

**Midland County Parks & Recreation Commission
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2025**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Atton, Lynn Evans, Roy Green, Jim Malek, Larry Schuelke, Jeanette Snyder, Joe Sova, Leah Ziems

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Terry Hall

STAFF PRESENT

Patrick Clark, Director Midland County Parks and Recreation, Director Midland County Parks and Recreation

OTHERS PRESENT N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Parks Commission Chairman Green at 6:00 PM. A quorum declared present and the Midland County Parks and Recreation Commission could officially conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion to adopt the agenda made by Commissioner Atton, supported by Commissioner Sova; Agenda approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL MINUTES

The motion to adopt Approval of October 1, 2025 Minutes, motion was made by Commissioner Snyder, supported by Commissioner Atton; the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

PARK/PROJECT UPDATES

The existing sidewalk ramps on the Pere Marquette Rail Trail will be upgraded at Barden Rd. in conjunction with the Midland County Road Commission. The entrance will be replaced with new sidewalk ramps and detectable warnings that meet the new roadway surface. This work will be completed part width, which will allow trail traffic to be maintained. The project is planned for 2026 construction.

With a more thoughtful and sustainable approach to flower and planting beds (By Pro Staff Mike Kilbreath), yearly mulch consumption dropped overall from 80 yards at various properties downtown and in parks to 4 yards total with an estimated yearly cost savings of \$1200.00.

Midland County Parks and Rec. collaborated with the City of Midland Parks and Rec. group, by offering their Jon boat for the City's annual "dock day" (uninstalling all docks at city properties).

Faded bench legs for the splash pad were sand blasted, re-painted and reinstalled.

The splash pad, bathroom waterlines, sprinkler systems and bathrooms were all winterized for the season.

Pro staff collaborated with Mark Rapanos to trim down trees and chip vegetation at the Duck Hunters Memorial viewing area.

Patrick consulted with Judge Cole to take down the large Tamarac tree at the Juvenile Justice Center (JCC). Staff also ripped out old plantings and mulch beds, giving a more appealing line of site and approach to the JCC building.

Pro staff worked on asphalt reclamation work at Magruder Rd. on the Pere Marquette Rail Trail. This section of the Pere Marquette Rail Trail is in the poorest repair due to the soil located beneath the subgrade of the actual trail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Nominating Committee

Election Committee set via the "By-Laws, Goals and Policies of the Midland County Parks and Recreation Commission".

B. Pere Marquette Rail Trail Phase I Refurbishment Close Out

Director has closed out and submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for the final reimbursement of the Phase I Refurbishment of the Pere Marquette Rail Trail. The final reimbursement totals: \$50, 598.87. After receiving the final reimbursement, the project will be closed by the MDNR.

C. 2026-2030 Parks and Recreation Master Plan update

Director met with Pam Blough (Architect) to review the Midland County Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2021-2025). After review, it was decided to postpone the update of the Master Plan to late summer 2026. Parks and Recreation will maintain focus on re-opening Sanford Lake County Park in the upcoming months giving more time to strategically approach the plan and maximize its overall usage.

D. December 2025 Meeting Date Change

Director proposes the December meeting date be changed to either December 18 or December 19 at 11:00am with the second annual Park Commission/Staff Christmas lunch gathering to follow at 12:00pm.

Motion: To change the December meeting date & time was made by Commissioner Sova, Supported by Commissioner Ziems; the motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Meeting to be held December 18 at 11:15 AM.

ADJORNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM was made by Commissioner Snyder, and supported by Commissioner Schuelke; Meeting adjourned by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Evans

Secretary Midland County Parks and Recreation Commission 12/03/2025