Recreation Plan

2024-2028 Mansfield Township, Michigan





Table of Contents

1.	Com	munity Description	2
2.	Adm	inistrative Structure	3
3.	Inver	ntory of Existing Parks, Natural Areas and Recreation Facilities	4
	3.1	Existing Facilities	4
		3.1.1 Dawson Lake Park	4
		3.1.2 Dishaw Community Park	4
	3.2	Natural Resource Inventory	4
	3.3	DNR Recreation Grants Inventory	5
4.	Plani	ning and Public Participation	6
5.	Goal	s and Objectives	8
6.	Actic	on Plan	9

Appendices

- A. Maps and Figures
 - 1. Location Map
 - 2. Recreation Sites
 - 3. Dawson Lake Park Plan
 - 4. Dishaw Community Park
- B. Public Input Process and Results Recreation Survey Results
- C. Notice of Recreation Survey (Public Input) Availability, Notice of Recreation Plan Availability and Public Comment, Notice for Public Hearing, Meeting Minutes, and Resolution of Adoption
- D. Transmittal Letters to Planning Agency

1. Community Description

Mansfield Township is located in Iron County, Michigan, in the southwest portion of the Upper Peninsula. It is comprised of approximately 108 square miles, with much of this land made up of forest, lakes, and rivers. The population as of the 2020 US Census was 236. Mansfield Township is the smallest township in Iron County and was created in 1891 when Felch Township left Iron County to join Dickinson County. Portions of land from the neighboring Crystal Falls Township and Marquette County were split off to form Mansfield Township.

The focus of this plan is to provide areas and opportunities for the residents of the Township to enjoy the outdoors. The many lakes, rivers, and streams in the area provide numerous outdoor recreational opportunities, and the Township would like to promote these activities by providing new and improved recreational opportunities at local parks, trails, and public access sites.

2. Administrative Structure

In Mansfield Township, park and recreational facilities are ultimately managed by the Township Board that meets monthly according to a published schedule. The Township's Recreation Committee is responsible for advising the Township Board on items relating to upkeep, operation and expansion of the recreation facilities and programs. The recommendations of the Recreation Committee are acted on by the Township Board. Day to day activities are performed under the direction of the Township Supervisor. Current Township Board members and Parks and Recreation Committee are as shown below:

Township Board

Brock VanOss, Supervisor John Leutz, Clerk Rose Poynter, Treasurer Mike Carey, Trustee George Minerick, Trustee

Parks and Recreation Committee

Brock Van Oss
Ryan Warmboe
Jacob Trulock
Rob Boussum
Jake Nurmi
Russ Bauwens (Alternate)

Mansfield supports and maintains recreation facilities through annual budget appropriations in addition to camping and rental fees that are collected from the Dawson Lake Park. Maintenance is carried out by part time Township employees. For the budget year 2023-24 the Township's recreation budget is \$2,500.

3. Inventory of Existing Parks, Natural Areas and Recreation Facilities

Figure 2 located in Appendix A indicates the location of the existing recreational facilities within the Township. This map also shows the location of some of the proposed recreational sites, these are discussed in more detail in the following sections.

3.1 Existing Facilities

3.1.1 Dawson Lake Park

Dawson Lake Park is located on a 40-acre parcel of land on the north side of Dawson Lake in Mansfield Township. The park currently has 18 campsites, 3 vault toilets, a changing room, wigwam, playground equipment, a basketball hoop, hand pump water well, and large u-shaped dock, swimming area, and boat launch. See Figure 3 in Appendix A the location of the existing facilities.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (1) in which none of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

3.1.2 Dishaw Community Park

Dishaw Community Park is located just east of Way Dam Road north of Highway M-69. The park has an existing playground, tennis courts, baseball field, pavilion, and picnic area. See Figure 3 in Appendix A the location of the existing facilities.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (1) in which none of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

3.2 Natural Resource Inventory

There are a number of other natural and recreational type facilities located within the Township that serve as important recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to the Township. The locations of following recreational facilities are shown on Figure 2 in Appendix A.

- Michigamme River
 - o Fishing, boating, and other water recreation
- Lake Ellen
 - o Fishing, boating, and other water recreation
- Michigamme Reservoir (Way Dam Reservoir)
 - o Fishing, boating, camping
- Way Dam Backwater Resort
 - o Camping, bar and grill, boat launch
- Timber Lane Resort
 - o Camping
- Butler Lake
 - o Fishing, boating, and other water recreation
- Mitchell Lake
 - o Fishing, boating, and other water recreation

3.3 DNR Recreation Grants Inventory

The Township has not received any Recreation Grants in the past.

4. Planning and Public Participation

The Mansfield Township Parks & Recreation Committee acknowledges the importance of involving the public in planning the future improvements to the Township's recreation facilities and have made efforts to involve their citizens in that process. There were multiple methods used to gather input for the Recreation Plan as outlined below.

- A Mansfield Township Parks & Recreation Public Meeting was held on October 9, 2022 at Dawson Lake Park to meeting and discuss ideas for improvements to the park and other Township recreational facilities. A list of ideas was developed and is included in Appendix B.
- A recreation survey was created and sent out to Township residents asking them
 to prioritize improvements that were identified by at the October 9, 2022 public
 meeting.
 - o A copy of this survey results is included in Appendix B.
 - The results of this survey were used in the development of the draft Recreation Plan.
- A Public Workshop was held at the Township Hall on December 20, 2023 to discuss, plan, and gather public input on recreational opportunities within the Township. The Workshop was attended by the Township Board, the Parks and Recreation Committee the Planning Commission, and other community members. The workshop focused on gathering information on what types of recreational activities the Township should consider pursuing. There were a number of public comments that were presented and discussed during the workshop.
- The Draft Recreation Plan was posted at the Township Hall and available on the Township website for review and comment by the Public. Public comments can be sent to Mansfield Township Recreation Committee, Mansfield Township Hall, 2804 Hwy M-69, Crystal Falls, MI 49920.
 - Two emails were received by the Parks & Recreation Committee regarding the Recreation Plan. These comments were read during the Public Hearing and are attached the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes in Appendix C.

- A Public Hearing to solicit public comments on the Recreation Plan was held on January 31, 2024 at the Township Hall. An advertisement was placed in the December 27, 2023 edition of the Iron County Reporter notifying the public of the Public Hearing.
 - The Parks and Recreation Commission members discussed the Recreation Plan and some ideas for proposed recreation projects and goals that have been discussed. Minutes from the Public Hearing can be found in Appendix C.
- The Recreation Plan was formally adopted by the Mansfield Township Board at a Special Meeting held on January 31, 2024. A copy of the resolution of adoption and meeting minutes are included in Appendix C.

5. Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the Township is to improve the existing recreational facilities and opportunities that the Township can offer to its residents and tourists who visit the area and provide new opportunities based on input from local residents. Much of the Township's current recreational infrastructure is aged and in need of repairs or replacement. Also, the Township would like to see all of its facilities meet ADA guidelines and be available for people with all abilities. Below is a summary of the goals and objectives of the Township Recreation Plan.

Goal 1: To maintain and improve our existing resources and facilities.

Objective 1: Make improvements to existing Dawson Lake and Dishaw Community Parks.

This goal is based on input from the Township's onsite public workshop to gather information on Township recreational needs. A large portion of the meeting was spent discussing upgrades to each site.

Goal 2: Develop heritage-based recreation.

Objective 2a: Support the mission of the Mansfield Pioneer Church.

Objective 2b: Develop a heritage trail of local sites such as mines and bridge sites in the Michigamme Reservoir and Way Dam.

Objective 2c: Work with Iron County Heritage Trail to get all of Mansfield on their map.

This goal is taken from the Township's Master Plan that was developed in 2021 and included input from the public.

Goal #3: Develop recreation opportunities within the Township that attract and retain seasonal residents and tourists.

Objective 3: Provide parks with camping and other outdoor recreational opportunities that will attract and appeal to people from urban areas.

6. Action Plan

To meet the recreational goals and objectives of the Township, a number of recreational enhancement opportunities have been identified. These opportunities were identified through the public information and planning process that was conducted during the development of this plan. The completion of these opportunities depends heavily on the availability of funds. It is expected that the Township will apply for grant funding for the completion of these projects.

These grant funds when combined with budgeted funding as well as donations of funds, materials, and/or labor are expected to fund recreation improvements within the Township. Below is a list and brief description of the proposed improvements.

Dawson Lake Park

- Campground Improvements including:
 - o Improve existing sites and add additional new sites
- Electrical Upgrades including:
 - o Extend power to the Park
 - o Provide campsites with electrical service and water services.
 - o Provide electrical service to existing and proposed buildings.
- Site Accessibility Improvements including:
 - o Access road and parking lot improvements.
 - o Accessible trails throughout the park.
- Development of a camper sanitary dump station and sanitary sewer service.
- Dock replacement
- New Restroom and changing house facilities.
- Upgrade the boat ramp and boat launch area.
- Beach improvements.
- Site grading and drainage improvements
- New Pavilion and

- Upgrade existing wigwam.
- Add additional picnic areas and site furnishings.
- Upgrade and expand the existing playground.

Funding sources:

- o MNRTF / LWCF Recreation Grants
- o Michigan Waterways Commission Grants
- Local Funding
- o Park Fees
- o Community Donations

Dishaw Community Park

- Expand and upgrade the parking area and access drive.
- Replace and upgrade playground equipment.
- Improvements to the existing baseball field and tennis courts.
- Addition of a pavilion and other picnic areas.
- Add basketball court.
- Add pickle ball court.
- Add toilet facilities.
- Site fencing and safety improvements.
- Add picnic tables, grills, benches, and other site furnishings.

Funding sources:

- o MNRTF / LWCF Recreation Grants
- Michigan Waterways Commission Grants
- Local Funding
- Park Fees
- Community Donations

Iron County Bicycle/Non-Motorized Heritage Trail

Currently there are no portions of the Iron County Bicycle/Non-Motorized
Heritage Trail located with or directly adjacent to Mansfield Township, the
Township does support its continued development and would consider being an

active partner in its continued development within Mansfield Township if the opportunity arises. Additionally, the Township could utilize or designate some existing Township roads for multiuse which would include non-motorized use.

Potential Funding Sources:

- DNR MNRTF Recreation Grants
- o DNR Trail Fund Grants
- MDOT Transpiration Enhancement
- Local Funding
- o Community Donations

Way Dam/Michigamme Reservoir

The Way Dam/Michigamme Reservoir is a popular recreational facility located in the Township. WE Energies owns the majority of the land surrounding the reservoir and does provide recreational opportunities and facilities in the form of boat launches, campsites and other access points. The Township recognizes the popularity of this water body and would like it to stay the undeveloped, recreational facility it currently is. This may require the Township to become a more active partner with WE Energies or even a stakeholder through various strategic acquisitions of property to maintain the unique, undeveloped waterbody that it is. Boating, fishing, water trails, hunting, and other outdoor and water recreational opportunities are available at the reservoir and surrounding land. The Township would like to preserve these features and develop additional similar recreational opportunities.

Potential Funding Sources:

- o Partnership with WE Energies (Majority Property Owner)
- o DNR MNRTF Recreation Grants
- o DNR Recreation Passport Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

ORV/Snowmobile Trail Development/Acquisition

Proposed improvements include the addition of an ORV/snowmobile trail system in the Township that would connect to nearby regional trail systems. This may

require the need to acquire property or easements as necessary to provide connections from surrounding motorized trail systems.

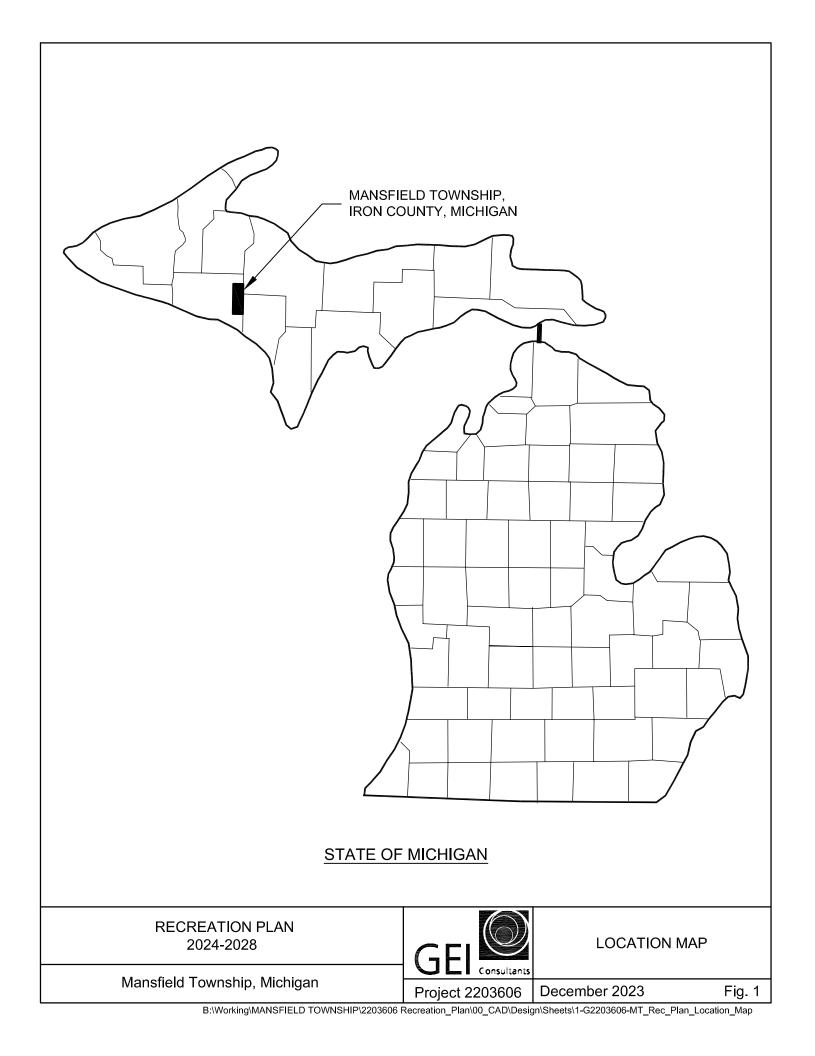
Potential Funding Sources:

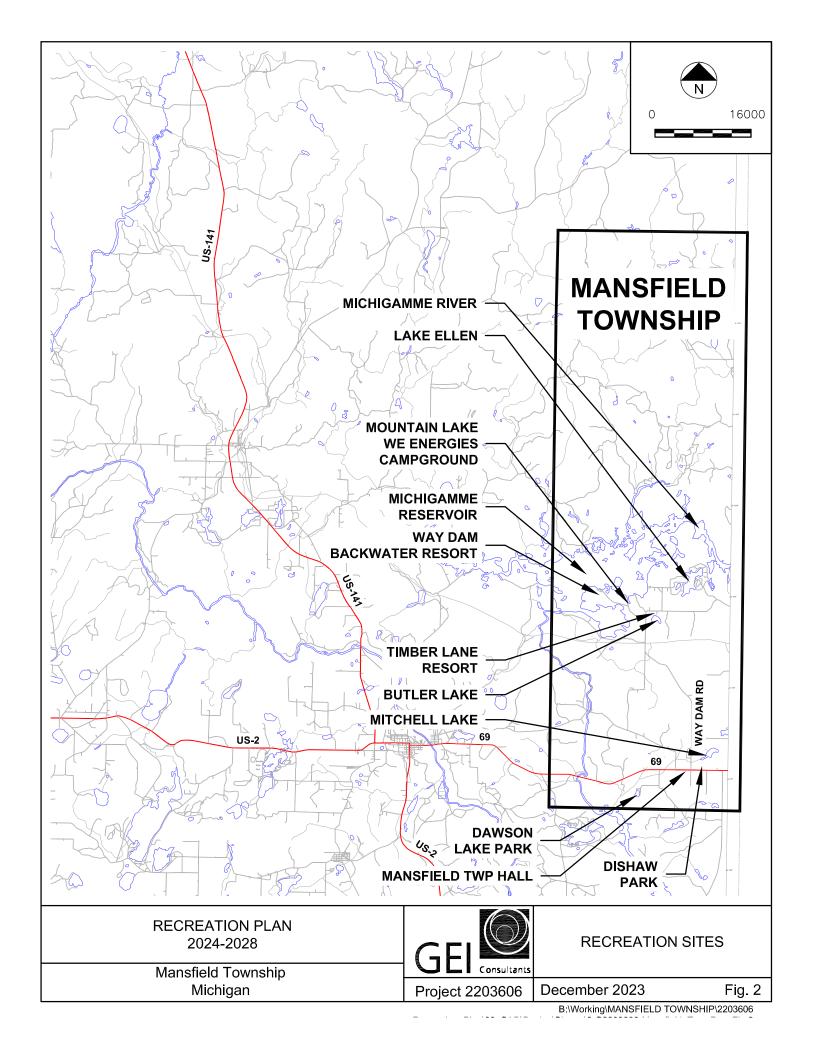
- o DNR Snowmobile Trail Improvement Program
- o DNR Off-Road Vehicle Trail Improvement Program
- o DNR MNRTF Recreation Grants
- o DNR Recreation Passport Grants
- o Local Funding
- o Community Donations

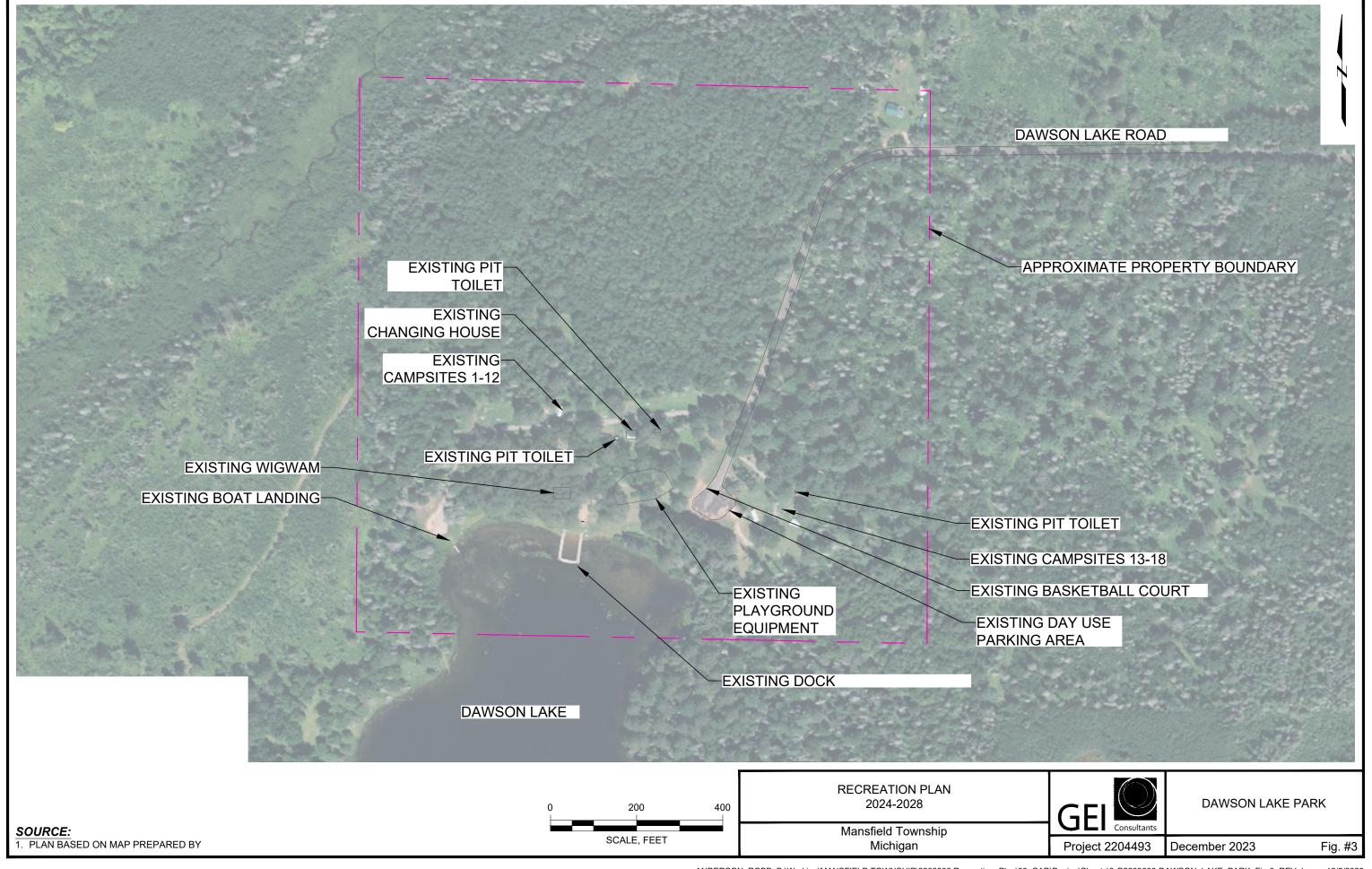
Appendix A

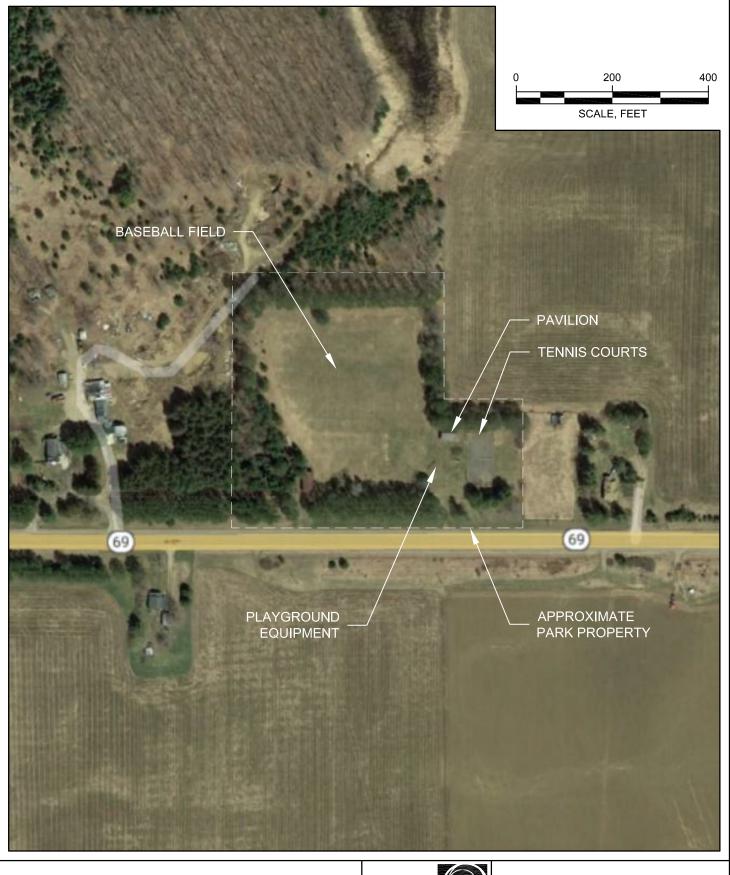
Maps and Figures

- 1. Location Map
- 2. Recreation Sites
- 3. Dawson Lark Park
- 4. Dishaw Community Park









RECREATION PLAN 2024-2028

Mansfield Township Michigan



DISHAW COMMUNITY PARK

Project 2203606 December 2023

Fig. 4

Recreation Plan 2024-2028 Mansfield Township, Michigan

Appendix B

Public Input Process and Results – Recreation Survey Results

Mansfield Township Parks & Recreation Public Meeting Notice Meeting

THERE WILL BE AN OPEN MEETING
FOR THE MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

At the Dawson Lake Park

Sunday, October 9TH 4:00 PM CST

BROCK VANOSS
DEPUTY SUPERVIOR
October 2, 2022

Mansfield Township Parks & Recreation Enhancement Ideas

Rustic camping only Expand camping along lake Improve signs Designated fire pits New bathrooms New playground equipment Boat launch upgrade On-line reservations Dishaw Park Library – mailbox (I'm not sure what that looks like) Tear out tennis courts and make basketball court More parking

Designated driveway leading to parking area (possibly in field)

Dawson Lake Park:

Dumping Station

New dock

Small cabins

Need more advertisement with signs

Pavilion

New flag

New bench

Explore cost of power

Spruce up Wigwam

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station				
New Dock				
Pavilion				
Small Cabins				
Additional Signage				
New Flag				
Power at the Park				
Wigwam Improvements				
New Benches				
Beach Sand				
Rustic Camping Only				
Expand Camping Along Lake				
Designated Fire Pits				
New Bathrooms				
New Playground Equipment				
Boat Launch Upgrade				
On-Line Reservations				
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library				
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court				
More Parking				
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area				
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station	4	2	3	6
New Dock	13	1	1	
Pavilion	1	6	7	
Small Cabins		1	4	9
Additional Signage	2	7	3	3
New Flag	7	4	4	
Power at the Park	8		2	5
Wigwam Improvements	3	5	4	1
New Benches	10	3	2	
Beach Sand	11	1	3	
Rustic Camping Only	7	2	3	1
Expand Camping Along Lake	2	3	3	7
Designated Fire Pits	7	6	2	
New Bathrooms	10	2	3	
New Playground Equipment	5	6	4	
Boat Launch Upgrade	3	6	4	2
On-Line Reservations	4	7		4
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
Keep dock in the swimming area.				
Power should be solar.				
Spend money on wigwam, not pavilion.				
Bathroom upgrade (cheaper)				
Expand sites to include Twp. Property not used - sites				
not so close				
Hiking Trail		1		
Biking Trail		1		

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library	4	5	2	4
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court	5	4	1	3
More Parking	4	2	5	2
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area	7		5	2
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
Picnic Table	1			
Tear out tennis courts and maybe basketball or				
pickleball	1			
Fence around play area since highway is so close		1		
Bathrooms				
Upgrade playground equipment	1			
Electric to pavilion	1			

High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
27%	13%	20%	40%
87%	7%	7%	0%
7%	40%	47%	0%
0%	7%	27%	60%
13%	47%	20%	20%
47%	27%	27%	0%
53%	0%	13%	33%
20%	33%	27%	7%
67%	20%	13%	0%
73%	7%	20%	0%
47%	13%	20%	7%
13%	20%	20%	47%
47%	40%	13%	0%
67%	13%	20%	0%
33%	40%	27%	0%
20%	40%	27%	13%
27%	47%	0%	27%
0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	7%	0%	0%
0%	7%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%

High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
27%	33%	13%	27%
33%	27%	7%	20%
27%	13%	33%	13%
47%	0%	33%	13%
0%	0%	0%	0%
7%	0%	0%	0%
7%	0%	0%	0%
0%	7%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%
7%	0%	0%	0%
7%	0%	0%	0%

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
	_	LOW	Not Needed
		v	
	Y	^	-
	^		
	Y		X
X			-
		v	
X		^	
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	X X X X X X X	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library		Tx T		THE MEEGE
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court	X			
More Parking	X			
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area	X			
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station		V		1
New Dock	V			
Pavilion				
Small Cabins				1/
Additional Signage	1			-
New Flag	-			
Power at the Park	V			
Wigwam Improvements				
New Benches		1		
Beach Sand				
Rustic Camping Only	-			
Expand Camping Along Lake	1/	<u> </u>		
Designated Fire Pits	1			-
New Bathrooms	V			
New Playground Equipment	1/			The State of Land
Boat Launch Upgrade		1		
On-Line Reservations				
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
HIKING TRAIL				
BIKE TRAIL		~	***	

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library				T
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court		1/		
More Parking	V			
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area				
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
UPGRADE PLAYGROUND FOUR	1/		- I	
ELECTRIC TO PAVILION	V			
			CHILLES TO	

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium		N/ N/ / /
Dumping Station	I D	Iviedium	Low	Not Needed
New Dock	1			
Pavilion	-	×		
Small Cabins		1		
Additional Signage		1 ~	X	-
New Flag		X	- N	
Power at the Park	OX.		X	
Wigwam Improvements	- '		×	
New Benches		-	r	
Beach Sand		X		
Rustic Camping Only		1	٨.	
Expand Camping Along Lake		1	N X	
Designated Fire Pits		N	~	
New Bathrooms	D.	X		
New Playground Equipment	X			
Boat Launch Upgrade	1			
On-Line Reservations	V	OK		
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
		-		
Water Control of the				

High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
1	T	LOW	Not Needed
	+	×	V.
	+	1	
		A	
			11000
	High	High Medium	High Medium Low

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

<u>Dawson Lake Park:</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station	1 7	1	LOW	THOC INCEGED
New Dock	V			
Pavilion	15			
Small Cabins	1 1		٠.٨	
Additional Signage			-	
New Flag		10	V	
Power at the Park	V			
Wigwam Improvements			A	1
New Benches			V	1
Beach Sand	1		- 2	
Rustic Camping Only			\ 1	
Expand Camping Along Lake			- V	
Designated Fire Pits			A	
New Bathrooms	1			-
New Playground Equipment	14			
Boat Launch Upgrade		M		
On-Line Reservations	V	_ A		
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
	* -			

Dishaw Park	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library		I		T V
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court				10
More Parking		1.		1 3/2
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area				1 2
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				T V
				, ,
		-		1
				-



brock@vanossforestry.com

From:

Debbie Deuter <debbiedeuter@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, October 30, 2022 11:56 AM

To:

brock@vanossforestry.com

Subject:

Survey

Brock

Here is our opinions.... Dumping station-High New Dock- High

Small cabins-not sure on question Additional signage- Medium

New Flag- Medium

Power-High

Wigwam improvement- Medium

New Benches-High Beach Sand- High

Rustic camping only-Low

Expand camping along lake-Medium

Designated fire pits -High New Bathrooms-High

New playground equip-High

Boat launch upgrade-high

Online RSVP-Medium

Dishaw

On-site library-medium Tennis camp Basketball-High Designated driveway-High

Thanks Brock

Mike and Debbie Deuter

Sent from my iPhone

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station			X	1
New Dock	X			
Pavilion			X	
Small Cabins			X	
Additional Signage				X
New Flag			X	
Power at the Park			X	
Wigwam Improvements				
New Benches	X			
Beach Sand	X			1
Rustic Camping Only	A			
Expand Camping Along Lake				X
Designated Fire Pits	X			A
New Bathrooms	X			
New Playground Equipment		X		
Boat Launch Upgrade		X		
On-Line Reservations		X		
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library			X	
ear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court				
More Parking		X		
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area	X	1		
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
Picnic Table	X			
Tear out tennis courts, not sure about	X			
basketball court. Perhaps pickleball.				

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

<u>Dawson Lake Park:</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station				1
New Dock				V
Pavilion				
Small Cabins		Ť		
Additional Signage				· ·
New Flag		1		
Power at the Park		V		1
Wigwam Improvements				
New Benches	1			
Beach Sand	1			
Rustic Camping Only	V			
Expand Camping Along Lake		E 1100 C 100 C		1
Designated Fire Pits				V
New Bathrooms	1			
New Playground Equipment	,			
Boat Launch Upgrade			1	
On-Line Reservations			•	
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

Dishaw Park	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library	V	1 .1		
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court				
More Parking				
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area			1	
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
	+	-		

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station			paperpanus.	X
New Dock	X			1
Pavilion		X		
Small Cabins		1		T Y
Additional Signage		1 1		1
New Flag		1		
Power at the Park		1~		X
Wigwam Improvements			X	
New Benches	X		_/\	
Beach Sand	X			
Rustic Camping Only	X			
Expand Camping Along Lake				V
Designated Fire Pits			Χ	 ^
New Bathrooms		X		
New Playground Equipment		1	X	
Boat Launch Upgrade			_/\	X
On-Line Reservations				V
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

Dishaw Park	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library	X		10000000	
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court	1	1		
More Parking			X	
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area			X	
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
		+ -		

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station			X	
New Dock	Х			
Pavilion		Х		
Small Cabins		X		
Additional Signage		×		
New Flag		X		
Power at the Park	х			
Wigwam Improvements	×			
New Benches		X		
Beach Sand	Х			
Rustic Camping Only			X	
Expand Camping Along Lake		Х	^	
Designated Fire Pits	X			
New Bathrooms	X			
New Playground Equipment		X		
Boat Launch Upgrade		X		
On-Line Reservations	×			
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

Dishaw Park	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library			X	
ear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court	Х			
More Parking	Х			
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area	х			
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
	-			

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station	V			T TOT NECEGE
New Dock		V		
Pavilion			~	
Small Cabins				\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
Additional Signage			V	ļ -
New Flag	V			
Power at the Park				V
Wigwam Improvements			4-1	-
New Benches			V	-
Beach Sand			V	
Rustic Camping Only	/			
Expand Camping Along Lake				V
Designated Fire Pits		~		
New Bathrooms		-	V	
New Playground Equipment			V	
Boat Launch Upgrade			V	
On-Line Reservations		V		
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:		-		

Dishaw Park	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library				
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court			MAK	
More Parking			1/	
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area			1/	
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
fence around play grea with Hwy being so close		V		
0 0			201	

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station				/
New Dock	X			
Pavilion			X	
Small Cabins				X
Additional Signage			×	
New Flag	X			
Power at the Park				X
Wigwam Improvements 2				
New Benches				
Beach Sand	交			
Rustic Camping Only	X			1
Expand Camping Along Lake				V
Designated Fire Pits		1		
New Bathrooms		$+ \wedge$	Y.	
New Playground Equipment	V			
Boat Launch Upgrade		1		
On-Line Reservations				 ^
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library				X
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court		1		·×
More Parking		X		
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area	X			
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

Brock VanOss

From:

Mi Becks <shirleyandrandybeck@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 8:06 PM

To:

brock@vanossforestry.com

Subject:

Fwd:

Some input from Mansfield resident Jim Paramski about the parks. I sent him the survey.

-- Forwarded message -----

From: James Paramski < pskiupnorth@gmail.com >

Date: Wed, Oct 19, 2022, 8:27 AM

Subject:

To: Mi Becks < shirleyandrandybeck@gmail.com >

Hoping the

Dock is gonna be kept up at lake. Meaning the swimming area. Ball field always looks nice.

Don't know exactly what you want, but think park (s) is maintained very well.

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station			LOW	V
New Dock	X			~
Pavilion			V	
Small Cabins				
Additional Signage				-
New Flag			~	
Power at the Park			\	
Wigwam Improvements		V		
New Benches	X	/~		
Beach Sand	72			
Rustic Camping Only		X		
Expand Camping Along Lake				
Designated Fire Pits		X		X
New Bathrooms	~			
New Playground Equipment		X		
Boat Launch Upgrade		, ,	X	
On-Line Reservations			- ' '	~
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
	I X I		
	1	-	
			1
	High	High Medium	High Medium Low

Please respond by 10/31/22. Brock VanOss - Parks & Rec. 695 Way Dam Rd. Crystal Falls, MI 49920 or email brock@vanossforestry.com Thanks to make

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN PUBLIC INPUT SURVEY GEI PROJECT NO. 2203606

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station				T X
New Dock	X		91	1
Pavilion			X	
Small Cabins			, ,	X
Additional Signage				X
New Flag	X			
Power at the Park				X
Wigwam Improvements	X			
New Benches	X			
Beach Sand	X			
Rustic Camping Only	X			
Expand Camping Along Lake				X
Designated Fire Pits		X		
New Bathrooms		X		
New Playground Equipment				
Boat Launch Upgrade		\Diamond		
On-Line Reservations				V
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				
·				

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library		l x		
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court	X	1		
More Parking				V
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area				1
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

Please respond by 10/31/22. Brock VanOss - Parks & Rec. 695 Way Dam Rd. Crystal Falls, MI 49920 or email brock@vanossforestry.com MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN PUBLIC INPUT SURVEY GEI PROJECT NO. 2203606

In general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed	
Dumping Station - No body to Monte	(. /		X		
New Dock pull out	X				
Pavilion			1		
Small Cabins	./		×		
Additional Signage ,	1/		/ '		
New Flag DO P	1/				
Power at the Park	1/				
Wigwam Improvements	X				
New Benches	//				
Beach Sand	1/				
Rustic Camping Only	X/				
Expand Camping Along Lake	X				
Designated Fire Pits	X.				
New Bathrooms	1	1			
New Playground Equipment		X./			
Boat Launch Upgrade	1/	1			
On-Line Reservations	X				ļ
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:					
Dower Should he solar,			10.0	-06	aguilion
mohey Should be Snopt	00	wie	wan	11107 1	es not so clo
stake out white , fence	ev	1500	WILL	cable	ł
139Throoms Could, ne VI	10190	1001-	Chi	- G. 108 C	and coll
expand sites to include two	2 bub		of Use	edi-Site	72 NOT 30 01.
Dishaw Park	High	Médium	Low	Not Needed	1
Onsite Mailbox Library	X.	_			1
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court					4
More Parking	1				-
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area	7				4
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:					4
Bathrooms					4
10					4
					4
1					_

Please respond by 10/31/22. Brock VanOss - Parks & Rec. 695 Way Dam Rd. Crystal Falls, MI 49920 or email brock@vanossforestry.com

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN PUBLIC INPUT SURVEY GEI PROJECT NO. 2203606

n general, how would you prioritize the need for each of the following improvements at each of the Township's Parks?

Dawson Lake Park:	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Dumping Station				×
New Dock	X			
Pavilion			×	
Small Cabins				×
Additional Signage			X	
New Flag	X			
Power at the Park	X			
Wigwam Improvements		×		
New Benches	×			
Beach Sand			×	
Rustic Camping Only	X			
Expand Camping Along Lake		X		
Designated Fire Pits	X			
New Bathrooms			X	6
New Playground Equipment			×	
Boat Launch Upgrade			V	
On-Line Reservations	×			
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

<u>Dishaw Park</u>	High	Medium	Low	Not Needed
Onsite Mailbox Library	×			
Tear Out Tennis Courts and Make Basketball Court		×		
More Parking			×	
Designated Driveway Leading to Parking Area			X	
Provide Additional Write in Improvements:				

Please respond by 10/31/22. Brock VanOss - Parks & Rec. 695 Way Dam Rd. Crystal Falls, MI 49920 or email brock@vanossforestry.com

Affidavit of Publication

State of Michigan

PUBLIC WORKSHOP NOTICE
MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP
MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP WILL BE MEETING ON DECEMBER 20, 2023 AT 9:00
AM AT THE MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP HALL TO BE HOLDING DISCUSSIONS
CONCERNING THE UPDATING OF THE TOWNSHIP'S RECREATION PLAN.

Crystal Bear, being duly sworn, says that she is Co-Editor of the Iron County *Reporter*, a newspaper published and circulated in said county and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; that annexed hereto is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date, or dates, to-wit: **December 13, 2023.** Subscribed and sworn before me on this 13th day of December 2023.

Wendy L. Graham

Notary Public

Iron County, Michigan

My commission expires January 9, 2028



PUBLIC WORKSHOP NOTICE

Mansfield Township

Mansfield Township will be meeting on December 20, 2023

And 900 am at the Mansfield Township Hall to be Molding discussions concerning the updating of the Township's Recreation Plan. Such plan needs to be in place before the Township can apply for future recreation grants through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Please note that the public is invited to attend this meeting for their input and recommendations. Any questions or comments concerning this matter should be directed to Mansfield Township, 2804 Hwy M-69, Crystal Falls, MI 49920.

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 20, 2023

Meeting called to order at 9 A.M. by the Supervisor Brock VanOss with the pledge of allegiance. Mike Carey gave the invocation. A moment of silence was held to honor the passing of long time Board member Richard Dryjanski.

Roll Call: Brock VanOss, Mike Carey, George Minerick and Rose Poynter were present. Clerk John Leutz was absent. Also present were Russ Bauwens, Zach Hautala, Penny McCumber, Marsha Wainilo and Rob Anderson.

No Public Comment

No Board Comment

Minerick made the motion to accept the agenda and it was seconded by Carey with all members present voting "aye".

VanOss presented the November minutes. Minerick made the motion to accept as presented and seconded by Carey with all members present voting "aye".

Clerk's Report:

The payables and payroll were presented and Minerick made the motion to accept as presented with VanOss seconding. All members voted "aye".

No correspondence were read. The Auditor question was tabled as well as the snowplow contract. No election update.

Poynter gave the Treasurer's Report.

VanOss gave the Supervisor's Report. A discussion on transferring money to the Road Fund was discussed with no action taken.

No Zoning Report.

Bauwens gave the Web Report.

Bauwens gave the Planning Committee Report. The next meeting will be in January.

A increase in Road Millage was discussed but no action taken.

No Library Report.

VanOss gave the Recreation Report. The Recreation Plan was discussed and an open comment was held. Dawson Lake is now Closed for the winter.

Carey reported on the Township Manual. This was discussed with not action taken at this time.

No New or Old Business.

Public Comment: Penny McCumber reported on the speed problem on Mansfield Cutoff. This was discussed and VanOss to check with the County Roads.

No Board Privilege.

With no new or old business to discuss, Minerick made the motion to adjourn. This was seconded by VanOss with all member present voting "aye".

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 P.M..

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP DNR RECREATION PLAN GEI PROJECT #2203606

DNR Recreation Plan Public Workshop, 12/20/2023:

A summary of the Public Comments received is included below:

- The Township's greatest recreational asset is Way Dam Reservoir and the Township should strive to keep this wild and scenic area open for public recreation.
- The tennis courts at Dishaw Park need to be repaired or replaced.
- Bike trails would be a good addition to the Township. They could be connected to neighboring communities trail systems to develop a more regional trail system.
- There is a need for ORV/snowmobile trials in the Township. Riders must now use existing roads to access nearby trails.

Appendix C

Notice of Recreation Survey (Public Input) Availability

Notice of Recreation Plan Availability, Public Comment, and Public

Hearing

Meeting Minutes from Public Hearing containing Public Comments Recreation Plan Resolution of Adoption

Meeting Minutes of Meeting Approving Resolution

Mansfield Township Parks & Recreation Public Meeting Notice Meeting

THERE WILL BE AN OPEN MEETING
FOR THE MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

At the Dawson Lake Park

Sunday, October 9TH 4:00 PM CST

BROCK VANOSS
DEPUTY SUPERVIOR
October 2, 2022

Affidavit of Publication

State of Michigan

NOTICE OF RECREATION PLAN AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING

Crystal Bear, being duly sworn, says that she is Co-Editor of the Iron County *Reporter*, a newspaper published and circulated in said county and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; that annexed hereto is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date, or dates, to-wit: **December 27, 2023.** Subscribed and sworn before me on this 30th day of January 2024.

Wendy L. Graham Notary Public

Iron County, Michigan

My commission expires January 9, 2028



NOTICE OF RECREATION PLAN AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING

Mansfield Township

The Mansfield Township Recreation Plan is currently available for public review in the Mansfield Township Hall and the Township's website mansfieldtownship.org. The Recreation Plan, which will be submitted to the DNR by February 1, 2024, will state the goals and objectives of the Township's recreational opportunities along with the action plan to achieve the Township's goals. The submittal of this Plan is required to be eligible to receive recreation grant funding through the DNR. Please submit written comments by January 31, 2024, to John Leutz, Clerk, Mansfield Township Hall, 2804 M-69, Crystal Falls, MI 49920. A public hearing is scheduled for January 31, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Mansfield Township Hall to discuss the recreation plan, receive public comments, review written comments on the draft plan and adopt the Recreation Plan.

R13 12/27

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC MEETING

Recreational Plan Approval

January 31, 2024

DRAFT

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Brock VanOss at 9 A.M. with the pledge of allegiance. Mike Carey gave the invocation.

Roll Call: Brock VanOss, Mike Carey, Rose Poynter and John Leutz were present. George Minerick was absent. Also, in attendance were Russ Bauwens and Ryan Morgan.

Brock VanOss explained the purpose for our meeting and the needed resolution for the Recreational Plan.

Brock then opened the meeting up for public comment at 9:03 am.

Bowens talked about boat launches and better signage for recreational areas.

Brock then read the emails from John Gilner and Shirley Beck.

Public Comment was then closed at 9:14 am.

Board Privilege was opened and Mike discussed typos and can change the plans as needed through time.

With no other comments then VanOss mentioned to adjourn. Mike supported, all in favor.

tabled for the immediate future.

Metting was then closed at 9:17 am.

Anderson, Robb

From: Jake NURMI <mansfieldrec22@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 7:25 PM

To: Brock Work

Subject: Fwd: Recreation Plan

Just saw this in the inbox. Idk if you've seen it.

Jake

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mi Becks <shirleyandrandybeck@gmail.com>

Date: January 17, 2024 at 4:48:24 PM CST

To: MansfieldRec22@gmail.com

Subject: Recreation Plan

Thank you posting the draft of the recreation plan. I did review it and would like to note the following:

- 1) Under 1. Community Description there are typo errors on "the" and "US".
- 2) Under 2. Administrative Structure "Bates Township is named instead of "Mansfield Township."
- 3) I was very pleased to see that heritage is supported through the Mansfield Pioneer Church which is owned and operated by the Mansfield Memories Committee. This committee can also assist with anything related to area history. They can also help with community parties. (I assume the community Christmas party and picnic cannot be part of the plan related to the township not being able to fund these events.)
- 4) I applaud the goal of working with the Iron County Heritage Trail to work towards the development of additional sites. Our committee has found it a challenge to work with the Trail regarding signage updates.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the recreation plan.

I am also very pleased to see the Mansfield website being so user friendly and full of information.....great job!!

Shirley Beck 906-367-0972

Anderson, Robb

From: John Gilner <wonder501@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2024 1:41 PM

To: Mansfield Supervisor **Subject:** Re: Recreation Plan

PC met last monday

On Sunday, January 28, 2024, 6:44:23 AM CST, Mansfield Supervisor <supervisor@mansfieldtownship.org> wrote:

Thanks John. Is the PC meeting this Monday?

I might attend, if so. I'm passing this email over to our plan writer for revisions. We can talk about these changes and more at our special meeting this Wednesday. Thanks John

Brock

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 27, 2024, at 5:18 PM, John Gilner <wonder501@yahoo.com> wrote:

The Planning Commission review the plan I had many comment and said I would email them to you. Many of which I think should be adjusting before presenting to the public.

Community Description I think the het 2020 in meant to be "the"

Administrative Structure "in Bates" Township should be Mansfield

Natural Resource Inventory Michigamme River, Lake Ellen, Michigamme Reservoir should list boat ramp Mitchell Lake (Drakes) should mention rustic boat launch

What about Fence River (I think both the east and west branches are partly in the Twp.), Holmes Lake, Hemlock Falls

This Title could be changed to include historic places and points of interest and identify
Pioneer Church - sice a partnership with the pioneer church is mentioned in the plan) Mansfield location
mine site memorial, Hemlock Falls

The Plan Should include signage similar to DNR landings regarding Invasive Species and importance of boat cleaning at the Dawson Lake boat landing. There should be signage for the Pioneer Church near the Mansfield Mine Memorial. I have at least a half dozen people every year who have been driving around - stop in and ask for directions - the sign down on the highway gets then started on the right road but then they have to quess which way to go.

Overall the Action Plan should have some emphasis as too priorities and some time frame so that it is a more proactive action plan.

Perhaps a seperate section indicating which are priorities that will be focused on for 2024 such as a porta potty at Dishaw Park added gravel on the driveway at the storage bldg with a curve into a so called parking area at Dishaw Park (a seperate driveway with culvert off the hwy - with State of MI requirements off a main hwy may be cost prohibitive for the low usage of the park). Picnic table at DIshaw Park. Focus on Electricity options for Dawson Lake Campround. Sign as suggested for the boat launch. Some simpler, lower cost items that may fit the budget - but will indicate some proactive intentions instead of a long list and referencing sources of funds. Dawson Lake Campground - campsite are too close together and should have some shrubs or hedges between them. Also concerned a basketball hoop conflicts with parked cars.

I also noticed an incorrect tally in the survey/public input summary. The second to last survey that includes a lot of hand written comments indicates to "pull out" the swimming dock. Although it checked High Priority it would be a High Priority to remove it. As such the summary tally should have one less high and one in the not needed line.

Regarding Solar - is it possible to have individual pay for use at each campsite like a charging station for EV's. Also have to be careful that the twp does an outright purchase of the solar and not get into a delayed pay or lease - many unscrupulous sales going on out there and crooked salespeople resulting in double the cost and getting folks into a loan and lien situation.

Mansfield Township Recreation Plan

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of Mansfield Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 31, 2024 at the Mansfield Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Mansfield Township's MDNR Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, Mansfield Township has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the Township, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, Mansfield Township voted to adopt Mansfield Township Recreation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Mansfield Township hereby adopts the Mansfield Township Recreation Plan.

Yeas: vanoss, Rose Poyati, Miles carry and John Leut

Navs: Maxe

Absent: Garage Minane

I, John Leutz, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by Mansfield Township Board at a Special Meeting thereof held on the (31st day of January 2024.)

Mansfield Township cla-A

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Recreational Plan Approval

January 31, 2024

DRAFT

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Brock VanOss at 9:17 A.M.

Roll Call: Brock VanOss, Mike Carey, Rose Poynter and John Leutz were present. George Minerick was absent. Also, in attendance were Russ Bauwens and Ryan Morgan.

Mike Carey motioned to accept the resolution with the changes to the grammar errors. Brock VanOss supported and on a voice vote, all members present approved.

Brock VanOss motioned to adjourn, with Mike Carey seconded, and all members present voted aye.

Metting was then closed at 9:20 am

Recreation Plan 2024-2028 Mansfield Township, Michigan

Appendix D

Transmittal Letter to Planning Agency



Consulting
Engineers and
Scientists

January 31, 2024

Mr. Mark Stauber Board Chair Iron County Courthouse 2 South 6th Street Crystal Falls, MI 49920

RE: Mansfield Township 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Stauber:

Enclosed please find a copy of Mansfield Township's 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan, as adopted by the Township Board on January 31, 2024.

The Plan is being filed with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and is submitted to you per their requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

GEI CONSULTANTS OF MICHIGAN, P.C.

Robb Anderson, P.E.

Project Manager

cc: Brock VanOss, Supervisor (Cover Letter)

RAA:plw



Consulting Engineers and Scientists January 31, 2024

Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region 400 Quincy Street, 8th Floor Hancock, MI 49930

RE: Mansfield Township 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of Mansfield Township's 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan, as adopted by the Township Board on January 31, 2024.

The Plan is being filed with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and is submitted to you per their requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

GEI CONSULTANTS OF MICHIGAN, P.C.

Robb Anderson, P.E. Project Manager

cc: Brock VanOss, Supervisor (Cover Letter)

RAA:plw

B:\Working\MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP\2203606 Recreation Plan\05_ENG\Letters\2203606-Mansfield_Twp_WUPPDR_Letter_01-31-2024_FINAL.docx