

Powell Township Parks & Recreation

PO Box 319
Big Bay, MI 49808

Date: 09/09/2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Members:

Sven Gonstead - Present

Darlene Turner (treasurer) – Present

Heidi Shatz (chair) - Excused

Kelli Santilli (secretary) – Present

Kelly Cain – Present

Coty Sorby (vice chair) – Present

Linda Ludwig – Excused

1. Approval of Agenda. **MOTION** to approve agenda made by Kelli/supported by Darlene (5 aye; 0 nay).
2. Approval of Minutes. **MOTION** made to approve minutes made by Darlene/supported by Sven (5 aye; 0 nay).
3. Financial Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Red – Questions regarding flag pole.

Kelsy – Needs a drive home

PRESENTATIONS:

1. 5-year recreation Plan – CUPPAD Jessica Walters has resigned her position at CUPPAD. Looking at hearing from Dotty LaJoy to see who will be replacing Jessica to continue work on this project. Dotty discussed plan and requirements. CUPPAD has funds from ARPA funds from DNR to pay for 5-year recreation plans.

GRANTS:

1. SPARK – Draver park update. On schedule other than playground equipment being late. Vandalism to new building. Security cameras discussed. Bear vandalized with marker. Flooring being put in building.

2. Safe Routes to School – Update from school board meeting. Zoom meeting with Max Fulkerson. Decide which route works for the school. Four school board members have agreed to meet with Sven and Mike to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Native Garden/BBP trailhead – Ask for tree protectors \$150. **MOTION** for \$150 for tree protectors made by Darlene/supported by Kelly (5 aye; 0 nay).
2. Tree planting volunteer event by the Marquette Conservation District 09/18/25 5:30 to 7:00 pm. County Road Commission parking lot meet.
3. Draver Park Prep for BBSC Fall Festival. Sven would like to meet at park to discuss, date and time to be decided.
4. Volunteers for BBSC Fall Festival. Still looking for volunteers. Monitors for bounce house. Dunk tank volunteers. Mike will be bringing cozy canopies, would like help Saturday morning.
5. SPARK funding assistance with CUPPAD. Discussed above.
6. Potential MDARD grant application for the fall – Possible BBSC collaboration. Finish up things at Draver possibly.
7. Historical trail from Burns Landing to Perkins Park (Darlene) – Research for grant funding. Darlene suggests Passport grant to begin engineering.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Draft Edits for 5-year recreation plan. Please have ready for new CUPPAD person for next month. As above.
2. Fall Festival – Parks and Recreation table cloth is in the July 4th tote in a blue and white bag.
3. Sign for the PTRA pavilion. **MOTION** to approve \$2100 for signs at PTRA and Drave with reimbursement for Draver sign made by Kelli/supported by Darlene (5 aye; 0 nay).
4. Draver Park sign
5. Draver park flat pole – Priced out by Coty. **MOTION** for flag pole \$2500 made by Sven/supported by Kelly (5 aye; 0 nay).
6. NTN maps for trails. In progress. Coty working on it.
7. NTN MOU update. Will be voted at next township board meeting.

REPORTS

1. Parks and Rec Trail Manager (Coty) – Materials ordered that had been approved last month. Bridge plans in progress, free telephone poles acquired. Coty will ask for \$1000 from Big Bay NTN funds. Berms and ditches to be done before winter. Cutting down dead ash trees at Burns.

2. BBSC Liaison (Kelsey) – Final copies of Big Bay brochure done. Copies available at Crams. Fall Fest planning in progress.
3. Trails Sustainability Coalition Representative (Sven) – No report.
4. Burns Landing (Darlene) – Plaque installed.
5. Draver Park (Committee) – As above.
6. Thomas Rock (Committee) – Heidi suggests trailblazing area needs to be addressed. Coty states all is well.
7. Concert series (Sven) – Fall Fest concert is the last one of the summer. New sound system will be used. Sven wired so speakers can be facing out from the pavilion.
8. Native Garden – 09/17/25 work bee at 5 pm. Coty thanks Heidi and Jane.
9. Fundraising – Ongoing.
10. Big Bay Newsletter – Linda not here.
11. Parks and Recreation Community Outreach – No report.

ACTION LIST: Kelly Cain – Went through pending items and completed items.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Red – Money has been collected for plaque to national guardsmen and flag pole.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn made by Kelly/supported by Kelli (5 aye, 0 nay) at 7:54 pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – October 14, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Kelli Santilli

Powell Township Annual Programming/Events

last edited 03/12/2024

Thomas Rock Showshoe Event (third Saturday of January)

Fishing Derby (second weekend in February)

Honey Bear Classic (second weekend in February)

Easter Egg Hunt (first Saturday before Easter)

Thomas Rock Spring Clean-up and Potluck (first week of May)

Burns Landing Spring Clean-up (first week of May)

Big Bay Relay (third Saturday of May)

First Summer Concert (second or third Saturday in June)

PTRN Volunteer Picnic (second or third Saturday in June)

July 4th Parade (July 4)

July 4th Softball Tournament (weekend after July 4)

Fire on the Bay (2nd Saturday in July)

2nd Summer Concert Series TBD

3rd Summer Concert Series TBD

Labor Day Softball Tournament (Labor Day weekend)

Harvest Festival (third weekend in September)

4th Summer Concert Series TBD

Christmas Tree Lighting (first Saturday in December)