



PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP
Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Chair Paige Mead, Vice Chair Kelsey Mitchell, Secretary Devon Idalski, Board Liaison Kate Szydlowski and member Karen Torsch.

Absent: None.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Mead, supported by Szydlowski, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes (6/29/26)

A motion was made by Mead, supported by Szydlowski, to approve the June 29 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

- a. July 4 Picnic Recap**
- b. New Walking Trail**

July 4 Picnic Recap: The Committee discussed preliminary plans for the 2027 picnic, including the potential need for additional food and supplies should attendance be comparable to that of the 2026 event. Members reported that food supplies were depleted by noon and that additional bottled water and larger cups for lemonade would be needed. The Committee also discussed serving locally sourced hot dogs from Rygwelski's and the possible use of the Holcim smoker to prepare pork butts. Szydlowski stated that she would determine whether applicable food safety requirements would require the food to be prepared on-site or whether a permit would be required.

New Walking Trail: The Committee continued its discussion regarding the proposed walking trail planned for development on Township-owned property located across from the Township Hall. It was noted that an environmental survey of the property will be conducted by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

A motion was made by Mead, seconded by Szydlowski, to authorize the solicitation of engineering proposals for the park's design. Motion carried.

The Committee then reviewed reference photographs submitted by Idalski and discussed potential trail features, including:

1. Megaphone
2. Playground and obstacle course
3. Slide or tunnel system



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4. Flower meadow, art stop, or art installation
5. Dog park
6. Music mushrooms
7. Zipline
8. Large tires
9. Educational signage for bird and tree identification

A motion was made by Szydlowski, seconded by Mead, to schedule a special meeting for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding the proposed trail development on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried.

The Committee agreed to revise the proposed trail map by eliminating the trail branch extending from E. Grand Lake Road to the center of the park. Idalski indicated that she would develop a map and display board for public viewing at the special meeting. It was confirmed that draft materials would be distributed to Committee members for review prior to the special meeting. The Committee also requested that Mitchell, who was excused from the meeting at 6:48 p.m., be provided with an update following the meeting.

New Business:

a. Labor Day Picnic

Labor Day Picnic: The Committee discussed plans for the upcoming Labor Day picnic scheduled for Saturday, September 5, 2026, from noon to 2:00 p.m. It was agreed that hot dogs and side dishes would be served and that additional drinking cups would be needed. The Committee also discussed the possibility of providing music or another activity at next year's event. No formal action was taken. Discussion will continue at the August meeting.

The Committee next considered rescheduling its August meeting. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mead, seconded by Szydlowski, to reschedule the August meeting from Monday, August 31, 2026, to Monday, August 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The motion carried.

Reports:

- a. Board Liaison – K. Szydlowski
- b. Facilities Manager – M. Bedard
- c. Committee Chair – P. Mead
- d. Vice Chair – K. Mitchell
- e. Secretary – D. Idalski
- f. Member – Karen Torsch

- a. No report.
- b. A written report was submitted by Bedard
- c. No report.
- d. No report.
- e. No report.
- f. No report.



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Audience Comments

Mary Tagliareni, President of the Presque Isle Township Museum Society, invited the Committee to attend the Society's monthly meetings at the Grand Lake Library, held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

7:15 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Special Meeting: Thu., Aug. 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting: Mon., Aug. 24, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

DRAFT