

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP PARKS COMMITTEE
September 28, 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, Butler, Murphy, Skurski. Excused - Chown, Milliken
4. **Approve Agenda** **Murphy moved to approve the agenda with a second by Dahl. 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 August 24, 2022
 - B. Correspondence from Susan Piehl: "Old Mission Dog Park Possibilities" messaged via Next Door
 - C. Correspondence from Connie Sargent: Purple Loofestribe at Kelley Park
 - D. Correspondence from Dave Murphy: Non-motorized committee's work link to parks
 - E. Correspondence from Mike Skurski: Life jacket station at Haserot beach
 - F. Correspondence from Nathan Mustard: NMC Soccer Club use of Bowers Harbor Park soccer field
 - G. Correspondence from Mike Skurski: Park ordinance rewrite version 2 being reviewed by lawyers
 - H. Correspondence from Mike Skurski: William Stott volunteer group approved by Town Board trustees
- Zebell moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Murphy. passed unan**

Business

- A. Pelizzari Natural Area Update (Dave Murphy)
Murphy: about 6 weeks ago we did the autumn olive removal and there was a considerable amount of heavy growth. Shanafelt, now on the town board, obtained a waiver of liability, which allows volunteers to use chain saws. There is an effective absorption treatment especially if done in the fall and applied immediately after cutting. This will probably take place in November. The expansion is moving along with some minor items to be resolved. The neighbors want to make sure property splits are done properly. Tomorrow I am meeting with some interested parties to the sale. Claire Herman from the Grand Traverse County Land Conservancy (GTCLC) will be there and possibly Glenn Chown, executive director of GTCLC.
- B. Insurance Report: (Compliance Report from Bob Wilkinson)

Skurski: EMC is a township insurance company and EMC conducted a physical audit of township property. The listed items under parks have been fixed or plan to be fixed by Wilkinson, the parks maintenance contractor (insurance report in packet).

C. Bowers Harbor Park Playground Update (Michele Zebell)

The committee discussed the playground equipment and cost.

Zebell made a motion to recommend to the town board the specific pieces of playground equipment suited for Bowers Harbor Park with an estimated cost of \$56,000 to \$58,000. passed by consensus

D. 5 Year Rec Plan (Report from Becky Chown)

Skurski: the 5 year updated Rec Plan is due in early 2023. The committee laid out a time line to complete the 5 year plan. There is one public meeting required. A request for proposal was sent out and three companies responded. The bids are in the packet addition. The companies were Networks Northwest, Beckett & Raeder, and Land Information Access Association (LIAA) The township board will hold a special meeting tomorrow and is looking for a recommendation as to which organization to use. The committee went through the 3 bids submitted and recommended LIAA. Zebell will attend the township board special meeting and present the reasons for LIAA. LIAA represents a point of continuity due to their work done last year for the township regarding park. They have a good understanding of the profile and needs of the community, and comprehend the plan needs to be a mechanism for obtaining grants to fund the goals of the parks going forward. Topics regarding inclusion of the use of non-motorized vehicles and the inclusion of historical buildings in the new 5 year plan were discussed.

E. Volunteer Recognition and Cultivation (Michele Zebell) Zebell discussed using the installation of the playground equipment to have a community event that will also provide a fundraising opportunity. Zebell presented an idea for a sub-group to create a volunteer structure to support park activities. There would be a template for events so we were not always starting from scratch. Equipment, advertising, suggested ideas for implementation in the field, where we are actually working, a communication structure with volunteers and committee members, recognition in the newsletter, photos of volunteers in action on the website are all topics to explore.

Murphy: running a volunteer program can be a full time job. This is why we need a parks manger to co-ordinate volunteers and promote volunteerism.

Butler: providing regular and predictable opportunities for volunteering can increase attendance.

Zebell, Murphy, and Butler to meet and discuss volunteer programs.

F. Elect officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary

Murphy nominated Skurski as chair with a second from Zebell. passed unan

Murphy nominated Zebell with a second from Dahl. passed unan

Murphy nominated Butler to be secretary with a second by Dahl. passed unan

G. Parks Rep for next Town Board Meeting

Zebell to attend and present Bowers Harbor Park playground plan

9. Citizen Comments None

10. Board Comments

Dahl: the stone work on the veteran's monument at the lighthouse needs repairing, Stones keep falling off. Obtained a bid of \$2,500 to repair and would like to get the work done before winter.

Skurski: there is no money in the budget. Bring the bid to next month's meeting.

Zebell: with the change in committee membership, we need to establish the park assignments for each committee member. I would like to put into the newsletter a column called Ask Ellie. Ellie is the Grand Traverse County Forester and she would address issues such as why an individual should not be cutting vegetation along the trails or how motorized vehicles damage trails.

11. Adjournment

Murphy moved to adjourn with a second by Butler. approved by consensus

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.