

Superior Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
February 23, 2026

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai at 6:35 pm.
2. Roll Call
Park Commissioners present: Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Curtis Freeman, Matthew Yahyai, Jack Smiley

Park Commissioners absent: Greg Vessels, Martha Kern-Boprie, Sharon Bryant-Phillips

Others present: Juan Bradford, Park & Recreation Director; Sarah Devereaux, Board Liaison; Brenda Baker; Steve Peach
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 Matthew Yahyai to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.
5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval
 - A. January 27, 2026
It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Curtis Freeman to approve the minutes of January 27, 2026, as drafted. Nahid Sanii-Yahyai mentioned that we should send a thank you to farmer Shaun Stafford to let him know that we are grateful for his offer to donate pumpkins this year. The minutes were approved.
6. Citizen Participation
There was none.
7. Reports
 - A. Chairperson
Nahid Sanii-Yahyai noted the recent passing of Ellen Kurath and expressed deepest condolences to her family. She reported that she attended the last meeting of the Board of Trustees where Bill Secrest suggested a plaque in memory of Ellen at a park. Juan Bradford mentioned that we could put a plaque on a bench in Schroeter Park.
 - B. Director
Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He also noted that the schoolhouse project in Dixboro is underway. It was decided to keep the exposed brick on one wall and not to sheetrock over it. Signs are being made for the disc golf course. He had a meeting today with Chris Nordstrom, of Carlisle/Wortman Associates, and we will begin the update to the 5-year Recreation Master Plan next spring. Tomorrow he will have a meeting about Willow Run Acres. A new tennis program will be started this spring; the fees for kids will be paid for by an anonymous donor. Ann Arbor Township is doing a non-motorized pathway study. An open house about it will be held March 21st, 11-3 p.m., at Washtenaw Community College.
 - C. Board Liaison

Sarah Devereaux passed out a written report on the February 17 Board of Trustees meeting. The main thing related to the Parks & Recreation Commission was the Beautification Committee.

- D. Board Meeting Attendee
Sharon Bryant-Phillips attended the last Board meeting but was not in attendance to report on the meeting.
- E. Park Steward
No report.
- F. Safety
No accidents or injuries in the past month. Juan Bradford mentioned that they had even rented a ladder to access the very high roof on the schoolhouse, instead of hiring a contractor. Staff felt comfortable doing so and the job was completed safely.

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

- 8. Communications
 - A. Flier for March Full Moon Forest Immersion at Cherry Hill Nature Preserve
 - B. Easter Egg Hunt Flier

It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Curtis Freeman to receive the Communications. The motion carried.

- 9. Old Business
 - A. BirdSong Nature Preserve Update
Jack Smiley announced that they would hold a short committee meeting after the Commission's meeting. Juan Bradford reported that he met with Ducks Unlimited (DU) last week and that they plan to attend our March meeting. He mentioned that DU indicated that the cost just for seeds for the farm fields in the 162 acres would be \$80,000 and they don't expect to be able to cover that cost. Jack reminded Juan that only about 20 acres can be restored this year as the larger fields have been leased for farming for 2026 and 2027. Ducks Unlimited has also agreed to cover the \$83,000 gap in what is needed for the acquisition of the 162 acres for the BirdSong Nature Preserve.

- 10. New Business
 - A. Deer Hunting / Crop Management Information
Juan Bradford reported that our farming lease includes authorization for the farmer to apply as a designated person to the DNR for a deer damage permit to help control the deer population. Jack Smiley noted that an over-abundance of deer in the area not only causes excessive crop losses, but too many deer also cause great damage to the forest understory—particular to spring wildflowers.
 - B. 2028 - 2032 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan
Our current plan expires at the end of 2027. We will need to begin the process to update the plan in early 2027.
 - C. Roadside Cleanup
Sarah Devereaux announced that the Township's Roadside Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 18th.

- 11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Curtis Freeman and supported by Matthew Yahyai to approve payment of the bills from January 27, 2026, to February 23, 2026, totaling \$28,172.83. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

- A. January 2026 Revenue & Expenditure Report
- B. January 2026 Balance Sheet

It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Curtis Freeman to receive the January 2026 financial statements. The motion carried. Jack brought up that he felt that interest earned from our restricted funds should be retained in those funds. Juan said that he would check into that.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Nahid Sani-Yahyai brought up that we should consider having t-shirts and hats. Juan Bradford replied that we already have a few hats if some Commissioners would like to have them. We also have safety vests with the Township logo on them.

Sarah Devereaux said that she would look into other, less expensive, sources for native plant seeds.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Curtis Freeman to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by,
Jack Smiley, filling in for
Martha Kern-Boprie
Park Commissioner and Secretary