

Monday, January 7, 2019

Dear Peninsula Township Trustees,

As the Peninsula Park Commission is being restructured, we the present commissioners thought it would be helpful to prospective commissioners and to the Trustees selection process to more fully understand the actions and the accomplishments of the Commission these past choke years.

We have below a summary of accomplishments and activities. We hope that the future commission will perform as well and also improve the Parks that will be in their management.

For that purpose we recommend the attachment be placed on the Township Webpage for public access and review.

Regards,

Mike Skurski - Chairman
John Snow - Secretary
Don Atkinson - Commissioner
Gary Cornell - Commissioner

Park Commission Activities and Accomplishments

The Peninsula Township Park Commission is tasked with managing and improving Your Parks for the enjoyment of all residents and their guests and doing so within a Budget set jointly by the Commission and the Township Trustees.

Major Park Commission Accomplishments:

- Completed 5 Year Recreation Plan for Peninsula Parks - enabling application for State of Michigan and other Government Grants
- Managed Park System spending under Budget
- Initiated 'Project Detailed Budgeting' for all Parks
- Launched Bowers Harbor Park Expansion - with public input
- Installed 1200 ft of fencing at Bowers Harbor Expansion Park
- Commenced Forest Management Program at Lighthouse Park
- Initiated Oak Wilt Program & Clean-up for Pelizzari Natural Area (PNA)
- Established Gift Program for benches and donations
- Increased Lighthouse revenues from tours and gift shop to over \$180,000 in 2018
- Improved Bowers Harbor Tennis & Pickle ball courts
- Granted \$2500 from ReLeaf Michigan for PNA tree planting
- Granted \$2500 from Consumers Energy for tree planting at Bowers Harbor
- Supported Eagle Scout tree planting project at PNA
- Improvements at OMP Lighthouse structure and grounds
- Improved Lighthouse Guest Keepers Program
- Improved swimmer safety at Haserot Beach with new buoy system
- Updated all picnic tables at all Parks
- Applications for State of Michigan grants for Bowers Harbor pathways and playground equipment

Other Park Commission Accomplishments & Activities Initiated

Lighthouse and Lighthouse Grounds

- Sealed and striped the parking lot
- Repairs and replacement of the lighthouse exterior tower wood to stop leaks inside
- Completed significant needed repairs to lighthouse tower windows
- Historic wood floors in lighthouse and museum were refinished and repaired
- Painted the gift shop walls and parts of the entrance hallway
- Had hole in porch floor repaired, floor replaced and painted
- Installed a dehumifier and erected a stand for it to automatically drain into the utility sink
- CLOSED signs added to the gates
- Trimmed back bushes and trees along the pathway to the beach
- On-going cleaning and organizing in the lighthouse storage areas, basement and garage
- Improvements to the flower gardens on the lighthouse property
- Painted the wood and wire fences
- Board and batten was completed on the historic storage building
- New roof shingles on historic storage building
- New large 45th Parallel sign was designed and installed
- New museum displays added
- Keeper program was maintained and strengthened with new keepers returning in 2019
- Social media was maintained and improved
- More clarifications on our advertising lists with Michigan tourism resources
- Gravel added to the back parking lot
- Touchup painting done to the exterior front of the lighthouse
- Temporary holiday lights set up inside the tower
- New donated garden walkway arbor installed

Monday, January 7, 2019

- Commenced forest management project around lighthouse and parking lot
- Installed Overnight Parking Barriers at Beach Turnouts
- Added additional restrooms for high traffic season
- 2018 had a \$15,000 increase in income over 2017 (\$2000 tower tours, \$13,000 gift shop)
- Set a Record high for Total income from tower tours and gift shop of \$180,000.

Pelizzari Natural Area

- Initiated Oak Wilt treatment
- Replacement trees planting with ReLeaf grant
- Northeast tree planting by Eagle scouts
- Began a Preliminary plan for ADA pathway
- Initiated and Maintained a clear Gifting Bench Policy

Haserot Beach Park

- Extended safe swimming area by adding more safety buoy markers
- Planted maple trees, removed dying locust trees
- Added walk ramp to dock
- Installed new barbecue grills
- Added extended beach parking signs
- Groomed and Maintained beach
- Improved picnic tables

Bowers Harbor Park

- Held Public Input Meetings for BHP Expansion Plan
- Awarded \$2500 Consumers Energy Tree Planting Grant
 - Planted 25 maple trees at BHP and Haserot Park
- Applied for DNR Trust Fund Grant for developing trail system and new playground equipment
- Resurfaced and repainted tennis courts for tennis and pickleball
- Installed 1200' split rail fencing on west side of new park section
- Installed new barbecue grills
- Provided pavilion use by local groups
- Repaired playground equipment

Monday, January 7, 2019

- Improved picnic tables and grills

Archie Park Roadside Park

- Improved picnic tables and grills
- Providing bike parking & toilet facilities

Old Mission Point Park (Ridgewood Road, Brinkman Road access points)

- Maintaining Trail System & Parking
- Providing toilet facilities
- Routine cleaning and trash pickup

Old Mission Point Church

- Providing daily access
- Maintaining Church building log structure & replacing windows