

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
January 27, 2026

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai at 6:30 pm.
2. Roll Call
Park Commissioners present: Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Greg Vessels, Martha Kern-Boprie, Jack Smiley, Matthew Yahyai, Curtis Freeman, Sharon Bryant-Phillips

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Supervisor Emily Dabish-Yahkind, Juan Bradford, Parks & Recreation Director, Brenda Baker
3. Flag Salute
Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Agenda Approval
It was moved by Curtis Freeman and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.
5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval
 - A. December 15, 2026
It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Sharon Bryant-Phillips to approve the minutes of 12/15/26 as drafted. The motion carried.
6. Citizen Participation
There was none.
7. Reports
 - A. Chairperson
Nahid recommends holding a clean up day again in spring 2026, in collaboration with the Township Board. She asked that the township again seek to have temporary road closures in place to make the clean up safer for volunteers. She also suggested that the clean up event be held in May rather than in April, as it is often cold in April. Supervisor Dabish-Yahkind responded that she does want to collaborate with a clean up day this spring. She noted that there will be less plant growth in April than in May, and it will be easier for volunteers to see trash. Juan Bradford noted that we looked into road closures last year and it would be very difficult and expensive, as we would have to pay for overtime for road commission staff to place signs and again to remove signs alerting drivers to the closure, and overtime for the sheriff office deputies to enforce the closures. Nahid asked if an alternate date a month later would be possible. Juan Bradford responded that an alternate date a day later in case of rain would be possible, but not a month later. He also noted that due to our budget, he believes this should be a Township initiative with support from Parks & Recreation.
Discussion took place among park commissioners about the potential effectiveness of signs that prohibit littering. A general consensus developed that such signs were ineffective, that most people know littering is not permitted, and either do not litter or are not concerned and litter anyway. Sharon Bryant-Phillips suggested using surveillance cameras to help identify and pursue people who litter. She noted another community that used fake cameras, and found littering decreased when people saw cameras installed. Supervisor Dabish-Yahkind noted that surveillance cameras are being installed on more township buildings, and may assist with this.

Nahid spoke about a complaint of hunters on the Superior Township Community Farm property. Farmer Steve Peach found the hunters and spoke with them. The issue was addressed. Juan Bradford noted that the text in the waiver form will be reviewed by township legal counsel.

- B. Director
Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He added to this an update on the applications for GMAR Placemaking grants. Two grants were applied for:
Birdsong Nature Preserve
Community Park Disc Golf
A grant of \$4,000.00 was awarded for signage at Community Park Disc Golf.
- C. Board Liaison
Supervisor Emily Dabish-Yahkind attended in place of Trustee Devereaux. She did not have a formal report, but encouraged park commissioners to contact her with ideas and/or concerns.
- D. Board Meeting Attendee
 - 1. December 15, 2025
Martha Kern-Boprie attended and submitted a written report.
 - 2. January 20, 2026
Nahid Sanii-Yahyai was scheduled to attend, but was ill and could not attend.
- E. Park Steward
No report.
- F. Safety
Juan Bradford reported there were no accidents or injuries in the past month.

It was moved by Curtis Freeman and supported by Greg Vessels to receive the reports. The motion carried.

- 8. Communications
 - A. Committee to Promote Superior Township: January Highlights Infographic
 - B. February Full Moon Forest Immersion
 - C. Pumpkin Donation from Farmer Shaun Stafford
 - D. 2026 Holiday Office Closure Schedule

It was moved by Greg Vessels and supported by Curtis Freeman to receive the communications. The motion carried.
- 9. Old Business
 - A. Birdsong Nature Preserve Update
Jack Smiley reported that the Birdsong Committee needs to meet. A real estate closing on another preserve has taken up much of his time. He expects to have a more substantive update at the February park commission meeting.

- B. 2026 Board Meeting Attendance Schedule
Martha Kern-Boprie informed park commissioner that she is scheduled to attend the February 17 township board meeting, but has a schedule conflict and asked to trade with another commissioner for another date. Greg Vessels offered to trade with Martha for the March 16 meeting, and Martha accepted. The updated 2026 Township Board Meeting Attendance Schedule is now:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>
January 20, 2026	7:00 pm	Tuesday	Nahid Sanii-Yahyai
February 17, 2026	7:00 pm	Tuesday	Greg Vessels
March 16, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Martha Kern-Boprie
April 20, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Sharon Bryant-Phillips

**Approved by the Superior Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Commission on February 23, 2026**

May 18, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Jack Smiley
June 15, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Curtis Freeman
July 20, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Curtis Freeman
August 17, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Sharon Bryant-Phillips
September 21, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Martha Kern-Boprie
October 19, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Jack Smiley
November 16, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Nahid Sanii-Yahyai
December 21, 2026	7:00 pm	Monday	Matthew Yahyai

10. New Business

A. 2025 Birdsong Nature Preserve Work Hours by Steve Peach

Steve Peach submitted a report detailing how he spent the 60 work hours he worked in Birdsong Nature Preserve during 2025. The report is submitted for information only, and no park commission action is needed.

B. 2025 Special Event Expenses

Juan Bradford submitted reports of expenses incurred to hold the special events in 2025. He noted that labor expenses only include hours spent on the event day, and do not include hours spent to prepare for the event. The report is submitted for information only, and no park commission action is needed.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Vendors/Supplies</u>	<u>Labor</u>	<u>Total</u>
Easter Egg Hunt	\$ 582.71	\$ 539.80	\$ 1,122.51
Kite & Rocket Day/trees	\$ 834.26	\$1,295.95	\$ 2,130.21
Birdwatching - Beginners	\$ 490.00	\$ 215.92	\$ 705.92
CLR Summer Kickoff	\$ 1,322.05	\$ 647.75	\$ 1,969.80
Movies on the Green	\$ 1,314.92	\$ 364.37	\$ 1,679.29
Bug Hunt	\$ 650.55	\$ 215.92	\$ 866.47
Movies in the Park/Kickball	\$ 1,493.03	\$ 485.82	\$ 1,978.85
Forest Forensics	\$ 727.73	\$ 215.92	\$ 943.65
Pumpkin Carving	\$ 879.92	\$1,079.60	\$ 1,959.52
Owl Prowl	\$ 810.05	\$ 215.92	\$ 1,025.97
Christmas Tree Lighting	\$ 3,935.49	\$ 512.81	\$ 4,448.30
	\$13,040.71	\$5,789.78	\$18,830.49

C. 2026 Proposed Special Events & Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Rain Date</u>
Easter Egg Hunt	Fireman's Park	March 28 Sat 11:00 am	March 29 Sun
Kite & Rocket Day	Fireman's Park	April 25 Sat 10:00 am	April 26 Sun
Birdwatching	CHNP	May 9 Sat 10:00 am	N/A
Superior Day	Oakbrook Park	June 13 Sat 11:00 am	June 14 Sun
Movies on the Green	Dixboro Village Green	July 18 Sat 8:30 pm	N/A
Movies in the Park	Oakbrook Park	Aug 8 Sat 8:00 pm	N/A
Bug Hunt	CHNP	Aug 22 Sat 11:00 am	N/A
Forest Forensics	CHNP	Sep 26 Sat	N/A

		11:00 am	
Pumpkin Carving	Norfolk Park	Oct 24 Sat 11:00 am	Oct 25 Sun
Owl Prowl	CHNP	Nov 7 Sat 6:30 pm	N/A
Christmas Tree Lighting	Township Hall	Dec 5 Sat 6:00 pm	N/A
Dixboro Christmas	Dixboro Village Green	Dec 12 Sat 4:00 pm	N/A

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Matthew Yahyai to approve the 2026 Special Events as detailed above. The motion carried.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Greg Vessels and supported by Martha Kern-Boprie to approve payment of the bills totaling \$72,981.44 through 1/26/2026. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statement

- A. December 2025 Revenue & Expenditure Report
- B. December 2025 Balance Sheet

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Greg Vessels to receive the December 2025 financial reports. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Curtis Freeman suggested seeking programs and projects that do not cost much financially and help children grow. An example could be teaching children how to start a plant, such as a tree, from a seed, grow a seedling and care for the tree that grows from it.

Supervisor Emily Dabish-Yahkind spoke about potential collaborations with University of Michigan for programming.

Martha Kern-Boprie suggested adding an astronomy event. It would not cost much and could be done in a parking lot.

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai spoke about animals killed and left on or near roadsides. The cadavers of large animals such as deer, often lay there for over a year. They smell and look bad. Is there anything that can be done to remove cadavers of dead animals. Supervisor Dabish-Yahkind responded the state DNR will not do this. The county road commission will only move cadavers out of traffic lanes, but will not dispose of the cadaver. Nahid asked that some research be done into some mechanism to remove the cadavers.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Greg Vessels and supported by Matthew Yahyai to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by,
Martha Kern-Boprie
Park Commissioner and Secretary