



2022 - 2026

# GRANT TOWNSHIP

## RECREATION PLAN

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## **Introduction**

Grant Township, Michigan is located on the most northern tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula and on the southern shores of Lake Superior. The township is shaped by its rich geological history from the Greenstone Flow forming the spine of the Keweenaw Peninsula to the Copper Harbor Conglomerate made up of sediments that mostly came from rift lavas. Today, it is known internationally as a major recreational destination where outdoor activities, heritage and adventure tourism, natural beauty, and forest stewardship intermingle on 119 square miles, 48 miles of Lake Superior coastline, and countless miles of rivers, lakes, waterfalls, creeks, and streams.

The Township has a long history of adopting and implementing plans for recreation. A strong vision and sustained commitment by both community leaders and members has enabled Grant Township to develop an extensive, high-quality trail and park system. In that same movement, the Township is seeking to continue the development of its recreational programs and facilities, ensuring it can satisfy not only the community's current recreational demands, but those of the future as well.

This recreation plan has been developed at a time when land access is at a critical point and large expanses of publicly accessible land has the potential to be sold off in smaller sections for private development or forestry. Tourism and recreation are a mainstay of the local economy and Grant Township prides itself on the opportunities it provides for all visitors and residents. Unless secured, the loss of access and influence over the stewardship of the land, including motorized and non-motorized trail corridors, waterfront, rivers, beaches, access roads, and habitat for flora and fauna, the overall sustainability of Grant Township remains under threat.

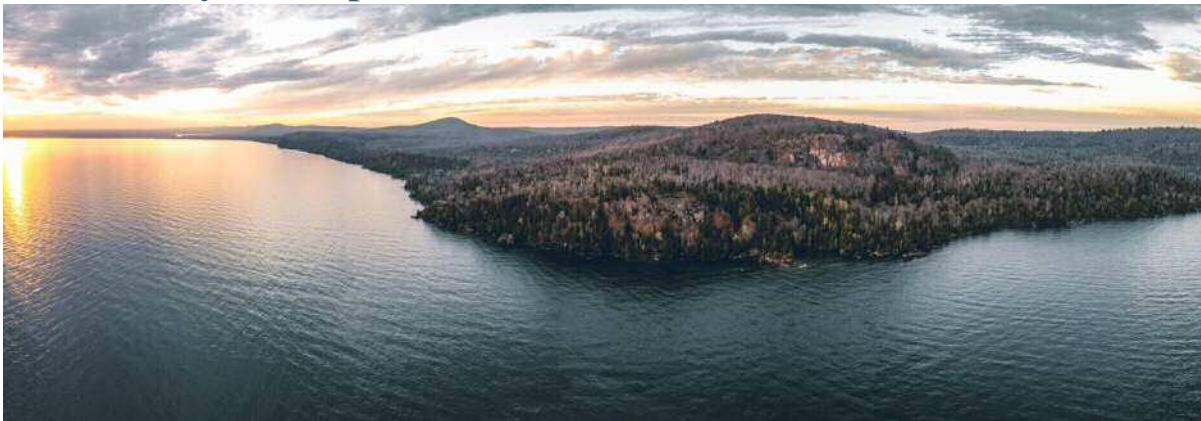
The purpose of this plan is to set forth and steward a recreation strategy for Grant Township that addresses the forces of change and confronts future challenges; and provides direction for decision-making regarding investment in recreational projects and collaborations in Grant Township. This plan was developed in accordance with the guidelines for Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). A five-year, DNR-approved Recreation Plan is required for government entities to pursue DNR-administered grants. This plan may serve as a resource for organizations seeking information on the township's recreation needs, facilities, and activities. The Township Board adopted the Grant Township Recreation Plan on January 18, 2022.

### **Grant Township Recreation Committee:**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harley Lewis</li><li>• Susan Pokorski</li><li>• Michael Lydon</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scott Ochnodnick</li><li>• Scott Wendt</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meg North</li><li>• Ronnie Mae Krueger</li></ul> |
|---|--|--|

*This plan has been developed with assistance from the Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR).*

## Community Description



### Location

Grant Township is the most northern municipality in Keweenaw County and is characterized by rocky shores with agate beaches, large tracts of woodlands, and rugged terrain. Dispersed among the natural amenities are the small communities of Copper Harbor, Lac La Belle, Betsy, Mandan, Bete Grise, and Delaware. Parts of Lake Medora and Manitou Island are also included with the jurisdiction's boundaries.

Demographic analysis is an important tool to help assess the strengths and demands in a community's recreation system. Considering topics such as population, age distribution, and mobility can lead to a stronger plan that fully supports community needs.

### Population, Housing, and Socioeconomic Characteristics

The population of Grant Township as of the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) was 201. Most of the population is in Copper Harbor and Lac La Belle with a scattering of residents throughout. Population does increase significantly during the summer months as seasonal residents and guests visit nearly every corner of the Township.

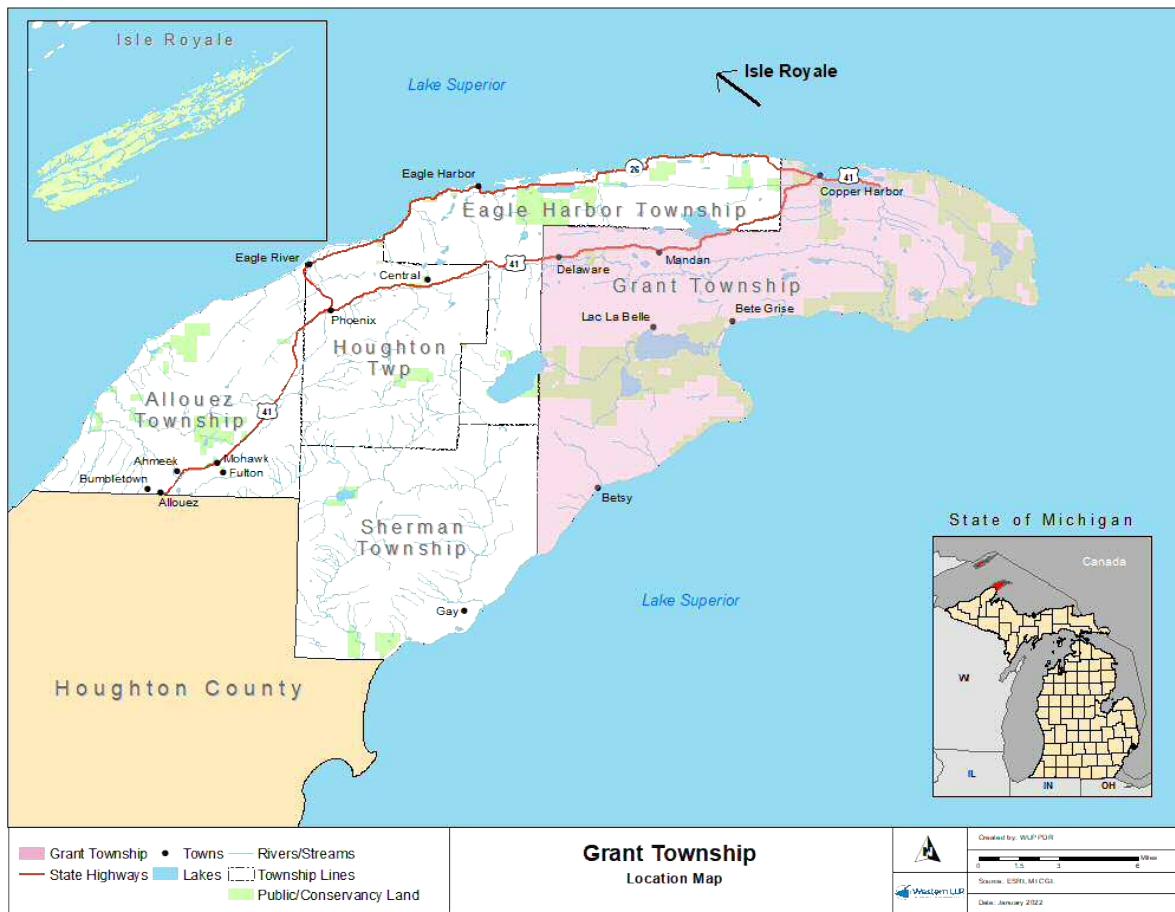
**Table 1:** Grant Township Population Distribution, 2019

| Population Distribution |         |                  |
|-------------------------|---------|------------------|
|                         | Persons | Percent of Total |
| <b>TOTAL POPULATION</b> | 201     |                  |
| Male                    | 110     | 54.7%            |
| Female                  | 91      | 45.3%            |
| Under 5 years old       | 3       | 1.5%             |
| 5 to 19 years old       | 10      | 5.0%             |
| 20 to 64 years old      | 93      | 46.3%            |
| 65 years and over       | 95      | 47.2%            |
| Households              |         |                  |
| Total Households        | 115     |                  |

|   |     |       |
|---|-----|-------|
| Households with individuals under 18 years    | 22  | 9.5%  |
| Households with individuals 65 years and over | 127 | 55.0% |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

**Figure 1:** Grant Township Location Map



In recreation planning and programming, special consideration should be given to the over 65 age group to address accessibility. There are fewer residents in the 20-64 age range than over 65 and adolescents over the age of 5. Because of the strong representation by these age groups, this merits continuation of recreation facility planning and maintenance to meet their demands. The high influx of tourists to the area each summer and winter also creates an additional demand on local capacity and public facilities. Additional socioeconomic characteristics are identified in Tables 2 and 3, including income and poverty levels.

**Table 2:** Grant Township Income Distribution, 2019

| Income               |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Median Household     | \$54,250 |
| Median Family        | \$71,250 |
| Nonfamily households | \$26,875 |

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

**Table 3:** Grant Township persons with income below poverty level, 2019

| Persons with Income below Poverty Level |        |                             |
|---|--------|-----------------------------|
|   | Totals | Percent of Total Population |
| All Ages                                | 13     | 6.5%                        |
| Under 18 Years of Age                   | 2      | 1.0%                        |
| Over 18 Years of Age                    | 11     | 5.5%                        |

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

## Land Use and Zoning

Grant Township makes up 79,071 acres and consists of a mix of land uses, including urban areas with a mix of single family residential, seasonal, and commercial properties, and forest land, with over 50% of the total land classified as commercial forest. The townsite of Copper Harbor has the highest concentration of commercial, recreational, and single-family residential land use, while the Lac La Belle area is primarily single family residential and seasonal with few commercial properties.

The major commercial forest landholders and their holdings is summarized in Table 4 below.

**Table 4:** Major Forest Landholders in Grant Township

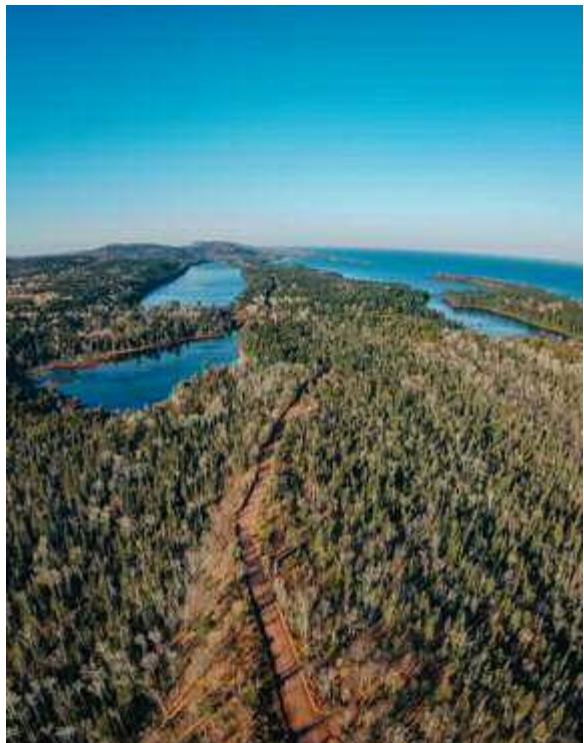
| Landholder  | Ownership type                                   | Acreage      |
|---|--|--------------|
| TRG   | Hedge Fund                                       | 30,045       |
| Molpus  | TIMO (Timber Investment Management Organization) | 2,631        |
| Bluestream  | Private  | 3,040        |
| CeCe  | Private  | 1,601        |
| Arntsen Family  | Private  | 1,277        |
| Other smaller owners combined   | Private  | 1,806        |
| <b>Total Commercial Forest Landholders</b>  |  | 40,400 (51%) |
| State of Michigan (DNR)   | Public   | 8,981 (11%)  |
| Bete Grise Preserve   | Public – Local government                        | 5,015 (6%)   |
| Conservancies<br>(The Nature Conservancy, Michigan Nature Association, and Keweenaw Community Forest Company) | Public – Conservation                            | 6,300 (8%)   |

The Keweenaw County Zoning Ordinance, outlined in the 2017 Keweenaw County Land Use Plan “*Blueprint for Tomorrow*”, regulates zoning in Grant Township. During the planning process, Keweenaw County highlighted an important goal to facilitate access to outdoor trail recreation for individuals with mobility challenges. The 2017 land use plan recommends connecting all community parks with an ADA-accessible multipurpose trail from Allouez to Copper Harbor while including every other major recreation area in Keweenaw County.

## Transportation Systems

Grant Township has two main thoroughfares bisecting the Township. State Highway 26 has its northernmost terminus at U.S. Route 41 in Copper Harbor. Gay Lac La Belle Road is another road that connects the southern shore communities of Grant Township to those along U.S. 41. See Figure 1 to review the major transportation routes through the Township.

## Geology and Geoheritage



Photograph by Andrew Erickson

The landscape of Grant Township is first defined by its billion-year-old geologic history at the heart of the Mid-Continent Rift system that connects the Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale and created the Lake Superior basin. It is further defined as the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands and waters of the Anishinaabe—the Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples and more-than-human relatives. The Ojibwa (Chippewa) homelands and ceded territory was established by the Treaty of 1842; this is the shared territory of 11 Lake Superior Bands of Chippewa Indians.

The geology of Grant Township comprises a spectacular combination of features that reflects the entire geologic history of the Keweenaw region. This includes a) the ridge and valley topography caused by the north dipping lavas of the Portage Lake Volcanics, b) the Copper

Harbor Conglomerate and interbedded Lake Shore Traps (basalt) along the north shore, c) the trace of the Keweenaw Fault that makes a striking topographic divide across the Keweenaw peninsula, d) the flat lying Jacobsville Sandstone terrain to the south, and e) remnants of glacial deposits mantling the older rocks with eskers, kames and outwash, and old lake level areas in the Bete Gris wetlands and Pointe Isabelle.

The rich and diverse relationships with the landscape have been cultivated for millennia on account of the geology ranging from the oldest metal workings in the Western Hemisphere, the

Anishinaabe nation, the European immigration wave of 1840-1910 triggered by the Copper Boom, and more recently recreational and educational opportunities rooted in this spectacular landscape.<sup>1</sup>

## Climate

Grant Township climate is impacted by its proximity to Lake Superior. In the winter months, snow cover generally lasts from November through April. This season allows for excellent winter recreation activities such as snowmobiling, ice-fishing, snow-biking, snowshoeing, and skiing. During the summer, warmer temperatures appeal to those that enjoy hiking, biking, recreational boating, and beach activities such as rockhounding and swimming. Seasonal average temperatures are shown in Table 5.

**Table 5:** Grant Township Climate

|                                | Winter              | Summer  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Daily Mean Temperature         | 17.0° F             | 63.8° F |
| Avg. Daily Minimum Temperature | 11.2° F             | 54.4° F |
| Avg. Seasonal Snowfall         | 206 inches per year |         |

*Source: "NowData - NOAA Online Weather Data". National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Retrieved September 2, 2021.*

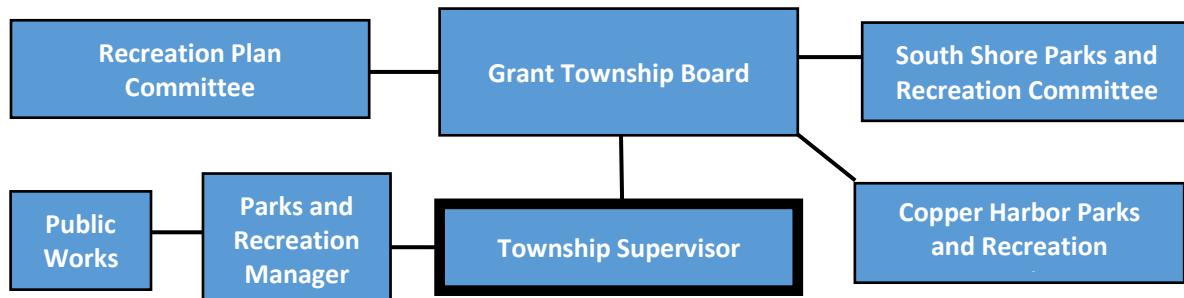
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<sup>1</sup> Information submitted to the recreation plan committee by Erika Vye and William Rose.

## Administrative Structure & Supporting Partners

The Grant Township Board is responsible for all administrative and operational functions of the Township. Current board members are Scott Wendt – Supervisor, Greg Mielcarz – Clerk, Misty Filsinger – Treasurer, Art Davis – Trustee, and Ned Huwatschek – Trustee.

Figure 2 provides an overview of the Township's Administrative Structure. Grant Township Public Works personnel are under the direction of the Township Parks and Recreation Manager and their duties include mowing, landscaping, removing trash, and routine repair and maintenance of grounds and facilities.



**Figure 2:** Grant Township Administrative Structure

An informal administrative structure is currently in place to recommend the development of the Township's recreational parks and programs. Two committees, the South Shore Parks and Recreation and the Copper Harbor Parks and Recreation, serving as community sounding boards, report as advisory committees to the Township Board. To perform these tasks, each of the Parks and Recreation Committees operate independently for each locale and have meetings as deemed necessary.

Ultimately, the Township Board is responsible for the allocation of funds for the procurement, development, and maintenance of recreational parks and programs. The Parks and Recreation Committees do not have an annual operating budget, but instead receive funding on a case-by-case basis by submitting requests to the Township Board for approval. Roughly, \$83,600 was spent last year (2021) on recreation in Grant Township out of a total operations budget of about \$183,000. Upon approval of the funding request, the Parks and Recreation Committee administers the funds as necessary.

Grant Township recreation facility maintenance are included in the Township's General Fund Budget. The Township supports and maintains recreation facilities through property taxes and special assessments.

While the Township, County, and DNR are primary recreation providers in Grant Township, they are only one aspect of the community of partners that supports recreational programming in the region. In the Township there are numerous entities that protect lands and public access, provide recreation and education programs, volunteers, funding, and are social outlets for various interests. These partners and potential partners include:

- Calumet-Keweenaw Sportsman's Club

- Copper Country Audubon Society
- Copper Country Chapter of Trout Unlimited
- Copper Country Ski Tigers
- Copper Country Trail Scenic Byway Committee
- Copper Harbor Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee
- Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority
- Copper Harbor Trails Club (CHTC)
- Copper Harbor Improvement Association (CHIA)
- DNR Parks and Forestry Divisions
- Federal Agencies (Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)
- Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District
- Keweenaw ATV Club
- Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce
- Keweenaw Community Foundation
- Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau



*Photograph by Andrew Erickson*

- Keweenaw County
- Keweenaw County Historical Society
- Keweenaw Land Trust
- Keweenaw Mountain Lodge
- Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club
- Keweenaw National Historic Park
- Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition
- Keweenaw Snowmobile Club
- Isle Royale National Park (and Institute)
- Michigan Nature Association
- Michigan Rotary Club
- Michigan Technological University
- Mt. Bohemia Ski Area
- Portage Health Foundation

- Private Landowners (TRG is the largest)
- South Shore Association
- Stewards of the Bete Grise Preserve
- The Nature Conservancy
- Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR)

## **Recreation Inventory**

Grant Township maintains access to a couple of recreation facilities for both residents and visitors. The following recreation inventory describes the facilities that are currently in the Township (See Figure 3 below). Additionally, accessibility assessments and rankings are provided for each site based on the parameters outlined in the “DNR guidelines for the Development of Community Park and Recreation Plans” as follows:

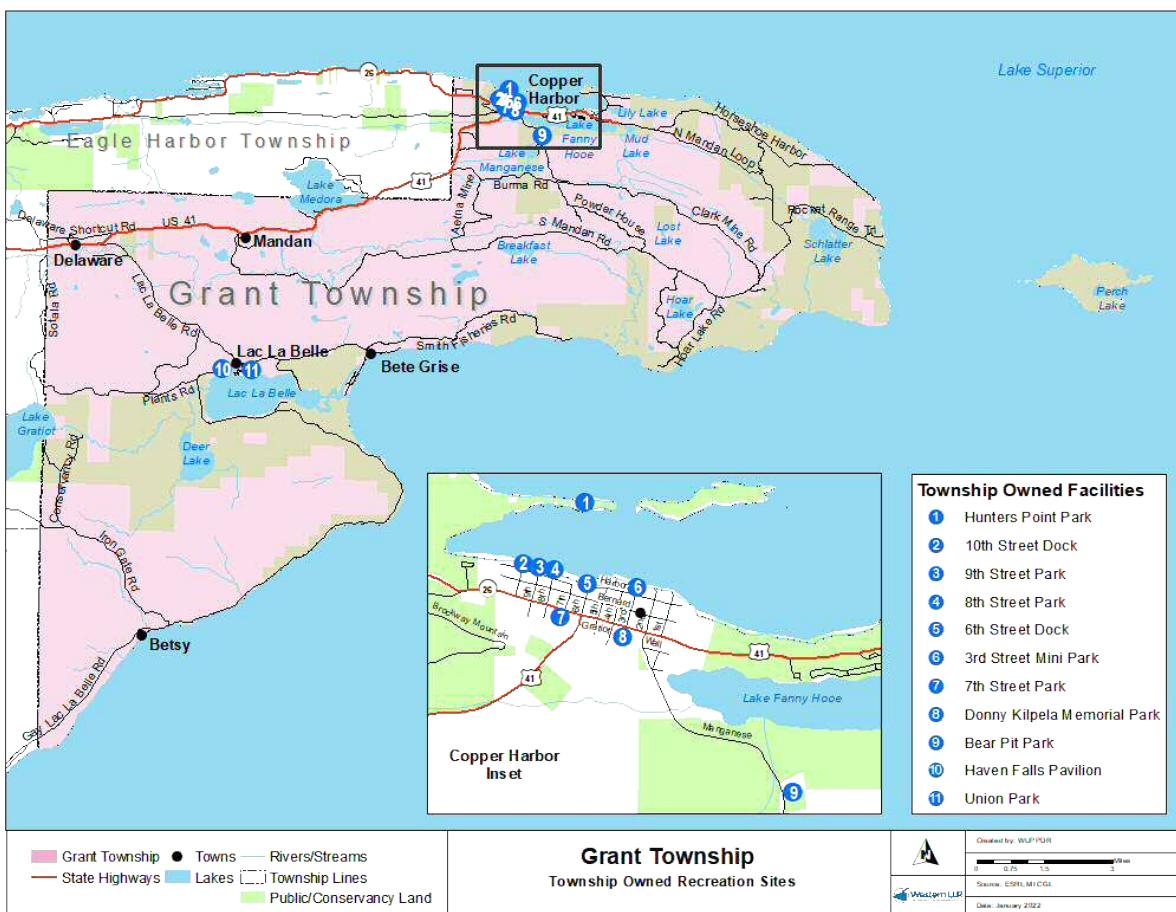
- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design

Based on this inventory, the need for improvements and additional recreational facilities can be fully evaluated. The Recreation Committee completed the accessibility assessments. Any accessibility deficiencies found in the assessment will be addressed in future site project upgrades, as funding becomes available.

### **Seven Principles of Universal Design**

1. **Equitable Use:** The design is useful and marketable to any group of users
2. **Flexibility in Use:** The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities.
3. **Simple and Intuitive Use:** Use of the design is easy to understand.
4. **Perceptible Information:** The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user.
5. **Tolerance for Error:** The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintentional actions.
6. **Low Physical Effort:** The design can be used efficiently and comfortably.
7. **Size and Space for Approach and Use:** Appropriate size and space is provided for approach and use.

**Figure 3:** Grant Township-owned Recreation Sites



## Recreation Sites Maintained by Grant Township

## Hunter's Point Park



*Hunter's Point Park, photograph by Anne Greub*

Hunter's Point is located on the shoreline of Lake Superior. It is a rocky spit of land that helps form the harbor of Copper Harbor by blocking wave action from the big lake and create the natural harbor. The Park features approximately 4,800 feet of shoreline and provides a barrier-free boardwalk and platform from which to view of Lake Superior; rustic restrooms; and interpretative signage of local flora and fauna. It is perhaps one of the most frequented recreation destinations in the Township because of its natural scenic beauty, its unique beach, and its

easy access. The acquisition of the lands for Hunter's Point Park was made possible by generous

grants provided by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and by local match funds. The Trust fund also provided a development grant to the park for a viewing deck, restrooms, and barrier-free accessibility.

Accessibility assessment: 2 (some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

### **Donny Kilpela Memorial Park**



*Donny Kilpela Memorial Park and Township Hall,  
photograph by Anne Greub*

areas meet accessibility guidelines)

This three-acre park in the heart of Copper Harbor's business district has an outdoor pavilion with barbecue pit. The Park also features a community center with a tourist information area and public restrooms. Within the community center, there are the Grant Township offices and the U.S. Postal Service in Copper Harbor. A bulletin board in an interior hallway of the center near the entrance for the post office is regularly packed with local announcements and notices.

Accessibility assessment: 2 (some of the facilities/park

### **Third Street Mini Park**

This Park features a viewing platform with benches on the harbor. Its approximate size is 60 by 100 feet.

Accessibility assessment: 2 (some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

### **6<sup>th</sup> Street Dock**

This dock features 300 feet of boardwalk; boardwalk lighting; a stone wall; and landscaping. It provides an area to tie up a small outboard watercraft and a boardwalk to 5th Street. The dock is barrier-free.

The improvements were paid for by a 1997 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant. The dock is used by pedestrians and boaters. The docks provide a good mooring area for those wishing to tie up close to Copper Harbor's business district. The dock also provides excellent views of the harbor and of Lake Superior.



*Third Street Mini Park, photograph by Anne Greub*

Accessibility assessment: 2 (some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

### **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Street Parks**

These undeveloped parks are located at the end of 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Streets in Copper Harbor. The 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Street Parks are intended for the enjoyment of the natural beauty of the area, and contains a picnic table.

Accessibility assessment: 1 (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)



*8<sup>th</sup> Street Park, photograph by the Grant Twp Rec Committee*

### **Bear Pit Park**

This undeveloped park is to be located on the site of the former Grant Township Landfill. This site has the potential for development into a motorized and non-motorized trailhead, with safe access to current and future trails, increase parking for day use visitors, developed for ADA accessible facilities and recreation.

Accessibility assessment: 1 (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

### **10<sup>th</sup> Street Dock**

This facility allows small inboard watercraft to tie up.

Accessibility assessment: 1 (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

### **Haven Falls Pavilion**

This roadside pavilion includes picnic and rustic toilet facilities. The park is adjacent to and compliments the Keweenaw County Haven Falls Park.

Accessibility assessment: 2 (some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

### **Union Park**

This undeveloped park is located next to the Lac La Belle Fire Hall.

Accessibility assessment: 1 (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines)

## **Recreation Trails**

Recreation trails have become an integral component of economic development and quality of life for Grant Township residents and visitors alike. The township and county offer an extensive trail network system for both motorized and non-motorized recreation.

### **Motorized Trails**

**Snowmobile:** An extensive snowmobile trail system connects Grant Township communities during the winter months. This system provides vital economic resources for businesses that rely on winter tourism. Most of the trails are on a mix of private (TRG and others), Township, County, State, and conservancy lands with continued access contingent on easements. The

Keweenaw Trails Services (dba Keweenaw Snowmobile Club) maintains over 200 miles of trails from Toivola to the very tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula at High Rock Bay.

**ATV:** Currently there is a total network on 120 miles of ATV trails in the Keweenaw Peninsula, with 54 miles being state-designated trails (thanks to the work of the Keweenaw ATV Club). Like the snowmobile trails, the majority are a mosaic of private, Township, County, State, and conservancy lands with continued access contingent on easements.

## Non-motorized Trails



*Photograph by Nathan Miller*

**Copper Harbor Trail System:** The Copper Harbor Trail System is a nationally recognized, professionally built and well-maintained non-motorized trail system of more than 35 miles in Grant Township on State, County, and privately owned land in and around Copper Harbor. The Copper Harbor Trails Club (CHTC) is a non-profit volunteer organization that maintains mountain biking and hiking trails during summer and fall. Volunteers currently provide winter trail grooming services for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and snow-biking. The winter trails at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge (KML) are groomed by KML. Trails on private land are subject to annual permissions from landowners.

**Keweenaw Point Trail:** The Keweenaw Point Trail is a 30-mile non-motorized recreation trail that circumnavigates the tip of the Keweenaw. CHTC is working with Grant Township, MDNR, Keweenaw County, private landowners, and conservancy to secure and develop/maintain lands for permanent access to

the Point Trail. CHTC has received significant donations for match on this multi-stage project and is actively seeking funds for completion.

## Regional and County Recreation Opportunities

**Bete Grise North Beach:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this beach provides over 1,000 feet of beautiful sand frontage on Lake Superior. Toilet and changing facilities are provided.

**Bete Grise Preserve:** Owned by the Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District, the preserve hosts over five miles of Lake Superior Shoreline, secures access to Lac La Belle, and Deer Lake. Recreation opportunities include fishing, kayaking, boating, and swimming.

**Brunette Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this roadside park is on a narrow strip of land with 1,000 feet of Lake Superior waterfront and a beautiful sandy beach. Picnic and toilet facilities are maintained.

**Copper Harbor Overlook:** Overlooking Copper Harbor, this roadside property on Brockway Mountain Drive is owned and maintained by the Keweenaw County Road Commission.

**Isle Royale National Park:** This remote wilderness island in Lake Superior is part of Keweenaw County and is known for its extensive hiking trails, camping, wildlife, and excellent fishing. Isle Royale includes 132,018 acres of land that were federally designated on October 20, 1976. Local ferries are available from both Houghton and Copper Harbor.

**Fort Wilkins State Park:** Located on the east side of Copper Harbor, the park offers a restored fort and interpretive center, extensive camping, playgrounds, boat launch, bike path, non-motorized trails, and a picnic area.

**Marinas:** There are three state-owned marinas and harbors of refuge facilities in Keweenaw County located at Eagle Harbor, Gratiot Lake, and Lac La Belle. State boat launches are available at Lake Medora and Lake Fanny Hooe as well as other lakes throughout the county.

**Copper Country Trail National Byway:** U.S. 41 from the Portage Lake Lift Bridge to Copper Harbor is a designated National Scenic Byway.

**Haven Falls Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this roadside park includes picnic and toilet facilities along with an attractive waterfall. The park is located across the road from beautiful Lac La Belle.

**The Keweenaw Underwater Preserve:** A 103 square mile preserve which hosts a variety of shipwrecks including the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mesquite that ran aground in 1989 off the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Other shipwrecks are concentrated at Eagle River, Eagle Harbor, and Copper Harbor and include both steamers and schooners, primarily dated from 1800s – early 1900s.

**Estivant Pines Nature Sanctuary:** Located just outside Copper Harbor and within Grant Township boundaries, this 570-acre sanctuary hosts more than 85 bird species within the old-growth white pine forest, including woodpeckers, hawks, and red crossbills.

**Keweenaw National Historical Park:** Established in 1992, the park celebrates the life and history of the Keweenaw Peninsula. It is a partially privatized park made up of two primary units, the Calumet and Quincy Units, and 22 cooperating “Heritage Sites” located on federal, state, and private lands. Keweenaw County has four Heritage Sites: Central Mine, Delaware Copper Mine, Fort Wilkins Historic State Park, and the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse and Museum.



Photograph by Steve Brimm

## **Previous and Current DNR Grants for Township Recreation Assets**

Grant Township has completed a number of projects in recent years. The following list highlights projects completed by the Township with the support of MNRTF funding as well as other funding sources.

|  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Project Name:</u> 10<sup>th</sup> Street Public Dock<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Project Number:</u> BF92-322</li><li>○ <u>Source:</u> Boating Infrastructure Grant</li><li>○ <u>Grant Amount:</u> \$15, 000.00</li><li>○ <u>Project Description:</u> Reconstruct existing dock deck, 30-foot extension and related site work to enhance public use of docking facility in Copper Harbor.</li></ul></li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Project Name:</u> 6<sup>th</sup> Street Waterfront Project<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Project Number:</u> TF93-186</li><li>○ <u>Source:</u> Trust Fund</li><li>○ <u>Grant Amount:</u> \$60,000.00</li><li>○ <u>Project Description:</u> Design and construction of a 300-foot boardwalk, 1,400 sq. ft. extended deck, and docking facility on Lake Superior shoreline.</li></ul></li></ul>                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Project Name:</u> Sixth Street Waterfront<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Project Number:</u> TF97-109</li><li>○ <u>Source:</u> Trust Fund</li><li>○ <u>Grant Amount:</u> \$120,000.00</li><li>○ <u>Project Description:</u> Construction of a 300ft x 10ft boardwalk along the shore of Lake Superior in Copper Harbor.</li></ul></li></ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Project Name:</u> Hunter's Point Acquisition<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Project Number:</u> TF04-104</li><li>○ <u>Source:</u> Trust Fund</li><li>○ <u>Grant Amount:</u> \$562,900.00</li><li>○ <u>Project Description:</u> Acquisition in fee simple of 9.4 acres with 4,800 feet of Lake Superior shoreline to maintain public access to the recreation trail and shoreline.</li></ul></li></ul>            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Project Name:</u> Hunter's Point Public Access Assessment<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Project Number:</u> TF06-123</li><li>○ <u>Source:</u> Trust Fund</li><li>○ <u>Grant Amount:</u> \$47,100.00</li><li>○ <u>Project Description:</u> Development to include access to Lake Superior with parking, boardwalk, viewing platform, toilet building, and informational desk.</li></ul></li></ul>                |

- Project Name: Hunter's Point Park Acquisition – Phase 1
  - Project Number: TF07-099
  - Source: Trust Fund
  - Grant Amount: \$720,000.00
  - Project Description: Phase one of a two phase acquisition in fee simple of approximately 122 acres with 830 feet of frontage on Lake Superior and 1,900 feet of frontage on Copper Harbor. This property is adjacent to property previously purchased with MNRTF assistance.
- Project Name: Hunter's Point Park Acquisition – Phase 2
  - Project Number: TF08-023
  - Source: Trust Fund
  - Grant Amount: \$720,000.00
  - Project Description: Phase II of the acquisition of additional 122 acres to Hunter's Point Park with 830 feet of frontage on Lake Superior and 1,900 feet of frontage on Copper Harbor. This property is adjacent to property previously purchased with MNRTF assistance.
- Project Name: Grant Twp Park/Copper Harbor Playground Renovation
  - Project Number: TF12-122
  - Source: Trust Fund
  - Grant Amount Offered: \$49,000.00 – *Project withdrawn*
  - Project Description: Development to include replacement of playground equipment and surfacing in Grant Township Park. Project was withdrawn due to encumbrances that would have been placed on the Copper Harbor School property.
- Project Name: Copper Harbor Trail System Access Project
  - Project Number: TF16-0054
  - Source: Trust Fund
  - Grant Amount: \$333,300.00
  - Project Description: Acquisition of 94 acres for public access to Copper Harbor Trail System. The property comprises the core of an existing trail system and includes access to the main trailhead at Grant Township Park in Copper Harbor. The acquisition contains scenic, forested acreage with 3 miles of non-motorized single track mountain bike trail providing continuous access to Fort Wilkins Historic State Park, Keweenaw Point DNR lands, Grant Township's Hunter Point Park, and the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. In addition to trail uses, the purchase will enhance hunting and wildlife corridors, provide interpretive

opportunities to unique geological and natural features, and access to sweeping views of Copper Harbor and Lake Superior.

- Project Name: Keweenaw Point Trail – High Rock to Montreal River
  - Project Number: TF18-0120
  - Source: Trust Fund
  - Grant Amount: \$297,000.00
  - Project Description: Development of 15.6 miles of a 30-mile bike-optimized, looped, multi-use, non-motorized trail through rugged and remote terrain paralleling Lake Superior at Keweenaw Point near Copper Harbor. The single-track trail, to be developed on state land, will be open to both cyclists and hikers. This project is a joint effort of Grant Township, the Copper Harbor Trails Club, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. This project is the final phase of an effort to provide a unique remote, non-motorized, back-country trail experience to the public. The project expands non-motorized access to unique and scenic geography acquired with funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and will help sustain and expand recreational tourism in the region.

Grant Township has two open DNR grants. The first is for land acquisition to protect access to the Copper Harbor Trail System. The second is for the planning, development, and construction of the third phase of the Point Trail, proposed between High Rock Bay and the Montreal River corridor.

## **Township Recreation Goals and Objectives**

Grant Township is intended to be a place where residents and visitors have continued access to the many year-round scenic, recreational, and historical assets of our area. The specific purpose of this recreation plan is to allow Grant Township to apply for DNR grants for projects for which the Township and hence its taxpayers are ultimately responsible. Identifying goals and objectives is an important part of the recreation planning process. To develop goals and objectives, the recreation committee collected community input through an extensive community survey. Based on this process, eight goals for the township recreation plan were identified:

1. Acquire, develop, improve, and maintain land for non-motorized and motorized trails.
2. Improve and maintain recreational lands and infrastructure that the township owns.
3. Acquire land surrounding existing township parks to accommodate for future expansion.
4. Maintain and expand parks in the Lac La Belle area.
5. Improve access to Lake Superior and inland lakes for camping, fishing, boating, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, birding, and other outdoor activities.
6. Improve wayfinding signage for recreational opportunities.
7. Support and develop diverse non-motorized winter recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.
8. Supporting maintenance and safe development of heritage sites throughout the Township.

With these needs in mind, goals and objectives were developed to help address the identified needs and guide the action program for the township. Goals are meant to be broad and overarching while objectives carry out the purpose of the goal in a specific way.

**Goal 1:** Acquire, develop, improve, and maintain land for non-motorized and motorized trails.

Objective: Develop connection trails between various recreational and educational systems to create an integrated diverse trail structure.

**Goal 2:** Improve and maintain recreational lands and infrastructure that the township owns.

Objective 1: Develop pocket parks in Copper Harbor to increase accessibility; Identify and increase infrastructure and recreational opportunities to meet ADA accessibility guidelines for Township property and recreational facilities.

Objective 2: Create more parking spots and trailheads with amenities that target the recreational activities of the season. Trailheads are to be developed in multiple locations away from major traffic intersections and congested areas and designed to serve the diverse recreational needs of all users while targeting primary land and water activities of the trailhead.

**Goal 3:** Acquire land surrounding existing township parks to accommodate for future expansion.

Objective: Acquisition of land and recreational easements for public use and recreational opportunity development.

**Goal 4:** Maintain and expand parks in the Lac La Belle area.

Objective: Develop Union Park to meet identified essential infrastructure and recreational facilities.

**Goal 5:** Improve access to Lake Superior and inland lakes for camping, fishing, boating, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, birding, and other outdoor activities.

Objective: Increase diverse use-water front access for recreational use of current, potential easement, and potential acquired property.

**Goal 6:** Improve wayfinding signage for recreational opportunities.

Objective: Fund recreational wayfinding signage to increase access and accessibility for all trail types.

**Goal 7:** Support and develop diverse non-motorized winter recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.

Objective 1: Obtain access to land for winter recreation development and permission to groom or plow portions of Eastern access roads. Work with landowners on possible road development.



*Photograph by Steve Brimm*

Objective 2: Develop a winter recreation area East of Copper Harbor to create connectivity to Horseshoe Harbor and East Bluff trail systems. Development to include a parking area, easily accessible trail head, all-season multi-use trails, related infrastructure, and grooming equipment to maintain trails. These trails are to be wide enough for

grooming in the winter and easy level multi-use trails in the summer.

Objective 3: Development of a storage facility and improvement of current grooming equipment for Fort Wilkins/Copper Harbor winter trail system.

Objective 4: Work with partner organizations such as CHIA in the development and printing of *Winter Recreation Guide & Map* to be sold and used as a funding source.

Objective 5: Development of other Winter Recreation opportunities in Copper Harbor such as an ice-skating rink and sledding hill.

Objective 6: Develop a parking area and restroom facility near most commonly used ice fishing access point to Lake Superior.

Objective 7: Work with partner organizations to seek sponsorship for winter recreation events to help fund related objectives.

**Goal 8:** Supporting maintenance and safe development of heritage sites throughout the Township.

Objective: Develop educational trail system/locations combining a variety of cultural, artistic, and physical activities targeting diverse populations and interest levels.

## Action Plan

To expand and extend the use of facilities and add to the current recreational facilities in the Township, several projects have been proposed. These projects were identified in previous plans and through community input. Recreation projects were identified based on results from a community survey (Survey Summary can be reviewed in **Appendix C**) and according to the current and projected needs of Grant Township determined by the recreation committee. The action plan is not intended to be all inclusive or exclusive but used rather as a guide for recreation development.

The projects are addressed in the following five-year capital improvement schedule. The capital improvement schedule will be reviewed annually by the recreation committee and Township Board and acted upon based on available funding and changing priorities or needs. It is the intent of Grant Township to review and amend this plan and implementation schedule as needed to support local efforts in recreational programming.

**Table 6:** Grant Township Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

| Year   | Project                                 | Cost    | Funding Source             |
|--|---|---------|----------------------------|
| 2022   | 7 <sup>TH</sup> Street Park Development | \$2.5 M | MDNR/Township/Other        |
| Develop 7th Street Park to meet identified essential infrastructure and recreational facilities.   |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | Bear Pit Park Development               | \$1 M   | MDNR/Township              |
| Develop Bear Pit Park to meet identified essential infrastructure and recreational facilities.   |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | Connection Trails Project               | Varies  | MDNR/County/Township/Other |
| Develop connection trails between various recreational and educational systems to create an integrated diverse trail structure.  |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | Land Acquisition                        | \$2 M   | MDNR/Township/Other        |
| Acquisition of land and recreational easements for public use and recreational opportunity development.  |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | Waterfront Access Projects              | Varies  | MDNR/Township/Other        |
| Increase diverse use-waterfront access for recreational use of current, potential easement, and potential acquired property.   |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | Union Park Development                  | Varies  | MDNR/Township/Other        |
| Develop Union Park to meet identified essential infrastructure and recreational facilities.  |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | ADA Accessibility Project               | Varies  | MDNR/Township/Other        |
| Identify and increase infrastructure and recreational opportunities to meet ADA accessibility guidelines for Township property and recreational facilities.                  |   |         |                            |
| 2022   | Winter Sports Development               | \$2 M   | MDNR/Township/Other        |
| Identify, Plan, and Develop a diverse winter sports recreational experience, complete with needed infrastructure, operations, and maintenance for all township stakeholders. |   |         |                            |

|  |                                  |        |                     |
|--|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 2022   | Educational Resource Development | Varies | MDNR/Township/Other |
| Develop educational trail system/locations combining a variety of cultural, artistic, and physical activities targeting diverse populations and interest levels. |                                  |        |                     |

## Funding

Grant opportunities are constantly changing, so the township will remain diligent in pursuing funding programs and be willing to partner with other organizations in order to accomplish the projects outlined in the section above. A number of possible sources of funding for recreation projects within Grant Township are available and include the following:

**Table 7: Possible Funding Sources**

| Description   | Match       | Source   |
|---|-------------|----------|
| Township Funds  | --          | Township |
| Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)                                   | --          | GLRI     |
| Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)                               | 75/25 grant | MDNR     |
| Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)                                       | 50/50 grant | MDNR     |
| Recreation Passport Grants (RP)   | 75/25 grant | MDNR     |
| Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG)  | 75/25 grant | MDNR     |
| ORV Trail Improvement Fund  | --          | MDNR     |
| Snowmobile Trail Improvement Fund   | --          | MDNR     |
| Coastal Management Program  | 50/50 grant | EGLE     |
| Transportation Alternatives Program   | 80/20 grant | MDOT     |
| Rural Development Grant (state)   | 70/30 grant | MDARD    |
| Rural Development Grant (federal)   | Varies      | USDA     |
| Community Foundation/Fundraising/Other (local organizations and businesses) | Varies      | Other    |

## Description of Planning Process

The Grant Township Board recognizes the need for a recreation plan to effectively maintain current recreational resources and identify opportunities for recreational investments to enhance and improve recreational assets for Township residents and visitors. They felt that the approval of an updated recreation plan would be an important step to the financing and future completion of Township recreation projects. The Township Supervisor first established a recreation plan committee, representing the interests of the Township as a whole, and facilitated the recreation plan update process. The Supervisor contracted with Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) to work with the committee in updating this plan.

On October 6, 2021, the recreation committee held a kick-off meeting and met with WUPPDR to overview the plan update process. The committee discussed opportunities for public engagement and input. The committee determined that a community survey was the most effective means of gathering public input from its wide array of stakeholders.

A survey of Township residents and individuals that utilize Grant Township recreational facilities, which include but are not limited to non-resident property owners, guests, and patrons at local businesses, was conducted to gather public opinion to inform the plan's recreation goals, action plan, and project justifications. A copy of the survey can be found in **Appendix A**.

Beginning on October 13, 2021, the survey was hosted online using Survey Monkey and physical copies were made available at the Township Hall in Copper Harbor. Links to the survey were published in the Daily Mining Gazette, as well as WUPPDR's website (**Appendix B**). The survey generated responses from 597 participants (survey results summary in **Appendix C**). Based on survey results and needs identified by the committee, a list of prioritized recreation projects was created.

A public draft of the recreation plan was made available online on the Township's website and WUPPDR's website, Facebook, and Twitter pages. Printed copies were made available at the Township Hall in Copper Harbor and WUPPDR offices in Hancock. A public notice (**Appendix D**) was published in the Daily Mining Gazette on December 10, 2021, announcing the 30-day public review period and the date and location of a public comment session. Residents were instructed to submit written comments to WUPPDR via mail or email by January 8, 2022.

A public meeting was held on January 18, 2022, to receive public comment on the draft recreation plan. **Appendix F** provides a copy of the agenda and minutes. At the Township Board meeting following the public hearing, the 2022-2026 Grant Township Recreation plan was adopted by the board (**Appendix F**).

Comments received during the meeting included a request for a liability insurance standard to be addressed within the plan, a request for the inclusion of more people on the recreation committee, and a question about the level of detail required by the DNR.

## **Appendix**

Appendix A: Grant Township Recreation Survey

Appendix B: Recreation Survey Press Release

Appendix C: Grant Township Recreation Survey Summary

Appendix D: Public Review and Public Hearing Notification and Affidavits of Publication

Appendix E: Agenda and Minutes from Public Meeting

Appendix F: Agenda, Minutes, and Adoption Resolution

# **Grant Township Recreation Survey**

**Survey is also available online at  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/GrantTwpRec](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GrantTwpRec)**

The Grant Township Recreation Committee seeks public input to plan improvements to recreation sites in the Township. The purpose of this short, 10-minute, survey is to collect feedback from residents and visitors on the types of recreation opportunities they would like the Township to maintain, develop, and/or improve. The results of the survey will help develop the Township's *Five-Year Recreation Plan*.

The survey includes questions about your recreation interests and preferences for improvements to recreation sites owned by the Township. Participation is voluntary, and responses are confidential. The results from this survey will be published as part of the Township's Five-Year Recreation Plan.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Rachael Pressley, Regional Planner, at (906) 482-7205 x116 or [rpressley@wuppdr.org](mailto:rpressley@wuppdr.org). Thank you for your time and thoughtful responses!

Sincerely,  
The Grant Township Recreation Committee

## ***How to Return the Survey***

Completed surveys should be returned to the Recreation Committee through any of the following options:

### **Mail or Drop Off:**

Attn: Recreation Committee  
Grant Township Town Hall  
220 Gratiot St.  
Copper Harbor, MI 49918

**OR**

Attn: Rachael Pressley  
Western Upper Peninsula Planning &  
Development Region  
400 Quincy St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hancock, MI 49930

## ***Response Deadline***

For your feedback to be included, please complete, and return the survey no later than **November 12, 2021.**

## Township-Owned Recreation Facilities

Grant Township residents and visitors have access to a wide variety of parks, campgrounds, and trails through non-profit organizations, privately owned businesses, as well as, county, and state and federal government properties. **The Township owns and operates ten recreation assets/facilities:**

1. Hunter's Point Park
2. Donny Kilpela Memorial Park
3. Third Street Mini Park
4. Union Park
5. 6th Street Dock
6. 10th Street Dock
7. 8<sup>th</sup> Street Park
8. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Park
9. Haven Falls Pavilion

## Grant Township Recreation Survey - 2021

1. Are you a resident of Grant Township?

My **permanent residence** is in Grant Township

I **am not** a resident of Grant Township

I have a **seasonal residence** in Grant Township and live  
in \_\_\_\_\_ for  
most of the year

2. Overall, how important are recreational experiences to your household's quality of life?

[ ] Extremely important [ ] Very important [ ] Somewhat important [ ] Not so important [ ] Not important at all

3. It is important to understand recreation trends in the Township. Using the table below, please indicate if members from your household currently or recently participated in the following recreation activities. Indicate your response for each site by placing an "X" inside the appropriate response option.

| Recreation Activity                           | <u>Yes</u> , someone from our household participates in this activity | <u>No</u> , but we are interested in this activity | <u>No</u> , and we are not interested in this activity. | I don't know |
|---|---|--|---|--------------|
| ATV/off road vehicles                         |   |  |   |              |
| Baseball/softball                             |   |  |   |              |
| Basketball                                    |   |  |   |              |
| Beach activities                              |   |  |   |              |
| Bicycling - Road                              |   |  |   |              |
| Bicycling - Mountain                          |   |  |   |              |
| Bicycling – Leisure                           |   |  |   |              |
| Bird Watching                                 |   |  |   |              |
| Boating (motorized)                           |   |  |   |              |
| Camping (tent)                                |   |  |   |              |
| Camping (RV)                                  |   |  |   |              |
| Canoeing/kayaking/other non-motorized boating |   |  |   |              |
| Climbing                                      |   |  |   |              |

| Dancing                   |   |  |   |              |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|
| Disc-golf or Frisbee      |   |  |   |              |
| Exercise Classes          |   |  |   |              |
| Fishing                   |   |  |   |              |
| Foraging                  |   |  |   |              |
| Gardening                 |   |  |   |              |
| Geocaching                |   |  |   |              |
| Recreation Activity       | <u>Yes</u> , someone from our household participates in this activity | <u>No</u> , but we are interested in this activity | <u>No</u> , and we are not interested in this activity. | I don't know |
| Hiking                    |   |  |   |              |
| Hockey                    |   |  |   |              |
| Horseback riding          |   |  |   |              |
| Horseshoes                |   |  |   |              |
| Hunting                   |   |  |   |              |
| Ice skating               |   |  |   |              |
| Indoor Recreation         |   |  |   |              |
| Playgrounds               |   |  |   |              |
| Picnicking                |   |  |   |              |
| Photography               |   |  |   |              |
| Quilting                  |   |  |   |              |
| Rockhounding              |   |  |   |              |
| Running/jogging           |   |  |   |              |
| Sailing                   |   |  |   |              |
| Skateboarding             |   |  |   |              |
| Skiing                    |   |  |   |              |
| Sledding                  |   |  |   |              |
| Snowmobiling              |   |  |   |              |
| Snowshoeing               |   |  |   |              |
| Soccer                    |   |  |   |              |
| Swimming                  |   |  |   |              |
| Tennis                    |   |  |   |              |
| Visiting historical sites |   |  |   |              |
| Volleyball                |   |  |   |              |
| Walking                   |   |  |   |              |
| Other:                    |   |  |   |              |

4. Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of recreational opportunities in Grant Township?

Extremely satisfied     Very satisfied     Somewhat satisfied     Not so satisfied     Not satisfied at all

5. The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback from residents and visitors on the types of recreation opportunities they would like the Township to maintain, develop and/or improve. Please list the 3 forms of recreation you'd like the Township to focus on.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Below is a list of potential recreation goals for the Township to prioritize. Indicate how you would prioritize each goal using the provided scale where "1" = "Low Priority" and "5" = "High Priority". Indicate your response for each goal by placing an "X" inside the appropriate response option.

| Project   | 1 = Low Priority | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 = High Priority |
|---|------------------|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Develop non-motorized winter recreation opportunities     |                  |   |   |   |                   |
| Install restroom facilities and other park infrastructure |                  |   |   |   |                   |
| Increased collaboration on future park development        |                  |   |   |   |                   |
| Build and maintain accessible kayak launch site           |                  |   |   |   |                   |

7. What projects would you like to see the Recreation Committee focus on for the 2022 Grant Township Recreation Plan? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How important is it to you to have wireless internet connection access when participating in recreational activities?  
 Extremely important     Very important     Somewhat important     Not so important     Not important at all
9. Please indicate if you visited any of the following Township recreation sites this year. Indicate your response for each site by placing an “X” inside the appropriate response option.

| Recreation Site             | Yes, I visited this year | No, I did not visit this year | I do not know if I visited this year |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Hunter's Point Park         |                          |                               |                                      |
| Donny Kilpela Memorial Park |                          |                               |                                      |
| Third St. Mini Park         |                          |                               |                                      |
| Union Park                  |                          |                               |                                      |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> St. Dock    |                          |                               |                                      |
| 10 St. Dock                 |                          |                               |                                      |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> St. Park    |                          |                               |                                      |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> St. Park    |                          |                               |                                      |
| Haven Falls Pavilion        |                          |                               |                                      |

## About You

10. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_
11. How many persons in your household fall into each of the following age groups (including yourself)?  
 0-5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6-12 \_\_\_\_\_ 13-19 \_\_\_\_\_ 20-29 \_\_\_\_\_ 30-39 \_\_\_\_\_ 40-49 \_\_\_\_\_ 50-64 \_\_\_\_\_ 65+ \_\_\_\_\_
12. Does anyone in your household have a disability or require specialized recreation? Specialized recreation refers to accommodations or modifications made to recreation facilities and equipment to remove barriers that prevent individuals with disabilities from using the facilities or equipment. Yes [ ] No [ ]  
 If “yes”, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_
13. Please provide any additional comments or explanations for your responses that you think would be helpful in developing recreation opportunities in Grant Township:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you! Your input is important to help identify and prioritize recreation projects throughout the Township.**

# The Daily Mining Gazette

## Recreation survey available for Grant Township

Grant Township is working with the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) to update their joint five-year recreation plan. In addition to guiding improvements to the township's recreation facilities and sites, the plan will ensure the county is eligible for certain grants from

the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Members of the public can have a voice in the planning effort by taking a short survey. In addition to general questions about recreation interests, the survey requests feedback on a number of potential projects.

Online responses are preferred and can be provided at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GrantTwpRec>. Alternatively, paper copies can be obtained at the Copper Harbor Town Hall and General Store.

Survey responses will be accepted through November 12, 2021. For further information, contact Rachael Pressley at [rpressley@wuppdr.org](mailto:rpressley@wuppdr.org) (906) 482-7205 ext. 116.

### Newsletter

Today's breaking news and more in your inbox

EMAIL ADDRESS

I'm interested in (please check all that apply)

Daily Newsletter

Breaking News

## Results of the 2021 Grant Township Recreation Survey – Summary

The Township received 597 responses to the 2021 Grant Township Recreation Survey. Printed copies of the survey were available to community members at the hall in Copper Harbor and the survey was also accessible online.

Approximately 183 responses were either permanent or seasonal residents of Grant Township while non-residents (414) hailed from other parts of the Keweenaw Peninsula, the Upper Peninsula, Michigan, and other areas of the Great Lakes Region. Farther reaching areas mentioned here include Arizona, Florida, Colorado, and Texas. According to the responses, these data represent about 835 people. Children under the age of 18 make up about 25% of these people, with adults over the age of 65 making up 13%. Most of the respondents were between the age of 40-49 years old (26.4%). Twenty-eight people reported having or living with someone with a disability. These included age-related impairments, including the use of a cane/walker, need for railings, paved walking paths, and ramps.

When asked about how satisfied they were about the quality of recreational opportunities in the Township, 49.1% responded that they were “Very Satisfied”, 29.7% responded “Somewhat Satisfied”, and 25.0% responded “Extremely Satisfied”. Only 3.5% said that they were either “Not So Satisfied” or “Not Satisfied At All”. Of the nine Township assets, Hunter’s Point Park was by far visited the most (85.5%), followed by the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Dock (63.3%), and Donny Kilpela Memorial Park (63.0%).

Respondents were asked to list recreation opportunities they would like the Township to maintain, develop, and/or improve. The top five activities were the following: Biking (mountain, road, and kids, respectively), Trails (hiking, ORV/ATV, snowmobile, respectively), Winter Recreation (skiing, cross county, snowshoeing, and sledding, respectively), Boating (kayak and canoeing), and Camping. Other activities suggested by individual respondents include hunting, fishing, photography, birding, horseback riding, accessible recreation for all, and indoor recreation.

Respondents were also asked whether any members of their household participated in any of the activities. The top five were hiking (94.0%), walking (86.1%), beach activities (86.0%), visiting historical sites (84.4%), and canoeing/kayaking/other non-motorized boating (84.3%). The activities with the least amount of participation include baseball/softball (7.1%), horseback riding (7.5%), quilting (9.4%), basketball (9.7%), and soccer (10.4%).

Many of the top and bottom “priority” recreation activities aligned with the activities that respondents participate in. Residents and visitors obviously favor more investment in the activities that they already do. When asked to prioritize a list of potential recreation focus areas for Grant Township, respondents indicated that they wished to see the increased development of non-motorized winter recreation opportunities (46.2% indicated this is a high priority) followed by the installation of restroom facilities and other park infrastructure (39.0% high priority). Other priorities that were mentioned in the comment section include: Lac La Belle playground facilities and developing Union Park, development of historical sites, and increase accessibility for wheelchair users.

When asked what projects respondents would like to see the Recreation Committee focus on for the Grant Township Recreation Plan there were roughly 344 submitted comments. All comments have been aggregated and will be attached. Project suggestions from those that self-identified as permanent residents of Grant Township have been separately aggregated as well.

# Calumet / Issues

Continued from Page 1A

Board present reports to the council every month.

"What are we doing? What's our plans? Attend our board meetings," Jamison explained, "so that you know what we're trying to do, what you want us to do — and if we're actually doing it." Jamison had mentioned the same idea when he addressed the council at its regular October meeting.

Trustee Ken Olkkonen said that while it is important for the village to know those things, it is also important that they know what issues the theater may be encountering.

"We are the landlord," said Olkkonen, "so it is important that we know what issues you may be encountering over there, that we as landlords have to look at fixing."

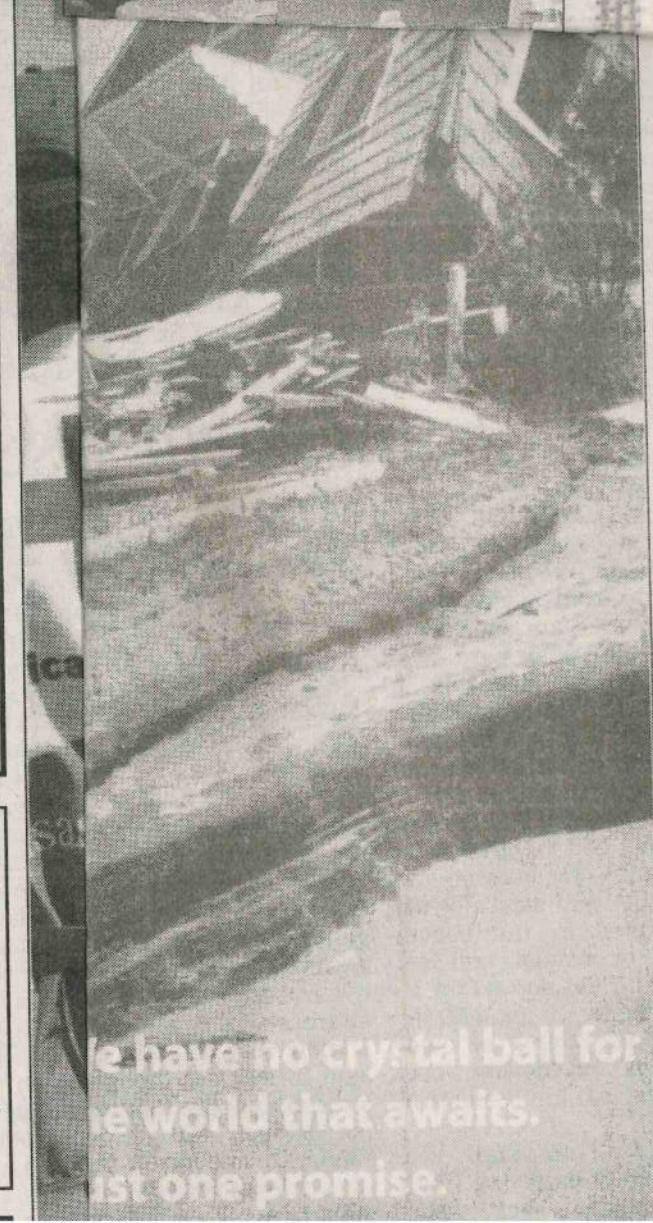
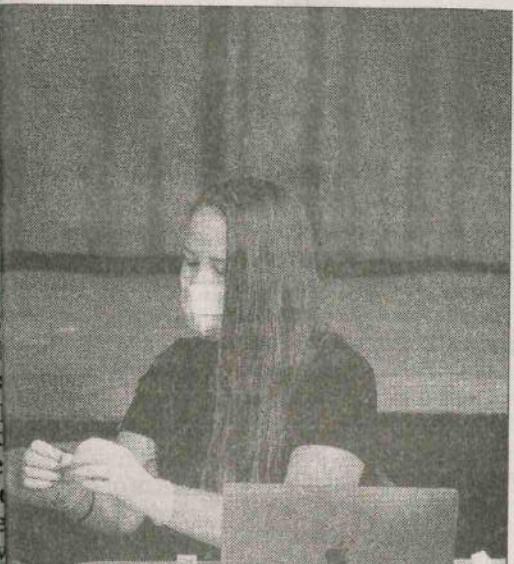
Trustee Andrew Ranville said that while it is the

## US expels extra dose to age 16

By LAUREN NEERGAARD  
and MIKE STOBBE  
Associated Press

U.S. health officials said Thursday that 17-year-olds can now get a third COVID-19 vaccine dose if they're still symptomatic after their last shot.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said adults who received two shots to prevent COVID-19 can now get a third dose if they are still symptomatic after their second shot. The agency intensified its guidance to encourage the public to get a third dose of the omicron variant.



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW, PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, AND PUBLIC HEARING

The 2022-2026 Grant Township Recreation Plan draft is available for mandatory 30-day public review period (December 10, 2021 – January 8, 2022). Following the required period, Grant Township Board of Trustees will conduct a public hearing on January 11, 2022, at the Grant Township Hall located at 220 Gratiot Street, Copper Harbor, Michigan beginning at 6:00 P.M. If the meeting includes a virtual option, a link will be posted to the Grant Township website <http://granttownshipmi.org/>. The purpose of the hearing is to receive any public comments regarding the 2022-2026 Grant Township Five-Year Recreation Plan. Following the Hearing, there will be a regularly scheduled Township Board of Trustees meeting to consider those public comments and possibly move to adopt the Five-Year Recreation Plan.

The Recreation Plan draft is available for public comment and can be viewed online at WUPPDR's website [www.wuppdr.org](http://www.wuppdr.org). Printed copies are available at the Township Hall during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 7:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. Written comments can be submitted to WUPPDR, 400 Quincy Street, 8th Floor Hancock, MI 49930 or emailed to [rpressley@wuppdr.org](mailto:rpressley@wuppdr.org) through January 8, 2022.

### Research Participants Wanted

The Aging, Cognition and Action lab at Michigan Tech is conducting behavioral studies aimed at learning about and improving adult development and quality of life. If you are between 60-85 years of age, and interested in participating in paid research, please call 906-487-2378 or e-mail [aginglabmtu@gmail.com](mailto:aginglabmtu@gmail.com) to learn more.



Michigan Tech

We have no crystal ball for the world that awaits.  
Just one promise.



## Notice of Special Meeting

Tuesday Jan. 18, 2022

The Grant Township Board will hold a special meeting in order to receive public comment on the proposed

**2022-2026 Grant Township Recreation Plan**

The meeting will be held at the Grant Township Hall at 5:30pm - 6:00pm

Please watch for additional notices if changes are needed....thank you for your patience as we work through the pandemic.

Community-wide data is publicly available due to the sensitive nature of the population. Community-wide data is available for public viewing on the Michigan Covid-19 Wastewater Dashboard. Attached is a link to the Michigan Covid-19 Wastewater Testing Dashboard, the EGLE project dashboard, and the MDHHS project site. Also attached is the Covid-19 Wastewater Infographic. If you have questions or concerns about the sample results, please contact Tanya Rule, R.S., Environmental Health Director at (906) 482-7382, extension 176.



Grant Township Board  
Special Meeting Agenda  
January 18, 2022 5:30 pm  
Grant Township Community Center  
220 Gratiot Street Copper Harbor, MI 49918  
Phone: (906) 289-4292

### **Call To Order And Pledge of Allegiance.**

### **Agenda Additions and Approval**

1. Approve agenda.

### **Supervisors' Remarks and Correspondence**

#### **Introduction of Special Guest: Rachael Pressley**

**Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region**

#### **Introduction of Recreational Plan Committee Members**

### **Public Comment Period**

- ❖ Policy/Rules for Public Comment
  - The public comment portion of the public meeting shall last approximately 20 minutes.
  - Any Resident/taxpayer wishing to address the Board, must be first recognized by the Chair, then identify themselves by name, address of residence.
  - Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to comment.
  - Each speaker will be given six (6 )minutes total for public comment over the course of the meeting.
  - Comments are to be directed solely to the board not to audience members..
  - No official Board action will take place on items presented in the public comment period. Matters addressed publicly will be taken under advisement, with the Board responding directly to the person at a later date or the Board will respond during a future public meeting as an agenda item

### **Adjournment**



Grant Township Board  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Recreational Plan Public Comment Session  
January 18, 2022 5:30 pm  
Grant Township Community Center  
220 Gratiot Street Copper Harbor, MI 49918  
Phone: (906) 289-4292

**Called To Order at 5:40 pm.**

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Present:** Ned Huwatschek, Misty Filsinger, Scott Wendt, Art Davis

**Absent:** Greg Mielcarz

**Agenda Additions and Approval**

1. Ned motions to approve the agenda for the evening. Misty seconds. Motion passes 4-Yes, 1-Absent

**Supervisors' Remarks and Correspondence**

Introduction of special guest Rachel Pressley of WUPPDR

Introduction of Recreational Plan members

**Brief Public Comment**

Comments from: John Schubbe, Aaron Rogers, Sam Raymond, Ronnie Mae Krueger (of the Committee)

**Adjournment at 6:01 pm.**

Scott motions to adjourn. Art seconds. Motion passes. 4-Yes, 1-Absent



Grant Township Board  
Regular Meeting Agenda  
January 18, 2022 6:00 pm  
Grant Township Community Center  
220 Gratiot Street Copper Harbor, MI 49918  
Phone: (906) 289-4292

### **Call To Order And Pledge of Allegiance.**

### **Agenda Additions and Approval**

1. Approve agenda.
2. Approve 12-14-21 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

### **Supervisors' Remarks and Correspondence**

#### **DNR Deed Restrictions Posted:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tZPnKhiNrOAwHkDyQmQ4H0DQxdKsMocH/view?usp=sharing>

#### **DNR Land Disposal/Exchange Posted:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1q5idb18uNH6mkOE2D9mGDIZXnZ6rDds>

Supervisor's Open Office Hours (always 2 and 3rd Sat) Will be virtual

|     |        |         |
|-----|--------|---------|
| CH  | Feb 12 | 10am-12 |
| LLB | Feb 19 | 10am-12 |

### **Brief Public Comment**

### **Department Reports**

1. Financial
  - a. Treasurer Report
  - b. Clerk Report
2. Utility Board
3. Public Safety
  - a. Copper Harbor Fire Department
  - b. Lac La Belle Fire Department
    - i. Awarded a DNR grant for the foam system on the new brush truck. \$9998.00 total, 50% Match.
  - c. Keweenaw Sheriff
  - d. First Responders

## **Standing Committee Reports**

1. Downtown Development Authority
  - a. Call for Membership, submit to Scott
2. Board of Review
  - a. Met Dec 14th
  - b. Reviewed three cases
  - c. Training Feb 25th Virtual (Invoiced thru MTA to Clerk)
  - d. Call for alternate member
3. South Shore Association
  - a. No Report
4. Parks Committees
  - a. Lac La Belle-No Report
  - b. Copper Harbor
5. Copper Harbor Improvement Association
6. Pedestrian/Streetscape Committee
7. Recreation Plan Committee
  - a. Board Discussion of Recreational Plan 2022-2026
    - I. Edits?
    - II. *Adoption of the 2022-2026 Grant Township Recreation Plan Resolution Below:*  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mgmYbex4Xsshiulvx\\_Xu-Z3odItgCYH1/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114471020737320955163&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mgmYbex4Xsshiulvx_Xu-Z3odItgCYH1/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114471020737320955163&rtpof=true&sd=true)
    - b. Thank you for committee dedication and service

## **Unfinished Business**

1. Website- OPUSWEB: [Website-OPUS WEB](#)
  - a. Scott O Demo.

## **New Business**

1. Household Hazardous Waste Community Pickup
  - a. Veola North America- quote similar to Waste Management
  - b. Schedule A Quote:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19lOrniTyRX9MQYxQEINull7MVCaRDBxL/view?usp=sharing>
  - c. Discussion for creating a small committee to outline fee schedule/Grants/Etc.
2. Account Manager Position Development
  - a. Discussion

- b. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1C8qyBsaEDv9wnNRGBInje6kd07lzcC0s/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114471020737320955163&rtpof=true&sd=true>

❖ Policy/Rules for Public Comment

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- Each speaker will be given six (6 )minutes total for public comment over the course of the meeting.
- Comments are to be directed solely to the board not to audience members..
- No official Board action will take place on items presented in the public comment period. Matters addressed publicly will be taken under advisement, with the Board responding directly to the person at a later date or the Board will respond during a future public meeting as an agenda item

## **Financial Wrap UP**

## **Adjournment**



Grant Township Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2022 6:00 pm  
Grant Township Community Center  
220 Gratiot Street Copper Harbor, MI 49918  
Phone: (906) 289-4292

**Called To Order at 6:14 pm.**

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Present:** Ned Huwatschek, Misty Filsinger, Scott Wendt, Art Davis

**Absent:** Greg Mielcarz

### **Agenda Additions and Approval**

1. Scott entertains the motion to "hit just the things we need to do to get through the day" on the agenda as it was a blizzard. Ned makes this motion. Misty seconds. Motion passes. 4-Yes, 1-Absent
2. Since the board members did not get a copy of the minutes until that moment, it was agreed to approve the minutes for the last meeting at the next meeting.

### **Supervisors' Remarks and Correspondence**

Supervisor's Open Office Hours (always 2nd and 3rd Sat) Will be virtual

|     |        |         |
|-----|--------|---------|
| CH  | Feb 12 | 10am-12 |
| LLB | Feb 19 | 10am-12 |

### **Department Reports**

1. Financial
  - a. Treasurer Report –
    - i. General fund- \$475,578.17
    - ii. Fire fund - \$410,018.40
    - iii. DDA fund - \$78,438.05
  - b. Clerk Report – Bills to be paid
    - i. Total - \$34,292.72
2. Utility Board – No report
3. Public Safety
  - a. Copper Harbor Fire Department – No report
  - b. Lac La Belle Fire Department – No report
  - c. Keweenaw Sheriff – No Report
  - d. First Responders – No report

### **Standing Committee Reports**

1. Downtown Development Authority
  - a. Call for membership, submit to Scott
2. Board of Review –
  - a. Met Dec 14<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Reviewed three cases
  - c. Virtual training Feb 25
  - d. Call for alternate member
3. South Shore Association
  - a. No Report
4. Parks Committees
  - a. Lac La Belle-No Report – No report
  - b. Copper Harbor – No report
5. Copper Harbor Improvement Association
  - a. UPPCO is providing 100 home testing kits to see how residents can improve their electric usage.
6. Pedestrian/Streetscape Committee – No report
7. Recreation Plan Committee
  - a. Ned motions to adopt the Grant Township Recreational Plan 2022-2026.  
Misty seconds. Motion passes. 4-Yes, 1-Absent
  - b. The resolution for this plan was adopted, read aloud, signed and dated on the scene.
  - c. Thank you, committee members, for dedication and service.

### **Unfinished Business**

1. Website- OPUSWEB: [Website-OPUS WEB](#)

### **New Business**

1. Account manager position development
    - a. Plans on how to call out for hire
    - b. Figure out a comparable payrate
- ❖ Policy/Rules for Public Comment
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### **Financial Wrap UP**

Art motions to approve the month's bills totaling: \$34,292.72. Ned seconds.  
Motion carries 4- yes, 1- absent

### **Adjournment at 6:27pm.**

Art motions to adjourn. Ned seconds. Motion passes. 4-Yes, 1-Absent

## Resolution of Adoption

**GRANT TOWNSHIP FIVE-YEAR RECREATION PLAN 2022-2026**  
**Grant Township Board**

WHEREAS, the Grant Township Board 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 2022 through 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Grant Township Board began the process of developing a community recreation 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 Grant 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 plan, and

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

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 18, 2022 at the Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Grant Township Five-Year Recreation Plan 2022-2026, and

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

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Grant Township Board voted to adopt said Grant Township Five-Year Recreation Plan 2022-2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Grant Township Board hereby adopts the Grant Township Five-Year Recreation Plan 2022-2026.

Motion made by NED Ned Huwachek Seconded by MISTY Misty Fisinger to approve this resolution.

AYES \_\_\_\_\_

, Greg Mielcarz, Grant Township

NAYS \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Grant Township Board at a Meeting thereof held on January 18, 2022

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN \_\_\_\_\_

Seal here (if available)

Signature SLG/KS