

Billings Township Park & Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2026

Call to Order: Linda Wilber called meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance: Pledge of Allegiance was led by Linda Wilber.

Introduction/Welcome: Linda Wilber introduced and welcomed the new committee members. Erik Reid, Rose Malott and Mike Hemmen.

Roll Call: Ron Sherman, Cindy Derrick, Linda McSweyn, Rose Malott, Erik Reid, Mike Hemmen and Linda Wilber.

Approval of Agenda: Linda Wilber had three additions to the agenda. Under new business:

J. New dates for meeting change

K. Grills

L. Farmers Market

Linda McSweyn motioned to accept agenda with the additions, 2nd by Rose Malott. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Linda McSweyn motioned to accept December 23, 2025, meeting minutes, 2nd by Cindy Derrick. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

Old Business:

Music in the Park: The band for August 5, 2026 has been filled with Harry Matthews Classic County.

Food Trucks for Music in the Park: Thanks to Len and Diane; Linda Wilber was able to secure food trucks. What about Waffles is on June 10, Lambert's Olde Fashion Homemade Ice Cream and AJ BBQ are on June 24, AJ BBQ is on July 8, Far Out Cosmic American Eats is on July 22, AJ BBQ is on August 5, and Mrs. C's Grilled Cheese on August 19. Linda Wilber stated if anyone knows of more food trucks let her know or get s business card.

Dumpster for cardboard from the Food Pantry: At the last meeting; with no quorum, it was discussed about getting a dumpster to handle all the cardboard from the food pantry rather than filling up the park dumpster. Linda Wilber called GFL and got a price of \$250.00 for three months. The Arnold Center was also called but never returned the call. The dumpster idea was tabled as the Food Pantry does not have a budget and could not afford \$250.00 per quarter,

Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2026 (con't.)

Old Business (CON'T.)

New furnace for the Park Building: Jason Kumpelis explained the furnaces at the park building are old, the heat exchangers are cracked and the furnaces need to be decommissioned, The Township Board and Park Committee can agree to spend \$14,000.00 on the two furnaces from the Township Hall with a 5-10 year life span, OR spend \$17,000.00 on two new furnaces with 20-30 year life span from MJ Mechanical. The Board and Park Committee will have to decide soon.. The old furnaces from the Township Hall may be able to be used at the DPW barn.

New Business:

Car Show: It was mentioned at the last meeting Cash Hubbard has cars and he was asking if there was going to be a car show at the park. Cash would be the contact person if the committee decided to have a car show.

Bathrooms: Linda Wilber has a blue print of the bathrooms located in an addition on the side of the Park Building, but it is not the blue print of the bathrooms located inside existing building. Efforts to located this blueprint have failed so the original architect will be contacted. This will be addressed at next month's meeting. Linda would like to know the details and the cost of the inside bathrooms.

Basketballs and Corn Holes: Basketballs are good and all in the box, We do need to raise the box off the ground as the basketballs are sitting in water. Jason volunteered to construct a stand to raise the basketball container off the ground. Corn Hole Bags are fine however the red, white and blue bags are gone,. It was discussed at the end of the summer both the basketballs and corn hole bags should be brought inside for the winter,

Information on Ice Rink: Discussed what was needed for an ice rink at the park such as flat land, what size to build the rink, forms for the rink and a place to store them, the rink liner, water accessibility, lighting (solar powered string lights). It was suggested maybe the fire department could help fill the rink with water, Liners are expensive, \$7,000.00 for a 24X24 liner. It was brought to the committee's attention the filling of an ice rink is a long slow process only "x" number of inches of water can be applied each day. When it snows the snow must be removed not left on the ice.

Ideas for Kid's Day in 2027: It was suggested we have a story book reading, guest speakers who will talk AT the children's level, demos, crafts and good snacks. More ideas: possibly the DNR, bugs that are native to Michigan, butterflies, reptiles, birds, pine cone bird feeders, weather, clouds (possibly channel 5) Pastor Todd, Jewel (balloon lady) magician, 4-H club, water day, possibly 1 or 2 special events, possibly a scavenger hunt. Past Kid's Day have been every other Monday at 10:30 A.M. Discussion on possibly having kids day once a month and later in the day so working parents can bring their children to the event. Suggestions were made to put the flyers at the libraries, local businesses and at the elementary schools,.

4th of July Parade: Float? YES! Linda Wilber has an idea of a red/white/blue 250th tiered cake created from old painted tires, a candle and construction paper flames,. Uncle Sam and Lady Liberty on the float waving and volunteers to pass out candy to the crowd.

Park & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2026 (con't).

New Business (Con't.)

Red Mower: The township Board has given the Park Committee permission to sell the red mower. Committee was under the impression Pastor Todd's church was interested in the mower. Erik stated he would make contact with the congregation see if they are still interested in the mower,

Change Meeting Day: Discussed changing the day the Park and Rec meets. Decided on Mondays. Linda McSweyn motioned to change park meeting date to the fourth Monday of the each month, 2nd by Rose Malott. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried., May's meeting date will be May 18 due to the Memorial Day Weekend falling on the 4th Monday.

Grills: We have two cast iron grills and poles in the garage to be installed on the park grounds. Scott Wilber volunteered to install the grills with Jason's help. Scott also agreed to check the grills to be sure they are emptied and clean after use. Galvanized containers with lids attached will be used for the ashes and hot coals. The containers will be wrapped with wire fencing to protect anyone from getting burned. The grills will be brought in for the winter.

Farmer's Market/Flea Market: Brittney McClung presented the idea of having a Farmer's Market at the Billings Township Park on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 4:00 P.M. To 6:30 P.M. starting in May until second week of October. Brittney stated she has several vendors already waiting to come and was hoping the committee would not charge a fee for them to set up in the parking lot. The food trucks at the Music in the Park are not charged; the proposed Farmer's Market would be no different. Committee discussed the market, asked questions and are very interested in the idea and want to try it. Linda McSweyn will talk to the lawyer about any legalities. Erik Reid motioned to approve the Farmer's Market at the Park on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 4:00 to 6:30 P.M, 2nd by Ron Sherman. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

Secretary Needed: Linda Wilber asked Rose Malott if she would be the Park Secretary. Rose agreed. Linda McSweyn motioned to have Rose Malott as the Park Secretary, 2nd by Cindy Derrick. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Motion Carried.

Adjournment: Linda Wilber motioned to adjourn, 2nd by Ron Sherman, 7 Ayes, 0 Naye, Motion carried.

April 28, 2026 meeting minutes were taken by Rose Malott, Park & Recreation Secretary.

Minutes were approved at Park and Recreation Meeting. _____

Date