

Peninsula Township
December 17, 2019 Joint Township Board
And Parks Committee Meeting
Lola Jackson Recording Secretary

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City MI
49686 www.peninsulatownship.com

**Joint Township Board and Parks Committee Special Meeting
December 17, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Township Hall
Minutes**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Manigold at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call: Town Board** Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn (Wunsch-absent)
Parks Committee Atkinson, Dahl, Karczewski, Skurski, Dreier, Murphy, Milliken
4. **Brief Citizen Comments (for agenda items only)** None
5. **Approve Agenda**
Action-Motion Bickle moved to approve the agenda with a second from Sanger. **Passed Unam**
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
 1. Invoices (recommend approval)
 2. Request from Peninsula Township Fire Department to approve Jacob Strait as a new part-time firefighter (request approval)
 3. Reports
 - A. Grand Traverse County Sheriff Daily Officer Summary for November 2019
 - B. Peninsula Community Library for December 2019
 4. Correspondence
 - A. Bailey Craven
 - B. Ned Glysson
 - C. Dave Murphy

Action-Motion Sanger moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Bickle.

Roll call vote Ayes-Sanger, Bickle, Manigold, Chown, Achorn

Passed Unam

8. Business

1. Discussion of Peninsula Township Parks Committee priorities and action steps with PowerPoint presentation

[Karczewski passed out a recommendations report and a budget from the parks committee, which follow at the end of the minutes, and the committee gave a PowerPoint presentation narrated by Skurski.]

Skurski: Our report comes after internal meetings by the parks committee, visitation of all the parks, input from citizens, and a review of the Peninsula Township Recreation Plan created in 2018. The park structure has been split into a recreation group and a historic group. The historic group is to be comprised of the Dougherty Mission House (501c3), the Hessler Log

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Cabin, and the Log Church, with the log cabin and church managed by the Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society (501c3) [and the Dougherty Mission House managed by the Peter Dougherty Society].

Manigold: The property within the fence of the lighthouse is being managed by a lighthouse committee comprised of Chown, Manigold, Achorn, members Scarbrough, Johnson, and Rieser of the Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society, and parks committee member Dahl. The lighthouse manager attends these meetings. The lighthouse committee signed a contract with Sanders & Czapski for services to provide professional oversight for the historical accuracy for future projects. The committee met with the State Historic Preservation (SHPO) at the lighthouse and received recommendations regarding preserving the historical aspects of the lighthouse. Plans are underway for the celebration of the 150-year anniversary of the lighthouse. The group has future plans to add more features for access under the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Members of the public can attend these meetings every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at the peninsula township conference room.

Karczewski: For community involvement, the parks committee wants to attract more volunteers for projects within the parks. This could be accomplished by creating a friend of the parks group, starting a Facebook page, and getting the school involved to adopt a park program.

Achorn: Where would any donations go that were generated by a friends of the parks group?

Dreier: This is not a fiscal committee, and all money would go to the township.

Skurski: This is the issue of communication. If all we have to go on are the minutes from the meetings, there is a lag time involved between the parks committee and the township board.

Jackson: The minutes have to be posted on the website eight days after a meeting is held.

Chown: I will send the minutes directly via email to each one of you.

Sanger: We do not want to micromanage this committee. However, what happens if an action is taken that does not have town board approval?

Chown: This would be a good reason to have a member of the parks committee attend the town board meetings and have the topic placed on the agenda.

Murphy: We are planning to rotate the seven members of the parks committee and have one of us attend the board meetings.

Board discussion of the current conditions at Haserot Beach and Kelly Park. The boat launch at Haserot was destroyed and township filed an insurance claim that netted \$5,000. Manigold will contact the DNR again to discuss a potential lease at Kelly Park. A decision needs to be made regarding the boat launch at Haserot for the upcoming summer season; the launch was destroyed in a late autumn storm.

Karczewski: The next priority is signage within the parks. I am in charge of Ridgeway Trail and the signage is confusing. New signs were installed some time ago, but the old signage was not removed. This could be done using volunteers to help establish the appropriate signage and removal of the old signs.

Dreier: The parks are over 1,000 acres and make up 6% of the land on the peninsula. The parks have been under capitalized for many years both in maintenance and capital projects. One example is the playground equipment at Bowers Harbor Expansion Park. The equipment is old and the playground equipment between Pavilion 2 and 3 has many broken pieces.

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Karczewski: If we could get money from the township for \$50,000, the rest could potentially be obtained through fundraising. The new equipment in Traverse City on the south side of the civic center costs \$130,000, and the city received three bids for the project.

Skurski: The next parks committee meeting is January 8, 2020, and we should have more information from the DNR regarding Kelly and Haserot and have identified specific playground equipment by then.

Action-Motion Karczewski moved to close the parks committee portion of the meeting with a second by Atkinson. **Passed**
Unam

9. Citizen Comments

Nancy Heller, 3091 Blue Water Rd.: Would like to know more about the legal liability for members appointed to a committee and the township board. Municipalities have become moving targets now and this information could be valuable.

10. Board Comments: None

11. Adjournment: Sanger moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Achorn.
Meeting adjourned at 9:58 ~~p.m.~~ a.m.