

Superior Charter Township Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
May 26, 2026

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai at 6:32 pm.

2. Roll Call

Park Commissioners present: Sharon Bryant-Phillips, Jack Smiley, Curtis Freeman, Matthew Yahyai, Greg Vessels, Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Martha Kern-Boprie

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Juan Bradford, Parks & Recreation Director; Michael Mathis; 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 Matthew Yahyai and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.

5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

A. April 27, 2026

It was moved by Curtis Freeman and supported by Matthew Yahyai to approve the minutes of the 4/27/2026 meeting with the following corrections:

5.A. In the last sentence change the last letter of the word "notes" to a "d" so the sentence reads "...with the noted changes."

7.D. In the fifth sentence, in the portion that presently reads "...that all produce sole..." change the last letter of "sole" to a "d" so the portion reads "...that all produce sold..."

8. In the motion to approve, change the first word from "I" to "It" so the sentence reads "It was moved by..."

The motion to approve the minutes of the 4/27/2026 meeting with the noted corrections carried.

6. Citizen Participation

Michael Mathis, resident of Warwick Street addressed the Park Commission about a large pile of rocks near his house. Near the rocks is a grate covering a culvert leading to a detention pond. Young people often pull the grate off to access the detention pond and the rocks. The young people frequently throw the rocks at Mr. Mathis' property. Mr. Mathis has complained to the sheriff department and township park staff, seeking permanent closure of the grate and securing or removing the rocks. An attempt was made by park department staff to secure the grate with concrete screws, but this was not successful. The rocks cannot be secured with concrete, as they are needed as part of the detention pond design.

Mr. Mathis was annoyed by the dismissive response of the sheriff deputy that responded to his complaint. Park Commissioner Greg Vessels suggested that Mr. Mathis follow up with an email to the Sheriff herself, as this will create a record of the complaint, and often produces effective results.

Juan Bradford noted that the detention pond and rock pile are near Fireman's Park. The detention pond and rock pile are part of the engineering plan approved for the neighborhood. Juan suggested that the neighborhood HOA is responsible for the detention pond culvert and drainage system. Trustee Sarah Devereaux noted this was a public safety issue, and sent a message to Township Supervisor Emily Dabish-Yahkind asking her to look into it. This may produce a more effective response from the Sheriff Department and the HOA.

7. Reports

A. Chairperson

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai reported she attended Roadside Clean-up Day on May 9, and stayed the entire time in spite of an injury to her leg. Nahid commented that she also attended the Township Board meeting on 5/18/26, and was disappointed that no mention was made of the Park Commission's role in planning the Roadside Clean-up Day. Trustee Sarah Devereaux noted that the collaboration was entirely between her and Parks & Rec Director Juan Bradford. Several park commissioners volunteered to pick up trash, but they were not involved in planning the event. Juan was thanked for his help in planning the event and his staff's work in setting up signs. An extensive discussion took place between Nahid and Sarah about what constitutes a collaboration in planning. Nahid also attended the Bird Watching event on May 9. Attendance was much lower than last year.

B. Director

Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He also noted that the turnout for the Bird Watching event was low. Only 6 people attended this year, and last year at least 50 people attended. Juan added to his report that the YMCA will conduct their "Y on the Fly" program again this year, in Fireman's Park. Programming will begin in June on Tuesdays. Programming will focus on nutrition, school supplies and physical activities.

C. Board Liaison

Trustee Sarah Devereaux reported that she has picked up additional responsibilities, and will not have time to prepare written reports for the Park Commission anymore. The township board is rewriting the zoning ordinance. The area plan for property near Lakeview Condominiums was voted down. The area plan for Clay Hill Farm was postponed. A meeting will take place on Friday May 29 to discuss the Clay Hill Farm area plan. The area plan for the Timber Creek housing development off MacArthur Blvd was approved.

D. Board Meeting Attendee

Jack Smiley attended the township board meeting on May 18. The township board voted to proceed with the agreement with the City of Ann Arbor to fund BirdSong Nature Preserve.

E. Park Steward

No report, as a steward has not been appointed yet.

F. Safety

No accidents or injuries in the past month.

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

8. Communications

A. Full Moon Forest Immersions

B. C2PST May 2026 Infographic

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Curtis Freeman to receive the communications. The motion carried.

9. Old Business

A. BirdSong Nature Preserve Update

On 5/18/26 the Superior Township Board approved Resolution 2026-25 that detailed a participation agreement with the City of Ann Arbor that will provide funding of \$193,000.00 for the BirdSong Nature Preserve.

10. New Business

A. Superior Day Volunteers: June 13
The Superior Day event will take place in Oakbrook Park on June 13 between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Many volunteers are needed. The following park commissioners volunteered to assist at this event.
Nahid Sanii-Yahyai Martha Kern-Boprie Sharon Bryant-Phillips
Matthew Yahyai Curtis Freeman
Volunteers should arrive by 10:30 am on June 13.

B. Cherry Hill Nature Preserve Volunteer Park Steward
A volunteer has been recruited, but the candidate was unable to attend today's park commission meeting. This item will be deferred to the June park commission meeting.

C. Dixboro Village Green Rental: Loon Light Theater
Loon Light Theater is a community theater group that requests to rent the Dixboro Village Green school house on August 6, 7, 8, 9 for a performance. Juan Bradford suggested a rental fee of \$50.00 per night for total rent of \$200.00 plus a refundable \$100.00 security deposit.
It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Sharon Bryan-Phillips to authorize a rental rate of \$50.00 per performance night of August 6, 7, 8, 9 by Loon Light Theater for a total rent of \$200.00 and charging a refundable security deposit of \$100.00 for use of the Dixboro Village Green schoolhouse on August 6, 7, 8, 9, 2026. The motion carried.

D. Dixboro Village Green Mural Proposal
Some murals of butterflies have been painted on buildings in the Dixboro community. A proposal was made to have a mural sized 7 feet by 16 feet painted and installed on the shed in the Dixboro Village Green. The mural would be painted by a local artist and feature animals, plants and insects found in nature. The cost would be \$750.00 and would be covered by donations.
It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Sharon Bryant-Phillips to authorize seeking a mural sized 7 feet by 16 feet to be installed on the shed in the Dixboro Village Green for a cost not to exceed \$750.00 and the cost fully covered by donations. The motion carried.

E. North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) Participation Information
Information was provided about a grant opportunity funded by the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) that could help fund restoration of the BirdSong Nature Preserve. The grant was applied for on May 7, 2026.

11. Bills for Payment
It was moved by Curtis Freeman and supported by Greg Vessels to approve payment of the bills totaling \$37,100.69 at 5/27/2026. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

A. April 2026 Revenue & Expenditure Report PRE-AUDIT

B. April 2026 Balance Sheet PRE-AUDIT

Jack Smiley asked why the amounts in the Fund Balance accounts do not increase with interest earnings. These account numbers are:

508-000-385.003 Parks & Preserves Improvement Fund

508-000-385.007 Program Development Fund

508-000-385.008 Emergency Repairs

Juan Bradford said he would contact township staff about this.

It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Curtis Freeman to receive the April 2026 Financial Statements. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Brenda Baker commented the township website has been updated, and she is favorably impressed with the changes. Parks previous documents have not been uploaded yet.

Brenda also noted that a month ago Nahid Sani-Yahyai asked that acronyms be spelled out, but the agenda for today's meeting still lists C2PST for Committee to Promote Superior Township. Juan Bradford apologized for missing this.

Martha Kern-Boprie informed the Park Commission she will not be present at the June 22 meeting because she will be riding her bicycle across Michigan as part of the Pedal Across Lower Michigan bicycle tour. Someone else will have to take the minutes at that meeting.

Trustee Sarah Devereaux noted the minutes of the 5/18/26 township board meeting contain her expression of gratitude to Juan Bradford for his role in planning the Roadside Clean-up Day.

A discussion took place about mechanisms to recruit volunteers for the Roadside Clean-up Day event in 2027.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Matthew Yahyai and supported by Curtis Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by,
Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner and Secretary