**Powell Township Park & Recreation Agenda/Minutes**

**P.O. Box 319**

**Big Bay MI, 49808**

**Approved Minutes**

Date: 2/25/19

Time: Called to Order at 6:32PM

Members: Present Absent Excused

Sven Gonstead -Chair X

Amanda Lagunas -Secretary X

Arline Erickson X

~~Becky Anderson~~ Moved from Powell Township

Darlene Turner X

Lucy Wilcox X

Todd Bergman X

**Approval of Agenda-** Move to approve-Lucy; second Darlene; all approved

**Additions & Approval of Minutes from**  **December 2018**- Move to approve-Arline; second Darlene; all approved. **January 2019-** Move to approve-Darlene; second-Todd; all approved.

**Financial Report--**1. Currently $4,553.59 in the Fire On the Bay account with new donations from mailing.

2. Funding for Signage- Shared funding for signage may be available if MDARD grant is funded. Katie Wilcox has been approached and she provided some ideas of design that could be uniform across various venues and trails. P & R reviewed designs and were positively impressed. Committee does support exploring with other vendors for this contract. Did not discuss strategies for outreach however.

**Old Business-**

1. **Big Bay Pathway**
   1. DEQ permit--Sven states there is one detail to change on the connector trail bridge before they can get the permit.
   2. Grooming Report--due to snowfall, the trail is in good condition now.
   3. Honey Bear Report--55 participants and made $850 for the NTN operational budget. Big thank you to Powell township for the help with parking hotdogs and plowing .
2. **Burns Landing--**Darlene optimistic that one final okay needs to be obtained and the coordinator of the project, Bill Sanders will be able to put out the bids on the project. Bill says we should be able to watch the July fireworks from the Pavilion.
3. Draver Park

a. Todd reported we did not qualify for the Wal-Mart Grant as we only had K-8th grade school. Later in the meeting we returned to this issue and it was determined that since we paid for our 9-12th graders to attend other schools-- the Township might yet be eligible. Todd will revisit the grant application for Wal-Mart.

b. Community Garden at Draver-- Darlene suggested that in the spring the P & R look at the Voepel property and see if the Township can get permission to use a portion of the 2+ acres for a community garden. Todd is interested in moving this project forward.

c. Before use in the spring and for concert series, the fence needs to be replaced and the toilets reviewed for ADA compliance.

1. Thomas Rock-when the snow melts there is work to be done at Thomas' Rock to replace some posts and to reinstall trail markers and identifiers.
2. Concert Series

a. improvements for next year-- Discussed signage and Arline is willing to make additional signs if Sven provides the sandwich boards. Sven purchased a P A speaker to locate outside of pavilion to improve sound transmission.

b. Grant -- Applied for grant from MI Council on Arts and Culture with matching funds from Township for $2000. Expect to hear soon as to whether we get the grant or not. c. Booking Report-- three bands are booked and the only outstanding group is the September date. Sven is looking for a group-maybe bluegrass that would work with August harvest theme.

d. Marketing Plan-- currently Sven doing outreach with Chris Brooks , local resident who is involved with music and ran a marketing company.

e. Budget-- we have a proposed budget in our grant application to the MI Council and that can be used as a template for this item to include food shack and musicians fees and any publicity expenses. Todd has volunteered to lead in the food shack.

f. Things yet to do -- fix the swing set squeak-- Sven volunteered for this task; group revisited the idea of a donation letter for the concert series and agreed to not send out letter this year and to revisit next year.

1. Upcoming Programming
   1. Community Movie proposal (Todd B.)
   2. Easter Egg Hunt (Darlene)? April 20th
   3. First Concert (sven)
   4. Fire on The Bay
2. Communication
   1. Boards (Lucy W.)
   2. Digital Media (Amanda L.)
3. **Five Year Recreation Plan (Lucy W.)** --Ryan Soucy from CUPPAD will be guiding our 2020-2025 planning process and writing the report. The Committee will be using the PTRN document developed and reviewed by the Committee to guide the planning process. We are inviting CUPPAD to join us when we have CREST --Center For Responsible Tourism here at the end of March. Crest will provide valuable information to add to the plan. We have been offered a scoping study for Powell Township by them through the Lundin Foundation.
4. **MDARD Grant--** we are still waiting notification of receiving this grant. Currently held up at the MI state level.
   1. Trail Planning for Solid Rock Consulting-- the fees are included in the grant and there are $12,000 for consulting
   2. Other expenses are $23,000 for year-round trail development; $4,000 for surveying and lawyers fees if needed; $3,000 for trail counters . Eagle Mine has said they would provide the cash match.

10.  **Volunteer Recruitment Plan**-- Sven shared a draft of a volunteer recruitment plan and asked the committee to review for next meeting in March.

**Additional Old Business:**

1. Forestville Ice Cream Booth --P & R determined not to participate in this event this year

2. Fire on the Bay -- the fireworks contractor has requested a land location rather than shooting the fireworks from the pier. P & R committee members encouraged to propose any ideas to the Committee.

**New Business:**

1. 2020 Millage Goal-- introductory and brief discussion of the Committee considering applying for a millage to go to Powell Township voters. Arline brought up important points about the need to determine exactly what we would be requesting the millage for and would it be a quarter/half/ or full millage( full roughly $87,000) If this is put on the ballot when the state or feds are holding an election-- the Township does not have to pay for the election. Darlene recommends the County Clerk for Marquette as a good resource for rules and regulations about this matter.

**Additional New Business--none**

**FYI--Lucy will be setting up a desk at the Township for Parks and Recreation and will create hard files for our grants moving forward. She plans to meet with the staff at Township in the next week or two.**

Time meeting adjourned: Meeting Adjourned at 8:13 PM

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 6:30 PM

Minutes Prepared by: Lucy Wilcox, Member Parks and Recreation