

**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARKS COMMITTEE**  
**August 24, 2022**  
**Parks Committee Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**  
**MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order** by Skurski at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Skurski, Murphy, Milliken, Butler. Excused absence: Chown, Dahl, Zebell
4. **Approve Agenda:** Skurski moved item G, which is a work session, to after this meeting is adjourned. There is a definition error in the title of the meeting. This is a committee and not a board.  
**Milliken moved to approve the amended agenda and seconded by Murphy.**  
**approved 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 July 27, 2022
- B. Correspondence from Jeff & Kerry Malkiewicz: Use of ARPA funds for BHP Playground
- C. Correspondence from John Jacobs: Clean out sand at Haserot boat launch
- D. Correspondence from John Jacobs: Status of Haserot/Kelly Park boat launch
- E. Correspondence from Terri McDermott: Dogs off leash at Bowers Harbor Park
- F. Correspondence from MI Urban Forestry: DTE Tree Planting Request

**Murphy:** I would like to ask a question. Since John Jacobs is here and has concerns, would you like to anything about Haserot?

**John Jacobs 5290 Forest Avenue** the way the sand drifts at Haserot, the launch fills up. In the past it has been scooped out 2 or 3 times. This summer I think there was an EGLE permit to have a front loader come in and scoop sand out and this has not happened this summer. I don't know if this happened last summer either. People are complaining about the launch. This is a really good launch for the local people who live around there. Right now it is not usable and it would be nice to have it scooped out again. This is a separate discussion than what is going to happen at Kelly Park. I believe the Hyslop family's land is encroached on a little bit at Haserot. They have been ok with that but do not want to see any more encroachment. We hope this can be addressed.

**Fred Woodruff 4824 Forest Avenue:** I have the same short term concern as Jacobs has and I have a long term concern as well. I was involved in leasing the property from the DNR and the plans for the redevelopment. The idea was the launch at Haserot would be closed. Then there was going to be a low volume launch at Kelly. Is it this committee's responsibility to move this forward?

**Skurski:** it is, but is not on the agenda tonight. We are meeting with several trustees and working on securing financing for some work to be done at Kelly.

**Woodruff:** will the meeting with the trustees be an open, public meeting?

**Skurski:** the first meeting will probably be private and then once we have a plan for moving forward, the information will be discussed at a public meeting.

**Woodruff:** in the lease with the State of Michigan, it states what is supposed to happen.

**Skurski:** the lease is more about restrictions and what we cannot do.

**Murphy:** this group manages the parks and Kelly was more of a town board and Rob Manigold lead initiative. It has really been more at the supervisor level with and the DNR. The new supervisor is Isiah Wunsch and you might want to get in touch with him.

**Skurski:** there is no funding to remove sand at Haserot and the buoys have been removed.

**Murphy moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Butler.**

**approved by consensus**

## 8. Business

**A.** New Parks Committee board member: Ronessa Butler introduced herself and other committee members introduced themselves and shared some history of the committee's work.

**B.** Pelizarri Natural Area update (Dave Murphy)

**Murphy:** I sent a note about the ongoing invasive species removal. We had 16 people show up to work on removal. This work will go on through the fall. We want to trim the large bushes to keep the berry production low as they make the migrating birds sick. Shanafelt is working with the township attorney regarding liability if we use herbicides and chain saws to do more work. The Pelizzari expansion of 17 acres is progressing. The owner has several adjustments to be worked out legally and that is taking place now. Once this is completed fundraising can begin. Steve Lagerquist from the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC) and several people including myself walked through the park. GTRLC will donate the money to replace all the signs (see example at end of minutes), which costs about \$1,500. The other item is a kiosk, which would be 6x8 feet and cost \$1,500. The conservancy would like some contribution from the township.

**C.** Park Ordinance (Mike Skurski)

Skurski requested members review the current Ordinance 5, which was enacted in 2007. Comments and questions should be sent to Skurski to compile by September 14, 2022. A small group will then meet with zoning and planning to prepare a document to go before the planning commission and then the town board.

**D.** 5-year Rec Plan: (Mike Skurski)

The 5-year Recreational Plan requires updating. This includes all the parks, lighthouse, and historic building. This requires 2 public meetings. This document is used in grant writing. The past work with LIAA can be used. Skurski proposed adding a budget addendum to the plan.

**Murphy moved to recommend the use of LIAA for the 5-year plan and budget process to the town board with a second by Milliken.**

**approved by consensus**

**E.** Playground at Bowers Harbor Park #1 pavilion plan (Michele Zebell)

Zebell and Skurski met with Wunsch, Achorn, and Chown and put together a plan for replacing the playground equipment near pavilion number 1 at Bowers Harbor Park. The playground equipment replacement cost at Haserot beach was \$58,000. There is \$14,000 in restricted funds donated by residents for parks and the township can put in another \$35,000, making \$49,000 available at this time. The manufacturer is offering discounts depending on the amount of money spent and which pieces of equipment. Discussed the possible plans and recommended option one at this time with the addition of Surf's Up, swing set, and zip line (see plans and options at end of minutes).

**F.** Open House at Bowers Harbor (Michele Zebell/Mike Skurski)

Discussed the potential of having the Surf's Up piece of playground equipment already installed on the date of the open house. The date needs to be coordinated with the company Sinclair and the trustees. The open house could be a way to have people pledge money for helping fund the replacement of the larger pieces of playground equipment in the park.

**G.** Work session on playground plans at Bowers Harbor Park after meeting-all is welcome.

**H.** Parks Rep for next Town Board Meeting: Skurski

Peninsula Township  
Parks Committee Regular Meeting  
August 24, 2022 7:00 p.m.  
Lola Jackson Recording Secretary

**9. Citizen Comments**

**Michael Petrena 15293 Dunn Drive:** wants to know what has happened regarding the dog park. A PowerPoint presentation was given on October 27, 2021 (a copy of the presentation is under packet addition for this meeting on the township website). Petrena requested a dog park be part of the 5-year plan rewrite. Petrena will send a copy of their report to the committee members again. Petrena has volunteers, fundraising capabilities, and there is a demand for a future park.

**10. Board Comments**

**Murphy:** we now have 6 members and Becky (Chown) on the committee. Is this committee going to have a secretary to put together the packet and agenda now that our secretary has left the committee? The other question is should I tell the conservancy no regarding the kiosk, given our limited funds?

**Skurski:** I have spoken to the township clerk about a staff person at the township putting together our materials for the meetings. Chown said yes and we just need to work out the process. I agree we should tell the conservancy no on the kiosk as we are so limited on funds and need new signage in a variety of places.

**11. Adjournment Milliken moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Butler.**

**approved by consensus.**

**Adjourned 8:22 p.m.**