

**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARKS COMMITTEE**  
**June 22, 2022**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**  
**MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order** by Skurski at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Dahl, Zebell, Skurski, Chown, Murphy, Milliken. Excused absent: Shanafelt, Karczewski
4. **Approve Agenda: Zebell moved to approve the agenda with a second by Chown. Motion passed by consensus.**
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 May 25, 2022
- B. Correspondence from Terri McDermott: Inquiry of Status of Dog Park
- C. Correspondence from Macy Meindersma/TC Tourism: Identification of Dog Friendly Parks on OMP
- D. Correspondence from Dave Murphy: PNA Expansion and Resolution
- E. Correspondence from Susan Piehl: Information on DNR "Spark Grants"
- F. Correspondence from Dawn Hemming: Termination of Pickleball Court Project
- G. Correspondence from David Shambaugh: Basketball Courts at BHP

One correction to minutes from May 25, 2022. **Murphy moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Milliken. Motion passed by consensus.**

**8. Business**

- A. **Non-motorized Transportation Update (Susie Shipman)** Jennifer Cram, Director of Planning gave the update. The non-motorized transportation planning commission grew out of the master planning committee and became formalized in January, 2022. In April there was a meeting with MDOT officials and their engineers to discuss both short and long terms safety improvements along the M-37 corridor. In May we met to discuss some immediate improvements as part of the M-37 repaving project. We focused on the highest cycling pedestrian user convergences to be implemented as part of the resurfacing project. In the packet is the share the road signage MDOT will be installing along 3 sections with one facing north and one facing south. Chown specifically talked to MDOT about placing signage near Archie Park. The request was to have pedestrian crossing signage painted on the road pavement. In order for that to happen, it would need to be ADA approved at both ends. Currently, that presents some issues. However, MDOT will place signage warning there are pedestrians in the area about 1,000 feet from the entrance to Archie Park. The non-motorized transportation committee is looking for approval from the parks commission to approve the pedestrian safety signage near Archie Park as recommended by MDOT.

**Milliken moved to approve the 2 types of signs, the pedestrian ones for Archie Park and share the road sign for walkers and bikers throughout the rest of the peninsula with a second by Dahl. Motion passed by consensus.**

- B. **Prioritization of Park Projects (Skurski)**

- a. Current Budget Status-the first item is to look at the maintenance budget. The biggest expense has been the removal of dead trees at Bowers Harbor for \$3,500. We now have \$22,000 of spending capabilities. Recommends making a list and a timeline of large projects and presenting everything to the town board at one time. This can act as a financial timeline and prioritize the projects by year. The last survey with LIAA showed bathrooms at Bowers Harbor was among the top requests.
- b. Tennis Court Resurface The tennis court needs resealing. The cracks could be cleaned with compressed air and then resealed. This should buy us several years and cost between \$4-6,000

**David Shambaugh** 18329 Whispering Trail- I am a seasonal resident of 70 years and my family has been coming here since 1912. Just to add to the tennis court discussion, we have a private tennis court and I am the chairman of the tennis association. I have been dealing with these questions of sealing, filling cracks, and resurfacing for over 25 years. Even though I am here to talk about basketball, the tennis courts just need resealing in my opinion and repainting of the lines. That should buy you 5-7 years. I have no knowledge of pickleball and I am here to talk about the basketball court. The surface was put down about 25 years ago. The surface is cracked, weeds are growing in the cracks and the court is in dire need of replacing. The asphalt needs to be dug up and relaying new asphalt to specifications. That is called resurfacing as distinct from resealing. The current width of the existing court is too small and the length appears to be fine. Resurfacing will buy you at least 12 years if not more. The baskets themselves also need to be replaced. Everything in the park is top-notch, but the basketball court gets an F. If the court was brought up to standard, more people would use the court. I think you can go minimal by resealing the tennis court. The company we used was Sure Seal for our tennis court.

**Ken Rabish** 13383 Bluff Road- we have classes every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. for beginners. I am here to answer a couple questions about the pickleball court project. We did get a grant from the Rotary for \$30,000. We are a 501c organization. We are raising money and have some large donors who are waiting to see what happens. Because of this the donated money has to go toward pickleball courts and nothing else. We are interested in continuing to move forward on this project.

**Chown:** if Molon Construction does pay for the new basketball court, does that change the situation?

**Rabish:** absolutely. Many donors have held back because they do not want their money going to build a new basketball court. We want to move forward if the basketball court issue can be resolved.

**Zebell moved to reseal and re-line the tennis courts at Bowers Harbor Park for \$6,000 with a second by Milliken. Motion passed by consensus.**

C. Archie Park Work Bee (Milliken)Milliken- Bob Wilkenson wants to do the fencing and has purchased the materials. He is also installing the post and new life ring this week on the water side. I met with Parshall Tree Care Company yesterday. They said the beech trees do not need treating at this time. There are 9 dead trees of various sizes that are not safe and need to be removed. The cost is \$2,000. They will put some of the wood chippings under the swing sets. For \$2,425 they would stump grind the really big trees. They would also bring topsoil and grass seed for free. There is also an aggressive Russian oil tree they will remove. Parshall's schedule is about 6 weeks out. Elmers has dropped off gravel and will dropping off more. The asphalt from the dividing line on Center Road is going to be ground up and placed in the parking lot as well.

D. DTE Tree Grant Status (Skurski/Zebell)

**Skurski:** Marge Achorn did a tremendous amount of work and got the DTE tree grant submission in on time. The trees would go to Bowers Harbor Park and Archie Park. The approximate grant is for \$3,800 with matching funds and/or volunteer time. The size of the trees required for this grant might not be the best fit for the township parks.

A discussion regarding what types of trees would be appropriate for all the parks and the size of trees took place.

Peninsula Township  
Parks Committee Regular Meeting  
June 22, 2022 7:00 p.m.  
Lola Jackson Recording Secretary  
DRAFT MINUTES

E. Parks Rep for next Town Board Meeting: Zebell and Milliken

**9. Citizen Comments** None

**10. Board Comments**

**Skurski:** Murphy helped push through a grant with Olesons to get the start of a path through the tree forest.

**Chown:** if any of you want to reach out to Senator Wayne Schmidt who told Manigold, Achorn, and myself at a breakfast meeting he would like to see some of the ARPA money to the hemlock trail at Pelizzari. That actually was the leverage we needed to get the Oleson's Foundation to make that grant.

**Murphy:** when we did the open house at the First Congregational Church at the base of the peninsula the pastor came out and told us they have 11 acres there that they would like to make more into a community resource with no obligation for being members or parishioners and they are interested in pickleball, community gardens, and a dog park. He would like to hear from people and have discussions.

**Chown:** yes, the pastor's name is Chad Oyers. I know him and he is a wonderful man. This could solve so many problems. It would be great to have a dog park.

**Skurski:** terms are up for serving on this board in August. I know my term is up and we will have to check if there are any others.

Murphy: I hope this group stays together as we have a good working relationship.

**11. Adjournment Chown moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Murphy. Approve by consensus.**

**Adjourned 8:17 p.m.**