

Houghton County Planning Commission

Zoom Virtual Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88227954945?pwd=T2pJeGl1N0h6ZzISeVZYM1NYODd3QT09>

[Meeting ID: 882 2795 4945](#)

Tuesday, Dec. 15th, 2020, 4 PM EST

AGENDA

1. **Call to order and roll call.**
2. **Public Comments**
3. **Agenda-Additions or Changes**
4. **Approval of Minutes-February, 2020**
5. **Correspondence**
6. **Old Business**
7. **New Business**
 - A. **Calumet Township proposed zoning amendment**
 - B. **CalumetTownship proposed zoning amendment**

Announcements

8. **Next Meeting:**
January 19, 2021 at 4 PM
9. **Public Comment**
10. **Adjournment**

MINUTES

CALUMET TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Page 1 of 2

MEETING DATE: November 24, 2020

MEETING PURPOSE: Amendment to Section 3.10 of Mining-Industrial District, M-1, to allow retail sales.
Public hearing and commission meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Lassila (Chair), Keith Koppernolle, Bob Langseth, Jarod Maggio, Jeff West, Jeff Kalcich

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Gasperich (Township Supervisor)

Supervisor Gasperich called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. The meeting was conducted via Zoom. A roll call was performed, and a quorum was declared.

Public Hearing

Gasperich excused himself from the virtual meeting to go outside the township building to see if any citizens were there to attend the public hearing portion. None were seen; the public hearing was not held.

Planning Commission Meeting:

Gasperich opened the Planning Commission meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Koppernolle asked that the two previous commission meeting minutes be approved. The October 7th minutes concerning the Calumet Electronics re-zoning request, and the October 15th minutes concerning that marihuana establishments be in the M-1 Manufacturing Industrial District and be classified as "Special Use". West motioned these two minutes be approved, seconded by Lassila, carried.

Retail Sales in M-1 Manufacturing Industrial Sales

Gasperich opened the discussion referring the proposed amendment on retail sales, which is:

Section 3.10 of the Charter Township of Calumet Zoning Ordinance is amended to add a new subsection E4, as follows:

4. Retail sales are restricted to items that are grown, extracted, processed, or manufactured by the seller at its main facility within the Township and ancillary items that are directly related to the use of items that are grown, extracted, processed, or manufactured by the seller at its main facility within the Township. Retail sales may take place within the seller's main facility or within a separate building on the same lot or parcel as the seller's main facility. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit the operation of general retail sales such as those allowed in a C-1 Commercial District.

Gasperich commented that some businesses in M-1 are already conducting retail sales – this amendment will affirm the township's position on this practice.

Koppernolle commented that businesses like a micro-brewery might come into the district and asked if there should be any wording about product being consumed at the business. Lassila responded that for a brewery there would have to be a liquor license in the first place and for marihuana the state regulations prohibit on-site consumption.

After a brief cross-discussion touching on the marihuana issue, Gasperich commented that there will be a public hearing on allowing recreational marihuana sales within the township. He added that this hearing will probably be in December.

MOTION: West motioned, **“the Planning Commission approve a recommendation to the Calumet Township Board that retail sales be allowed in the M-1 Manufacturing Industrial District as outlined in the draft amendment to the ordinance.”** Seconded by Kalcich, carried unanimously.

Rezoning Request

Gasperich asked if all had read the rezoning request submitted by Brendon Jacques asking that the triangular parcel at the intersection of Highway 41 and Rockland Street be rezoned to C-1. Jacques wants to place a outdoor equipment rental facility at that location.

Lassila and West commented about the driveway access (whether to be at Highway 41 or at Rockland Street) and commented on the terrain (looks to be wet). Gasperich suggested that the commission look this information over and this will be a topic for the next commission meeting.

Adjournment: West motioned the meeting be adjourned, Lassila seconded, carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Koppernolle

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALUMET, HOUGHTON COUNTY, STATE OF MICHIGAN

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3.10 OF THE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALUMET ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW LIMITED
RETAIL SALES IN MANUFACTURING-INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS**

The Planning Commission for the Charter Township of Calumet has recommended that the Township Board of Trustees adopt Ordinance No. 43 to amend the zoning ordinance to add certain “marihuana establishments,” as defined in the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act as a special use within Manufacturing-Industrial districts in the Township.

The marihuana establishments referred to in Ordinance No. 43 include “marihuana retailers” and “marihuana microbusinesses.” Marihuana retailers and marihuana microbusinesses engage in retail sales of marihuana and marihuana products and may also engage in retail sales of ancillary items related to the use of marihuana and marihuana products.

Retail sales are not currently allowed in Manufacturing-Industrial Districts. The Township believes that allowing marihuana retailers and marihuana microbusinesses to engage in retail sales while not allowing other businesses in Manufacturing-Industrial districts to engage in retail sales is unfair to businesses that are not marihuana establishments.

The Township therefore proposes to adopt to an amendment to the zoning ordinance allowing limited retail sales in Manufacturing-Industrial districts on a non-discriminatory basis. If the zoning amendment is adopted, retail sales in Manufacturing-Industrial districts will be restricted to items that are grown, extracted, processed, or manufactured by the seller at its main facility within the Township and ancillary items that are directly related to the use of items that are grown, extracted, processed, or manufactured by the seller at its main facility within the Township. Retail sales will be permitted within the seller’s main facility or within a separate building on the same lot or parcel as the seller’s main facility.

The proposed zoning amendment will be considered at a public meeting of the Township’s Planning Commission on November 24, 2020 at 4pm. The complete text of the proposed zoning amendment is available for review by members of the public at the Township offices between 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST, Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST on Fridays.

Charter Township of Calumet by Beth Salmela, Clerk
25880 Red Jacket Road, Calumet, MI 49913
Tel: (906) 337-2410

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALUMET, COUNTY OF HOUGHTON, STATE OF MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 44**

**AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3.10 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALUMET ZONING
ORDINANCE TO ALLOW LIMITED RETAIL SALES IN
MANUFACTURING-INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS**

An amendment to the zoning ordinance to allow limited retail sales in Manufacturing-Industrial districts in the Charter Township of Calumet and to provide the administrative procedures and effective date for this zoning amendment.

Purpose

The Planning Commission for the Charter Township of Calumet has recommended that the Township Board of Trustees adopt Ordinance No. 43 to amend the zoning ordinance to add certain “marihuana establishments,” as defined in the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, MCL 333.27951, et seq (“MRTMA”), as a special use within Manufacturing-Industrial districts in the Township.

The marihuana establishments referred to in Ordinance No. 43 include “marihuana retailers” and “marihuana microbusinesses.” Marihuana retailers engage in retail sales of marihuana and marihuana products and may also engage in retail sales of ancillary items related to the use of marihuana and marihuana products, such as rolling papers, electronic vaping devices, bongos, pipes, clips, and similar paraphernalia. Marihuana microbusinesses also engage in these retail sales activities, as well as the growing of marihuana, processing of marihuana, and the manufacturing of marijuana products.

Retail sales are not currently allowed in Manufacturing-Industrial Districts. The Township believes that allowing marihuana retailers and marihuana microbusinesses to engage in retail sales while not allowing other businesses in Manufacturing-Industrial districts to engage in retail sales is unfair to businesses that are not marihuana establishments.

The Township therefore proposes to adopt to this ordinance to allow limited retail sales in Manufacturing-Industrial districts in the Charter Township of Calumet on a non-discriminatory basis.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALUMET ORDAINS:

**SECTION I
TITLE**

This zoning amendment shall be known as and may be cited as the Charter Township of Calumet Ordinance Allowing Limited Retail Sales in Manufacturing-Industrial Districts.

**SECTION II
TEXT OF AMENDMENT**

Section 3.10 of the Charter Township of Calumet Zoning Ordinance is amended to add a new sub-section E4, as follows:

4. Retail sales are restricted to items that are grown, extracted, processed, or manufactured by the seller at its main facility within the Township and ancillary items that are directly related to the use of items that are grown, extracted, processed, or manufactured by the seller at its main facility within the Township. Retail sales may take place within the seller's main facility or within a separate building on the same lot or parcel as the seller's main facility. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit the operation of general retail sales such as those allowed in a C-1 Commercial District.

**SECTION III
PROCEDURES AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

The proposed zoning amendment will be discussed in a public hearing before the Calumet Township Planning Commission on November 24, 2020. If the Calumet Township Planning Commission votes to recommend adoption of the zoning amendment following the public hearing, the proposed zoning amendment will be submitted to the Houghton County Planning Commission for review and recommendation pursuant to Section 307 of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (MZEA) and Section 11 of the Houghton County Planning Commission's Bylaws. After the review and recommendation of the Houghton County Planning Commission has been received, the Calumet Township Planning Commission will send all recommendations to the Township Board for consideration at a public hearing. The Township Board will then determine whether to approve or disapprove the zoning amendment or take other action on the zoning amendment. If the Township Board votes to approve the zoning amendment, notice of adoption of the zoning amendment will be published within 15 days of adoption in compliance with Section 401(9) of the MZEA. A copy of the adopted zoning amendment will also be filed with the Calumet Township Clerk and mailed to any airport managers entitled to notice. If adopted, the zoning amendment will be effective seven days after notice of adoption has been published unless notice of intent to circulate a referendum petition is filed pursuant to Section 401(6) of the MZEA.

Submission of Rezoning Request to Calumet Township Planning Commission:
November 6, 2020.

Publication of Notice of Public Hearing by Calumet Township Planning Commission: November 10, 2020

Date of Public Hearing by Calumet Township Planning Commission: November 24, 2020.

Submission to Houghton County Planning Commission for review and recommendation:
11-30, 2020

Return of Review and Recommendation by Houghton County Planning Commission
_____, 2020

Submission of Planning Commissions' recommendations to Calumet Township Board
_____, 2020

Publication of Notice of Public Hearing by Calumet Township Board: _____, 2020

Date of Public Hearing by Calumet Township Board: _____, 2020

Publication of Notice of Adoption: _____, 2020

Charter Township of Calumet
Beth Salmela, Clerk
25880 Red Jacket Road
Calumet, MI 49913
Tel: (906) 337-2410

Charter Township of Calumet
Timothy Gasperich, Supervisor
25880 Red Jacket Road
Calumet, MI 49913
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transmittal

Date: December 11, 2020
Attn: Horst Schmidt
 Houghton County Planning Commission
Address: 111 W. Houghton Ave.
 Houghton, MI 49931
Job No: 7488-20-0010
Job Name: Schoolcraft Township Recreation Plan Amendment

We are sending you the following items:

- Drawings
- Plans
- Agreement
- Letter
- Proposal
- Other: Recreation Plan

Number of copies and description:

1	Schoolcraft Township Recreation Plan Amendment

These are transmitted as checked below:

- For Approval
- For Review and Comment
- Returned For Corrections
- For Your Use
- Approved As Submitted
- For Your Signature
- As Requested
- Approved As Noted
- Other: _____

Comments:

Schoolcraft Township has adopted an amendment to their current Recreation Plan. The intent of this amendment is to make them eligible for Waterways Grant Funding for a project at the Big Traverse Marina. Per DNR requirements, the Township must send a copy of the adopted plan to the County Planning Agency. Please find it attached for your use and record. Thank you!

Signed: Joel Keranen, Schoolcraft Township Supervisor

cc: 7488-20-0010

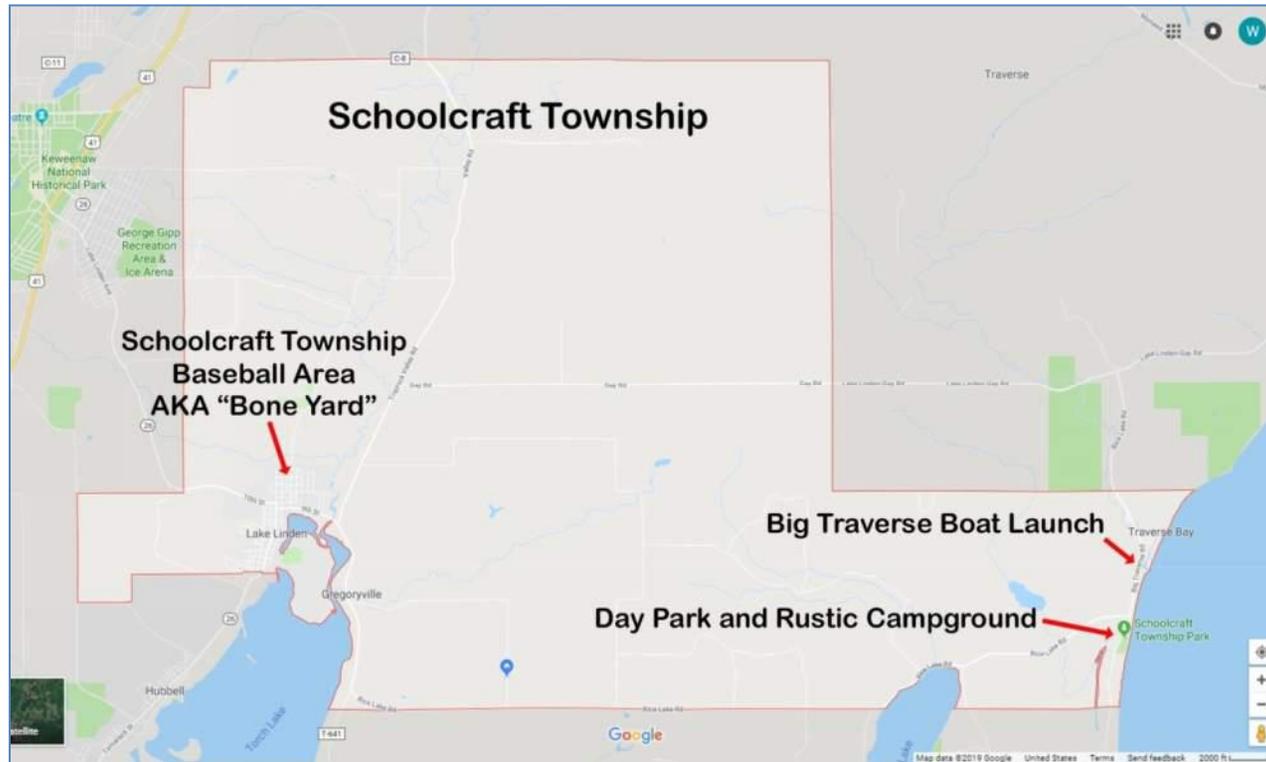
SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP 2019-2023 RECREATION PLAN



COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Schoolcraft Township is located in northeast Houghton County. A portion of the township borders Keweenaw County and Lake Superior.

The township is largely rural but has one main population center—the Village of Lake Linden. The total land area for the township is approximately 41 square miles. The township was once home to many small farms carved out of the forestlands. Only a few of the farms operate today and most of them could be classified as hobby farms as their owners raise livestock as a secondary source of income.



Forest covers a majority of the township and provides jobs in the logging industry as well as providing recreational opportunities. Large white pine trees once populated the township and along with thick stands of hardwoods supported a thriving timber industry. Township forestlands are now into their second and third generations of growth and the logging industry is past peak production. Recreation on those forest lands plays a larger role annually as more people establish second homes in the township, a trend that has been seen for the past three decades.

Copper mining once played a huge role in the township and in the founding of Lake Linden. But the mines closed in the 1960s; remnants of the mining industry can still be seen in and around the township.

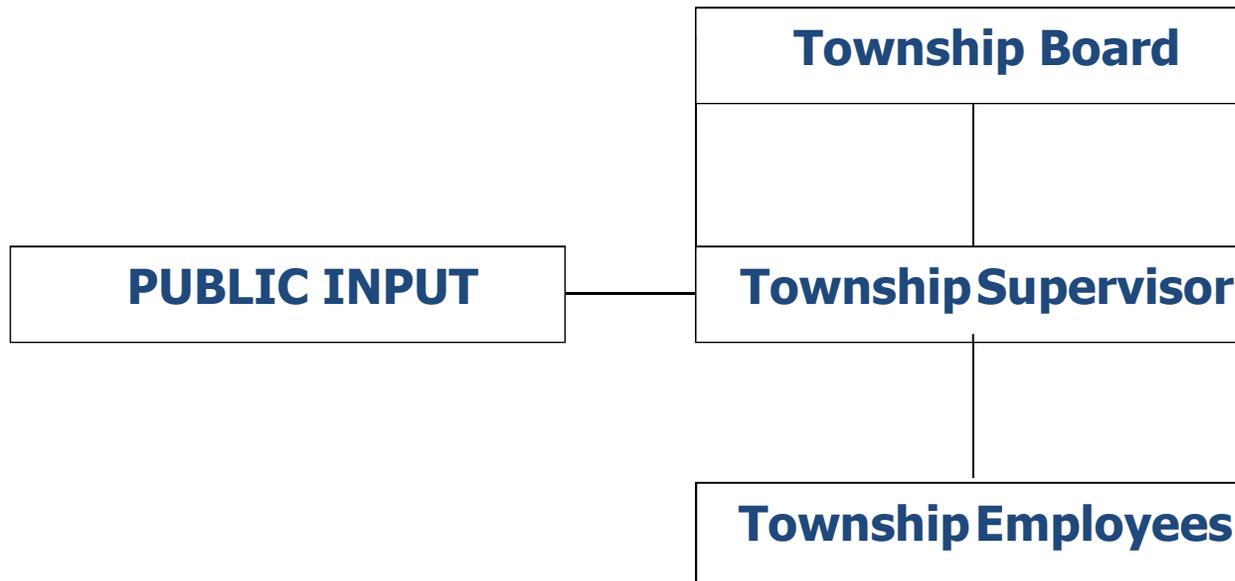
The majority of residents of the township work in and around Houghton, Hancock, and the Calumet area.

Tourism is a growing segment of region's economy and will likely increase in importance in the future. For Schoolcraft Township, winter and snowmobile enthusiasts have long played a major role in the economic recreation mix.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Schoolcraft Township develops and maintains its own recreation facilities as directed by the township board. The township supervisor serves as primary recreation director and planner. Major initiatives are discussed with any and all members of the public who wish to participate in recreational matters and then voted on by the township board. The township annually budgets \$15,000 for the operation and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities. Additional funds are budgeted for development of new recreation projects and facilities as funds are available.

Schoolcraft Township's Organization



DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS AND PUBLIC INPUT

Public involvement for the recreational portion of this plan included public outreach by the township Board of Trustees and the Supervisor and public meetings.

Public Outreach

Many users of the Township's recreation facilities talk with Township officials on a daily basis, through personal meetings or through phone calls. Users of the Rustic Campground are required to register and pay their daily camping fees, which yields

many opportunities for the public to interact with Township officials. Many ideas from improvements for the campground or the Day Park come from these interactions. In addition, Supervisor Joel Keranen regularly visits with citizens in the township and talks about anything they want to talk about. Recreation projects are a subject often mentioned by constituents, as the township has quality facilities that residents wish to talk about. Public outreach on recreation is more a daily matter of being open to communication, listening to what residents and visitors have to say, and bringing those ideas to monthly board meetings for further discussion. This is how most of the ideas for future recreation projects occur

Public Charrette

The township held a publicly advertised charrette from 9 am to noon, Wednesday, December 12, 2018, to hear ideas from the public about this recreation plan. No one attended the charrette. This was not surprising to Township officials as they hear daily from constituents about issues regarding the Township's recreation facilities as well as other matters.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A primary goal of Schoolcraft Township's recreation programs is to create and improve recreation facilities for residents and visitors.

Goal 1 - Facility Maintenance and Improvements

Maintain Township parks and recreation facilities to provide the public with safe, useable, and attractive recreational opportunities.

Objectives:

1. Replace/upgrade aging facilities and equipment;
2. Remove barriers to universal access;
3. Provide signage to each park or facility.

Goal 2 – Continue to obtain a steady flow of public input through personal contacts, personal conversations, and public meetings to encourage new ideas for recreation facilities and services.

Be open to public input at every opportunity. Encourage the average citizen to engage with township officials on what they want to see in terms of recreation facilities or recreational programming.

Objectives:

1. Promote citizen input. Township officials at every level should engage with the public to hear how to make recreation a better experience for everyone.
2. Continue to collaborate with public civic organizations and other community groups who volunteer to assist the township maintaining, creating, or improving recreation facilities and services.
3. Continue to seek grants from the State of Michigan and continue to ask local groups and individuals to fund the local match requirements for those grants. Use township general funds for local match purposes as a last resort.
4. Board's Recreation Committee becomes an important element in recreation planning.

Goal 3 - Accessibility

Improve existing recreation facilities to increase ADA accessibility where appropriate.

Objectives:

1. Make accessibility improvements based on facilities based on input from citizens and the Michigan DNR.

Goal 4 – Social Engagement

Promote recreational programming and recreation facilities that also help people socially engage. People who are socially engaged are healthier, happier, and live longer.

Objectives:

1. Continue to work with community groups and individuals who promote activities that encourage social engagement.
2. Continue to sponsor and host community recreation and sporting events.

Goal 5 – Collaboration with other units of government

The Township believes that local governments that work together can offer improved recreational opportunities.

Objectives:

1. Be open to any township, county, or municipality that seeks partners to jointly develop new recreation trails or facilities.

TOWNSHIP RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Schoolcraft Township is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the recreational facilities.

The following recreation inventory describes the types and location of recreational facilities currently available. Accessibility assessments and rankings are provided for each sited based on the parameters outlined by the DNR:

- **1 = None of the site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design**
- **2 = Some**
- **3 = Most**
- **4 = All**
- **5 = The facility meets the Principles of Universal Design**

1. Day Park and Rustic Campground

The park and its facilities were opened to the public in 1998. The township obtained ownership of the land from the State of Michigan. The park is clearly gaining popularity from residents and visitors. During warm summer days, it is not unusual to see the park's parking lot filled to capacity.





Park users can be found along the entire stretch of sandy beach along Lake Superior. Among the park's amenities are picnic tables, barbecues, fire pits, children's play area, rest room, drinking-water well, and handicap-accessible area.

Accessibility assessment = 3: Most of the park meets accessibility guidelines



The Day Park hosts a weather station (antenna) owned and operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The weather station publishes to the internet air temperature and wind speed at the site. The township wishes to make the weather station part of an interpretive display that explains how weather and Lake Superior interact to create very unique climatic conditions in the Township and in the region.



















**CAMPING
FEE
\$10.00/DAY**

**RECREATION
PASSPORT**

This recreation site was funded, in part,
by citizens who purchased
Michigan's Recreation Passport
when renewing their license plates.
These funds are used to maintain state
and local parks, trails, boat launches,
campgrounds, historic sites and other
recreational opportunities.













The Township would also like to create signage that drives internet users to the government website where the public can check temperature and wind before visiting the park or using the nearby Township boat launch. As local residents know, the temperature at the lakeshore can be 20 degrees F cooler than just 5 miles inland. What can appear to be a hot and sunny day nearby turns out to be a foggy and cold day at the beach.

2. Schoolcraft Township Baseball Area

The Township owns a recreation area on Cemetery Road. The area has a baseball diamond that is regularly used by organized programs serving kids in the region. New fencing and playground equipment was installed during the summer of 2004. The area also has a basketball court. The Township is considering a number of improvements at the baseball area, including installation of playground equipment; improvements to basketball court; new bleacher seating for the baseball area; new dugouts; and barrier-free improvements.

Accessibility assessment =1: None of the baseball area meets accessibility guidelines

3. Big Traverse Boat Launch



Schoolcraft Township developed and owns the boat launch at Big Traverse Bay. A parking lot, located across the road from the launch provides a convenient area for recreational boaters to park their vehicles and trailers. A restroom is also available in the parking lot. In 2002, the township spent approximately \$15,000 on rebuilding the fishing pier and dock wall. New concrete sidewalks and rip-rap were installed. The existing dock wall needs annual maintenance to keep it operational.

Accessibility assessment = 2: Some of the boat launch meets accessibility guidelines



OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Schoolcraft Township residents have access to recreation activities and facilities in the Village of Lake Linden, including:

- Village park with playground equipment, restrooms, and picnic facilities, basketball, horseshoe pit, volley ball courts, tennis, sheltered pavilion, baseball diamond. Located on Torch Lake and M-26 on eight acres.
- Village campground with more than 20 campsites, potable water, sanitation station, restrooms with shower facilities.
- Swimming area next to campground. Changing rooms available.
- Boat dock with launch. Approximately 500 feet of dock area with parking lot and picnic area.

ACTION PROGRAM

Action Program projects include:

Day Park and Rustic Campground

Improvements at the Township's Day Park and Rustic Campground is the township's top priority in terms of recreational projects. A variety of project are being looked by the township including a new playground area in the Day Park; new pavilion in Day Park; new community gathering area with fire pit in Rustic Campground; new flush toilets or pit toilets in the Day Park and Rustic Campground; new camp sites in campground; new well house in camp ground; new barrier-free access improvements in both the Day Park and the Campground.

Big Traverse Boat Launch



Eventually the bin wall at the boat launch will need to be replaced as the bottom of the existing steel wall begins to rust out. The Township is interested in applying for grant funds to assist it replace the wall. In addition, the Township wishes to make

improvements as needed at the launch. A parking lot located across the road from the launch provides a convenient area for recreational boaters to park their vehicles and trailers. Among possible projects are a restroom at the launch; dock improvements and miscellaneous projects that improve recreation opportunities for users.

Big Traverse Marina (insert as P. 31 of Existing Rec Plan)

The Big Traverse Marina is located in Schoolcraft Township near the border of Houghton and Keweenaw County. It is situated on the eastern shore of the Keweenaw Peninsula, approximately 10 miles east of Lake Linden, 2 miles east of Rice Lake, and 6 miles south of Gay. It is located at the mouth of the Traverse River just before it spills into Big Traverse Bay and is protected by a pier that extends out into Lake Superior. This area is easy to access from main county roads and provides one of only three locations where users can conveniently access Lake Superior on the east side of the Keweenaw Peninsula. See Figure 1 for site location.



Figure 1: Site Location

Marina Right Sizing and Use

The Big Traverse Marina includes a parking lot, restroom, seasonal dock for launching boats positioned on a concrete launching apron, and a steel cribbing sea wall. See layout in Figure 2 below. The launch can currently accommodate one boat at a time, which is adequate for the site since there are rarely people waiting in line to launch. The Township anticipates this to be an adequate size to accommodate projected use for the next 5 years. The cribbing seawall adjacent to the launch is approximately 125 feet in length which is enough space to allow 2-3 boats to dock overnight. This is an adequate amount of space, based on projected use, for the next 5 years. There is a sidewalk along the seawall for boaters to get in and out of boats with ease. The overnight docking is a significant feature of the site, as there are not any other public docking spaces within 17 miles or more in both directions along the shore. The marina attracts recreational users ranging from fishermen and cruisers interested in the big water, to those interested in smaller fishing or recreational endeavors closer to shore in Big Traverse Bay.



Figure 2: Site Layout

Harbor Traffic

The launch currently sees an average of 8-10 users per day with the busiest days being 20+ users, and the slower days being approximately 3 users. The Township currently charges \$2 per launch or allows users to purchase an annual permit for \$20. Fees are deposited in a secure pole at the site since there is not a harbor master to collect them. Annual permits are either mailed to the user or they can pick them up at the Township office. The Township typically sells 30-40 annual permits and these users typically launch 2 to 3 times per week. Although no official count is available, with all these numbers considered, it is anticipated there are around 1,000-1,500 launches per year. Users are also allowed to dock overnight for a cost of \$5 per day. The Township usually sees 2-3 overnight dockings per week.

Marina Maintenance and Projects

The marina currently incurs regular costs for the Township. These can be broken out into annual maintenance, minor maintenance and improvements, and major maintenance and replacement projects.

Annual Maintenance

- Placing and removing the dock \$250/year
- General maintenance done by a resident \$500/year
(grass cutting, bathroom cleaning, driftwood removal, and garbage removal)
- Pump the outhouse tank every fall \$300/year

Minor Maintenance and Improvements

- Replacing carpet on posts, painting, and staining. Completed as needed
Work is done by volunteers
- Add picnic tables Summer 2021
- Improve aesthetics and comfort of site with grass, signage, and potential landscape features Summer 2023

Major Maintenance or Replacement

- Repair or replace cribbing seawall and sidewalk Summer 2021
- Add a fish cleaning station Summer 2022
- Install site lighting and add power plug-ins for boats that dock overnight Summer 2022
- Upgrade restroom facilities Summer 2023
- Pave the parking lot Summer 2023
- Add finger docks/slips to increase the capacity for overnight docking or to create spots for boaters to rent for the summer season. Summer 2024 or later

The boat launch pad and seasonal dock are in adequate condition to be usable for the foreseeable future, so they are not planned for replacement. The seawall is in very poor condition, as mentioned in the major replacement section above, so the first major project on the list is to repair or replace the cribbing seawall and sidewalk. These have become unsafe for users due to the significant erosion damage from high water levels, so the Township plans to repair them both as soon as they can secure funding to do so. The remainder of the major projects listed are intended to generally improve the whole site to make it a more desirable destination for users both on and off the water. When addressing these projects, the Township plans to make ADA accessibility a priority so that the new features are accessible to all. Currently some of the existing features meet accessibility requirements, but most do not.

Dredging

The river channel into the marina currently sees significant stamp sand accumulation during large wave events. In some instances, it has even made the channel impassable for most watercraft. The channel has been dredged approximately every 4-5 years (2009, 2014, 2017), usually under emergency dredging because the channel fills quite unexpectedly during storms. In 2014 and 2017 the dredging was 100% funded by the DNR Parks and Recreation Division-Waterways Program. The dredged amount in 2014 was 3,450 CY and the amount in 2017 was 9,000 CY. All dredging material is deposited at an upland disposal site. All historic dredging has been in the channel, never directly near the seawall and the boat launch. See Figure 3 below:



Figure 3: Overall Location Map

Events and Partnerships

The Big Traverse Marina is a great asset to the Township and users throughout the area, so the Township is working to keep this site in good working condition and complete improvements as they are able. The Township does not currently host any events at this location. The Township doesn't have any official partnerships for the site either, but they are hoping to partner with the local Sportsman's Club and other interested outdoor groups in the future for maintenance, promotions, and other ideas to improve the site for the community. Once smaller improvement projects are completed, the Township plans to advertise these new features to the public through their website, public postings, and communications to the local outdoor groups. The marketing for the site is minimal, currently consisting of a summary on the website and communications with the local Sportsman's Club regarding use, needs, and desires.