

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP  
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**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARKS COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**September 20, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order** called to order by Skurski.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Butler, Murphy, Skurski, Zebell, Cram-Director of Planning and Zoning, Milliken (arrived at 7:15.p.m.).  
Excused-Chown, Dahl.
4. **Approve Agenda** **Murphy moved to approve the agenda with a second by Zebell.**  
**Passed by Consensus**
5. **Brief Citizens 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 August 23, 2023
  - B. County Health Department Water Sampling Results August 31, September 7, 8, 9, 2023
  - C. Correspondence regarding park logo from Beth Barton and Michele Zebell
  - D. Correspondence from Michigan’s Invasive Species Grant Program “Millions in grants open for invasive species prevention projects in Michigan.”
  - E. Bowers Harbor Park Celebration Flyer**Butler moved to approve the consent agenda as presented with a second by Murphy.**  
**Passed by Consensus**
8. **Business**
  - A. Invasive Species Grants-Skurski/Zebell  
**Zebell**-I went to the Leelanau County Conservation District for their class on autumn olive abatement. I contacted the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (NQIC) and there may be grants from \$300-\$600 for abatement. I am not clear whether this is just for agricultural or forestry land and will be contacting them for more information. You cannot apply as a public entity, but individuals can.  
**Skurski**- there is another state grant program with over \$3.6 million dollars for invasive species. This is for public entities and is a joint venture between the DNR, Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, and Agriculture and Rural Development. These grants require a minimum of a \$25,000 project. There is a narrow window to apply being September 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023. I think we should go ahead and apply for a grant using the various locations on the peninsula, which are overrun with autumn olive to see if this adds up to \$25,000 worth of an abatement grant.

**B. Parks Signage and Maps-Murphy**

**Murphy**-I met with Steve Lagerquist at Pelizzari. Lagerquist had an old map of the property and the first item we noticed was the amount of vandalism that has taken place. Most of the signs on every post had been vandalized with writing and some posts were broken off and the fencing removed. From the parking lot right through the middle of the park is where the trucks came though when we did the installation of 4 different sections of fencing trying to keep people on the trails we had put in. People just seemed to ignore the signs and go straight down the center of the park, which seems to be a very popular route. We have tried what we can to have people move off the middle section, so we are going to create new signage. The hemlock section has people accessing the area from 4 different directions and we are going to try and shut down one of those access points. We are planning to physically block the least used trail and have a sign saying trail under restoration. Lagerquist has been working with the signage department at the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy and will get proofs to us. Lagerquist still believes we can get the signage up in October.

**C. Logo Selection-Zebell**- the logo design has been selected and Skurski will send the information to the town board and trustees.

**D. Celebration-Zebell**- led the conversation on the upcoming Bowers Harbor Park Celebration on September 30, 2023 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The documents discussed were:  
(These documents are at the end of the minutes).

\*Park Celebration Volunteer Schedule and Information

\*Park Celebration Contributors

\*Celebration September 30, 2023

**9. Citizen Comments** None

**10. Committee Comments** –

**Cram**- Chown and Wunsch obtained a 5 year grant of \$25,000 per year from the Grand Traverse Board of County Commissioners for the peninsula parks.

**Milliken**- the bicycle repair station has been installed at Archie Park.

**11. Adjournment** Murphy moved to adjourn with a second by Milliken.

**Approved by Consensus**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.