacent properties.
6. Plantings would be as maintenance free as possible such as dune grass.
7. Keep infrastructure on property for potential future use.
8. Create a method for water accessibility with hand pump.
9. Work to establish a potential water trail around peninsula.
10. Signage that follows Peninsula Township parameters used.
11. DNR letter of support to improve or redesign Haserot Beach Boat Launch.

*Action-Motion* Snow moves that Griffiths write up the recommendations to the DNR, circulate to members of the Parks Commission, and submit to the DNR by October 1, 2018. Atkinson seconds. **PASSED UNAM**

B. Urban & Community Forestry Grant Program

The township has hired an arborist for 8 hours at \$90 per hour. This money comes from the Park Commission budget. The arborist is doing forest management and this does not apply specifically to tree removal. The concern of the Park Commission is the safety of the visitors from falling branches or trees around Lighthouse Park. When applying for a grant, bigger is better and this arborist is now inspecting the parks in the Peninsula Township. This resulted in working to put together a grant proposal that needs to be done by September 21, 2018.

**Action-Motion** Snow moves that the Park Commission support the Peninsula Township applying for the Urban and Community Forestry Grant. Atkinson seconds.

Voice vote Ayes: Snow, Atkinson, Skurski, Griffiths

**PASSED UNAM**

**Action-Motion** Snow moves that the arborist spend an additional 8 hours at \$90 per hour to specifically concentrate on the assessing and marking the trees at Lighthouse Park with a view toward getting competitive bids for the work needed. Atkinson seconds.

Voice vote Ayes: Atkinson, Skurski, Griffiths, Snow

**PASSED UNAM**

C. Michigan Nature Resolutions

Atkinson had a meeting with Jennifer Hodges, Randy Mielnik, and Rob Manigold. This was to discuss the grant applications previously submitted to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. One was for \$300,000 to purchase playground equipment and the other was for \$300,000 for trail development; both are for Bower's Harbor Park Expansion Projects. The scores for these projects were low and the DNR gave the opportunity for resubmittal by October 1, 2018. The Peninsula Township agreed to increase the amounts to be paid by the Township. By increasing these matching amounts, the DNR scores for the projects should be higher. This is the first step in the process. The Peninsula Township also will make a Resolution of Support and Authorization and both are to be resubmitted to the DNR.

**Action-Motion** Atkinson moves that the Resolution of Support and Authorization of a \$150,000 match by the Peninsula Township Board for playground equipment be accepted with a second by Snow.

Voice Vote Ayes Snow, Atkinson, Skurski, Griffiths

**PASSED UNAM**

**Action- Motion** Atkinson moves that the Resolution of Support and Authorization of a \$150,000 match by the Peninsula Township Board for trail development be accepted. This includes \$25,000 from the Traverse City Track Club. Seconded by Skurski.

Voice Vote Ayes Snow, Atkinson, Skurski, Griffiths

**PASSED UNAM**

9. **Citizen Comments** None
10. **Board Comments** Snow acknowledges the excellent work on the 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel sign at Lighthouse Park.
11. **Adjourn** Atkinson moves to adjourn with a second by Skurski. Meeting adjourns at 10:15 a.m.

Lola Jackson  
Recording Secretary