

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

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Town Board Special Meeting

Township Hall

March 12, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** by Supervisor Manigold at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call:** Wunsch, Achorn, Chown, Manigold, Bickle, Sanger
Absent: Wahl, Attorney Meihn
4. **Brief Citizen comment (for items not on the agenda):** None
5. **Approve Agenda**
Moved by Bickle to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Wunsch
6. **Conflict of Interest:** None
7. **Consent Agenda:** None
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.
Interview and selection of applicant for the newly formed Peninsula Township Parks Committee.
8. **Business**
Manigold: Judy Arnold is absent. Call first applicant for the Peninsula Township Parks Committee, Pete Dahl, to the podium to speak.
Pete Dahl, 15751 Smokey Hollow Road: has a wide range of experiences to contribute to the Peninsula Township Parks Committee including a background in the family construction business and in building and development as well as project manager at Comerica Bank. Currently logs and manages 40 acres.
Manigold: Pete has contributed knowledge of oak wilt and to Project 81. Are you a winter resident?
Dahl: yes.
Chown: what is your favorite park in the township?
Dahl: Haserot Beach.
Sanger: what challenges do the parks face?
Dahl: challenges include maintenance, downed trees, more trails.
Achorn: what are your experience in fundraising?
Dahl: not experienced in fundraising.
Manigold: there is an opening on the ZBA as an alternate if you are not selected for the parks board. Call Eric Dreier to the podium to speak.
Eric Dreier, 1234 Peninsula: has been a township resident for over 30 years, a volunteer with the National Park Service North Country Trail, Inland Seas Board, TBA Credit

Union Board as president, vice president, and treasurer. Experienced in budgets and capitol building programs and interested in how parks merge into the master plan for the parks.

Manigold: are you a winter resident?

Dreier: yes.

Manigold: Sue McEldowney has withdrawn. Call Steve Morgan to the podium to speak.
Steve Morgan, 779 Lost Nations Trail: recently retired emergency room physician who has visited all land-based sites and the island. Interested in preserving, improving, and expanding the Old Mission parkland. Involved in indirect fundraising and available in the winter.

Manigold: call Dave Murphy to speak.

Dave Murphy, 6943 East Shore Road: active resident in the township for more than 32 years. Involved with Pelizzari Natural Area. Would like to address issues in Pelizzari Natural Area.

Chown: what do you think the greatest needs are at Pelizzari?

Murphy: would like to take advantage of the opportunity for property acquisition. Concerned about the trails and the need to be sensitive of neighbors surrounding the park.

Manigold: Dave led the initiative to purchase Pelizzari Natural Area.

Dave Murphy: concerns include the lighthouse and to plan and follow a master plan.

Manigold: call Bruce Summers to the podium to speak.

Bruce Summers, 8925 Sunset West: a resident for 32 years, a former member of the park commission, and created the park adopter program and designed the “dogs on lease” signage. Self-employed and here all year.

Achorn: which areas are you most familiar with and comfortable working?

Summers: Old Mission Point Park.

Manigold: Spencer Stegenga could not attend today’s meeting. Mary Swift is interested but could not attend today’s meeting. She was active in the parks and with Bower’s Harbor.

Bickle: she has knowledge of the parks and should be considered. She has the bandwidth of knowledge.

Manigold: Moving on the four standing members, call Don Atkinson to speak.

Don Atkinson, 18403 Heritage Circle: member of the (former) park commission for the last two years. Background in agriculture and natural resources. Experience includes board of education for Grandview Schools and principal of several schools. The number of people visiting the parks will continue to grow. Important to maintain area parks. Risks and issues with money, grants, and donors being the biggest challenge.

Sanger: there are four openings. What key skills are needed for a member to work in a group of seven with collaboration and grant writing?

Atkinson: a skill set that is needed is the ability to work in a group, in the seven-member committee, to make decisions. Work in creating grant writing and managing tree disease and resource management.

Manigold: Gary Cornell is absent; he will continue to be on the board if needed and is willing to be replaced if needed. Call current board member Mike Skurski to speak.

Mike Skurski, 14696 Mallard Drive: understands what we need to do for short-term and long-term planning. Background in engineering and business. Need to ask questions and answer with what is needed. 150-year anniversary of the lighthouse coming up. Has experience in fundraising. Would like to incorporate ideas such as naming rights.

Manigold: John Snow is absent due to health reasons. He is a very active member and wishes to remain on the park board. Judy Arnold is absent but has a letter in the packet. Want to go through the first four people on the green and red sheet: Don, Gary, Mike, the elected people on the current board.

Moved by Manigold to reappoint Don Atkinson to the parks committee, seconded by Bickle.

Pass unan

Manigold: Gary Cornell can be an active participant if he isn't carried over to the board.

Bickle: all here are residents who volunteer their time. Could Gary be an active participant if not carried into the board? Should we bring someone else into that chair? If so, we could choose four people instead of three.

Sanger: Pass on that position and move to choose three.

Manigold: No, we will pass.

Moved by Manigold to appoint Mike Skurski to the new parks committee, seconded by Wunch and Bickle.

Pass unan

Moved by Manigold to reappoint John Snow to the parks committee, seconded by Wunch.

Pass unan

Manigold: Those were the sitting members; there are four vacancies.

Motion by Sanger to nominate Dave Murphy to the parks committee, seconded by Wunsch and Bickle.

Pass unan

Bickle: Propose Eric Dreier for the position. Impressed with his presentation and has an extreme passion.

Motion by Sanger to nominate Eric Dreier for the position on the parks committee, seconded by Wunsch.

Pass unan

Bickle: Mary Swift has an extreme passion for everything she does.

Wunsch: she brings a lot of energy.

Ahorn: she was a force behind the Bower's Harbor Park extension and has contacts and knowledge for funding.

Motion by Bickle to nominate Mary Swift to the parks committee, seconded by Wunsch.

Pass unan

Manigold: That's six; need one more to fill out the board.

Sanger: Positive for Pete, project and maintenance skills, and positive on Dr. Morgan as well.

Manigold: We have Pete, Steve, Bruce, Judy, and Spencer.

Wunsch: We have strong active personalities; we need a member to provide consensus.

Achorn: Pete has the practical knowledge, experience with trees, ski trails, logging, and construction.

Motion by Achorn to appoint Pete Dahl to the parks committee, seconded by Sanger.

Pass unan

Manigold: that's our seven. Any interest in being an alternate to the ZBA?

Sanger: offered to answer any questions about the ZBA.

Board and audience discussion about the ZBA and requirements. Discussed that those who applied can still have a voice and attend meetings.

9. **Citizen Comments:** none

10. **Board Comments:** none

11. **Adjournment:** moved by Bickle, seconded by Sanger.

Pass unan

Adjournment time: 3:58 p.m.