

# PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

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**Peninsula Township  
Parks Committee Special Meeting  
June 9, 2025  
Minutes  
3:00 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order** by D. Murphy at 3:03 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Milliken, Chown, Zebell, D. Murphy, Caviston, C. Murphy. Absent: Dahl
4. **Approve Agenda Chown moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Caviston.**  
**Approved by Consensus**
5. **Brief Citizen Comments (for agenda items only)** None
6. **Conflict of Interest** None
7. **Consent Agenda:** any member of the committee, 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 April 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting
  - B. Minutes from April 28<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting
  - C. YouthWorks Communications/2% Funding References
  - D. Communications Regarding Tennis Ball Rebounder at BHP
  - E. Budget, as of May 14<sup>th</sup>D. Murphy requested Item C. be moved to Business as 2b.  
**Milliken moved to approve the consent agenda as amended with a second by C. Murphy.**  
**Approved by Consensus**
8. **Business**
  - A. Park Updates
    1. Archie Park Draft Signage-Milliken: 8 to 10 draft information plaques for the signage at Archie Park are completed.  
Next Steps: Milliken to call Andrew Kohlmann at Image 360 for a draft sign design. Signage cannot be the same color as the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy's branded green. Establishing separate branding for peninsula township parks is the goal.
    2. Bowers Harbor Park-Caviston's update included the need to replace missing signage, pickleball court gate closing, police patrolling the park at night, meeting with John and Jane Conway of the pickleball group and learning about the online pickleball scheduling. Cherry Capital Cycling awarded a grant of \$2,072k to purchase a bike repair stand and air pump. The south side playground was mulched. The Traverse City Hispanic League and TC Futbol

are the same soccer organization. TC Futbol submitted a copy of their liability insurance. The road commission brined the entire parking lot.

2. **b Zebell:** a letter was sent to the tribal counselor attorney thanking them for extending the grant of \$19,600 from last year and explained the matching grants are no longer available. The township will contribute \$10,000 to the project. The tribal council said to proceed with the work and send them a report at the end of the year. The dates are July 21, 2025, Monday through Thursday and August 8, 2025, Monday through Thursday.
  3. Haserot Beach Monitoring-The weekly testing for e-coli by the Grand Traverse County Beach Monitoring service begins in June 2025
  4. **COMSP Management Plan Update -C. Murphy report:** Chown, C. Murphy, Lagerquist and 3 members of the DNR from across the state had a productive phone call on May 22, 2025. The DNR acknowledged the state has been hands-off because the township had been managing the park. The DNR recognizes the need for a management plan. The average cost of a management plan is \$50,000. Who would pay for the management plan remained unclear. There are people at the DNR who could potentially assist with the plan.  
**Next Steps:** The Northern Michigan DNR representative Steve Woods has never been to Old Mission State Park. We have an all-day visit scheduled with Woods on June 24, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. meeting at Hesler Cabin. Lagerquist, Chown, C. Murphy. All members of the parks committee were invited to attend. If a weather delay occurs, the meeting will be the following day.
  5. Pelizzari Natural Area Update- D. Murphy: the first cutting of the 3-acre seeding project was accomplished. This is going to be a 2–3-year project. The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC) donated informational signage regarding habitat restoration. The committee discussed a planned unit development (PUD) near Pelizzari. The potential development may create trails on private land that could be accessed from the Pelizzari parking lot. This raised the question of the use of private and public land. More conversation to follow at future meetings.
- B. Facilities Request – Peninsula Township Fire Dept Movie Night @ BHP-a movie cannot be shown in a public setting without buying a license, which is prohibitively expensive. The request was withdrawn.
- C. Budget Requests  
**Milliken moved to approve the purchase of 8 green storage barrels for \$160.00 with a second by C. Murphy.**  
**Roll call vote-C. Murphy, D. Murphy, Zebell, Chown, Milliken, Caviston. Passed Unan**

**Chown moved to take Katherine Wills recommendation and go back to BARC and ask for more detail and specifications and let BRAC know what we would like to do based on Wills email knowing we have to do the power washing, scraping, and staining.**

After more discussion, Chown removed her motion.

**Next Steps-**The committee recommended creating an RFP for cleaning and preserving the pavilions and other structures at Bowers Harbor Park. A 10-year budget cycle for maintenance in the parks will be started.

**Chown moved to spend \$120.00 for 2 anchors for the 2 tennis courts with a second by Milliken.**

**Roll call vote-C. Murphy, D. Murphy, Zebell, Chown, Milliken, Caviston. Passed Unan**

D. Citizen Survey Committee Update given before Milliken and C. Murphy leave.  
The citizen survey committee had their fourth meeting. Park committee members are requested to submit park questions for the survey.

Milliken and C. Murphy leave at 5:00 p.m.

**Chown moved to approve the purchase caps for posts to be used in at least 2 parks and potentially on more projects with a second by Murphy.**

**Roll call vote- Caviston, D. Murphy, Zebell, Chown Passed Unan**

**Zebell moved to approve the purchase of seed starter to help with the seedings at BHNA with a second by Chown.**

**Roll call vote- Caviston, D. Murphy, Zebell, Chown Passed Unan**

Temporary signage around where the goats will be clearing the invasive autumn olive will be needed. This is temporary signage and needs permission from the town board.

- 9. Citizen Comments Nancy R. Heller 3091 Blue Water Rd.** – the township gave out an attorney’s opinion on content neutral signage; I am having trouble interpreting that. This makes it important for these signs to adhere to the new law. I believe a copy of the new law was in the last planning commission meeting packet and was 2-3 pages long.  
**Chown:** Elise Loud is working on the signage ordinance and I will obtain more information.  
**Heller:** on the topic of minor vandalism, I lived through flush toilets at Haserot Beach, where there was major vandalism. Could you clarify the plan for building flush toilets at Bower Harbor Park?  
**Chown:** currently, there is not a proposed plan. The thinking initially was to eliminate all the vault toilets and have 1 facility with flush toilets for the entire park.  
**Heller:** one location is not enough. I have difficulty walking a long distance. With children, by the time you get them to the flush toilet, it could be too late. I have visited some vault toilets, and they are very nice.  
**Chown:** this would make an excellent citizen survey question.  
**Heller:** there is going to be plenty of activity at Bowers Harbor Park this summer. People who are renting pavilions should know ahead of time there is going to be a lot of noise and activity. There needs to be a discussion about enforcement. Secure anything you purchase or put up. Consider security cameras. Finally, I would suggest running the RFP for the pavilion work by Wilkinson. I want to express my appreciation of how hard you all work. I can really see progress and dedication. Thank you.

**10. Committee Comments**

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June 9, 2005, 3:00 p.m.  
Lola Jackson Recording Secretary

**Murphy:** Caviston, Dahl, and Milliken have committee terms coming up. **Chown:** if you are already sitting on a committee and you wish to continue, you will be asked if you wish to continue. We will have this discussion at the July meeting. **Murphy:** there is a community workshop on the non-motorized plan. If one day we do have a non-motorized trail system, it will be managed by either this committee or another iteration of a parks and recreation committee.

**11. Adjournment: Chown moved to adjourn with a second by Caviston. Passed by Consensus**

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.