

South Haven Area Recreation Authority
Tuesday, May 27, 2014
3:00 p.m., South Haven Charter Township Hall
90 Blue Star Highway

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - A. March 26, 2014 Board Meeting
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Interested citizens in the audience will be heard on items not on the agenda
6. Financial Reports:
 - A. Approval of SHARA finance report
 - B. Authority Board will be updated on the SHARP financial statement
 - C. Authority Board will receive the SHARA comprehensive annual financial report
7. Authority Board will receive an update from MCE on the SHARP design work
8. Authority will be asked to discuss the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' (MDNR) property purchase in South Haven Charter Township:
 - A. Review staff memos and location maps
 - B. Discuss partnership options between MDNR & SHARA
 - C. Authority Board will be asked to tour MDNR site
9. Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,
Brian Dissette
South Haven City Manager

**South Haven Area Recreation Authority (SHARA)
Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 26, 2014
7:00 p.m., South Haven Charter Township Hall**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Meeting Opened at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Mr. Ross Stein, Mr. Dennis Fitzgibbon, Mr. Dana Getman,

Absent: Dr. Robert Herrera, Mr. Mark McClendon

Guests: Mr. Brian Dissette, City Manager, City of South Haven
Mr. Ken Peregon, OCBA Landscape Architects
Mr. Peter Ter Louw, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy
Mr. Geoff Cripe, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

January 21, 2014 Board Meeting: Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Fitzgibbon, seconded by Getman to approve the agenda of the March 26, 2014 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

5. Interested Citizens in the Audience Will Be Heard on Items Not on the Agenda:

6. Approval of the SHARA Finance Reports:

- a) The board discussed the SHARA Finance Report, noting the SHARA account now has a balance of \$89,089.22. Dissette noted that the report illustrates bank interest has been paid.

Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve the SHARA finance report. All in favor, motion carried.

- b) The board was updated on the SHARP account, which now has a balance of \$24,382.26.

7. SHARA Board will be asked to consider a series of actions related to the Pilgrim Haven site, and potential grant applications for the site:

Motion by Fitzgibbon, seconded by Getman to open a public hearing regarding the Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant applications for the Pilgrim Haven site. All in favor, motion carried.

The board was provided an update on the status of the Pilgrim Haven Park planning efforts by Mr. Peter Ter Louw, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy (SWMLC.) Ter Louw noted that the planning efforts, including habitat planning, for the Pilgrim Haven site had occurred over many months, and featured a series of meeting sessions at the Pilgrim Haven site. Ter Louw noted that one of the site planners, from OCBA Landscape Architects was in attendance to explain the design. Mr. Ken Peregon, OCBA Landscape Architects, explained the site plan to the board members. Peregon noted that the design is split into phases, and that the MDNR grant applications seek to construct the improvements described in Phase 1. Peregon noted that the Phase 1 plans include the development of a parking lot, with space for up to fifty cars, the development of barrier free access to Lake Michigan, and the placement of a gate to control access to the parking lot. Peregon noted that the Phase 1 plans are a small portion of the overall site development plans. Peregon described the overall plans as having space of potential campsites, restrooms, a pavilion, and barrier free walking paths. Peregon noted that those plans are not being sought as part of the current grant application.

The following individuals expressed concerns about the grant application for the Pilgrim Haven site:

- Mr. Jim Bridelstein
- Ms. Genie Insidioso
- Mr. John Mooy
- Mr. Jerry Portman
- Mr. Bruce Cyrus
- Mr. Jim Wilschke
- Ms. Julie Portman

The following individuals expressed support for the grant application for the Pilgrim Haven site:

- Mr. Dick Brunvand
- Ms. Maureen Lewandowski
- Mr. John Lewandowski
- Ms. Maureen Moravec
- Ms. Gail Ohnsman
- Mr. Mark Odland
- Mr. Mike DeGrandchamp
- Ms. Mary Lynn Buggee

Mr. Tom Martin, Police Chief, South Haven Police Department, addressed questions related to police enforcement within South Haven Charter Township. Martin noted that the South Haven Police Department provides police services in South Haven Charter Township. Martin expressed a commitment to provide police services at Pilgrim Haven and other public spaces in South Haven Charter Township.

Motion by Fitzgibbon, seconded by Getman to close the public hearing regarding the Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant applications for the Pilgrim Haven site. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve Resolution 2014-01, a motion to authorize Chairman Stein to apply for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant for Pilgrim Haven. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve Resolution 2014-02, a motion to authorize Chairman Stein to apply for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant for Pilgrim Haven. All in favor, motion carried.

10. Adjourn

Motion by Fitzgibbon, seconded by Getman to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brian Dissette
City Manager, City of South Haven

South Haven Area Recreational Authority (SHARA)

ID # 45-2387500

<u>Date</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Balance</u>
					97,254.69
17-May-13	1112	Vredeveld Haefner 2012 Audit		2,025.00	95,229.69
22-May-13	1113	Midwest Civil Engineers Architectural Service/Final Constr. Docs.		3,000.00	92,229.69
31-May-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank May Interest	8.19		92,237.88
30-Jun-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank June Interest	7.58		92,245.46
			<u>15.77</u>	<u>5,025.00</u>	
31-Jul-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank July Interest	7.83		92,253.29
31-Aug-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank August Interest	7.84		92,261.13
			<u>15.67</u>	<u>0.00</u>	
30-Sep-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank September Interest	7.58		92,268.71
25-Oct-13	1114	Hardt Insurance Policy Renewal 11/11/13 - 11/11/14		850.00	91,418.71
31-Oct-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank October Interest	7.83		91,426.54
			<u>15.41</u>	<u>850.00</u>	
30-Nov-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank November Interest	7.51		91,434.05
12-Dec-13	1115	Midwest Civil Engineers Phase 1 Construction Plans		3,500.00	87,934.05
12-Dec-13	1116	Midwest Civil Engineers Revised Phase 1 Construction Plans		7,672.50	80,261.55
31-Dec-13	Deposit	Chemical Bank December Interest	7.77		80,269.32
			<u>15.28</u>	<u>11,172.50</u>	
23-Jan-14	Deposit	City of South Haven SHARA Support	8,806.00		89,075.32
31-Jan-14	Deposit	Chemical Bank January Interest	7.07		89,082.39
28-Feb-14	Deposit	Chemical Bank February Interest	6.83		89,089.22
			<u>8,819.90</u>	<u>0.00</u>	
25-Mar-14	Deposit	City of South Haven SHARA Support	17,250.00		106,339.22
31-Mar-14	Deposit	Chemical Bank March Interest	7.85		106,347.07
30-Apr-14	Deposit	Chemical Bank April Interest	8.74		106,355.81
			<u>17,266.59</u>	<u>0.00</u>	

City of South Haven
SHARP Cast Receipts & Expenditures

	Donations	Bank Int or Fee	Expenses	Applied to Land Purchase	Administrative Assistant	Cash Balance
Nov-02	2,650.00	2.57				2,652.57
Dec-02	100.00	2.52				2,755.09
Jan-03		1.55				2,756.64
Feb-03		1.88				2,758.52
Mar-03		1.20				2,759.72
Apr-03		1.47				2,761.19
May-03	200.00	2.04				2,963.23
Jun-03	644.00	2.84				3,610.07
Jul-03		2.46				3,612.53
Aug-03		2.13				3,614.66
Sep-03		2.67				3,617.33
Oct-03		2.85				3,620.18
Nov-03	1,000.00	5.08				4,625.26
Dec-03		2.89				4,628.15
Jan-04	10,605.00	6.91	849.00			14,391.06
Feb-04	1,933.48	11.33	290.33			16,045.54
Mar-04	5,037.00	12.53	110.35			20,984.72
Apr-04	220.00	12.21	36.25			21,180.68
May-04	1,779.35	10.66	191.91			22,778.78
Jun-04	300.00	18.75	300.00			22,797.53
Jul-04	6,170.00	20.47	4,000.00			24,988.00
Aug-04	200.00	20.55	5,250.00			19,958.55
Sep-04	98.60	22.56	1,250.00			18,829.71
Oct-04	200.00	20.74	10.35			19,040.10
Nov-04	662.00	24.38				19,726.48
Dec-04	5,000.00	24.53				24,751.01
Jan-05	5,315.51	31.65	4,522.08			25,576.09
Feb-05		34.06				25,610.15
Mar-05	4,307.93	40.80	60.00			29,898.88
Apr-05		38.93				29,937.81
May-05		67.53				30,005.34
Jun-05	1.59	41.81				30,048.74
Jul-05		40.18				30,088.92
Aug-05		40.74				30,129.66
Sep-05	426.59	49.54				30,605.79
Oct-05		85.37		7,500.00		23,191.16
Nov-05		43.30	800.00			22,434.46
Dec-05	1.59	46.81	3,000.00			19,482.86
Jan-06		46.60	2,141.50			17,387.96
Feb-06		36.99	962.24			16,462.71
Mar-06		35.94	21.00			16,477.65
Apr-06	1.65	36.51	9.85			16,505.96
May-06		23.02	296.26			16,232.72
Jun-06	351.65	18.20		7,500.00		9,102.57
Jul-06		15.18				9,117.75
Aug-06		16.99				9,134.74
Sep-06	1.65	43.09				9,179.48
Oct-06		27.12	1.35			9,205.25
Nov-06		20.69				9,225.94

City of South Haven
SHARP Cast Receipts & Expenditures

	Donations	Bank Int or Fee	Expenses	Applied to Land Purchase	Administrative Assistant	Cash Balance
Dec-06		33.55	2,500.00			6,759.49
Jan-07		76.90	2,500.00			4,336.39
Feb-07	1.65	32.17				4,370.21
Mar-07		29.94	2,897.58			1,502.57
Apr-07	101.71	20.95				1,625.23
May-07	1,923.00	18.83	2,500.00			1,067.06
Jun-07	1.71		2,594.28			(1,525.51)
Jul-07	100.00		2,541.77			(3,967.28)
Aug-07	1,050.00		2,509.65			(5,426.93)
Sep-07			2,540.34			(7,967.27)
Oct-07	1,001.71		2,552.20			(9,517.76)
Nov-07	1,000.00		2,566.53			(11,084.29)
Dec-07	106,434.00	96.05	5,115.31			90,330.45
Jan-08	5,566.12	157.92				96,054.49
Feb-08	2,600.00		4,459.77	95,896.57		(1,701.85)
Mar-08	4,515.00		2,770.16	42.99		(0.00)
Apr-08	1,380.47		2,500.95			(1,120.48)
May-08	5,500.00	1.66		4,381.18		0.00
Jun-08	1,239.27	33.38	36.47		1,076.13	160.05
Jul-08	11,700.00	35.93				11,895.98
Aug-08	100.00	2.20	42.91	9,000.00	1,285.67	1,669.60
Sep-08	5,500.00	48.75	43.68	5,000.00	905.65	1,269.02
Oct-08	650.00	2.77	74.91		976.68	870.20
Nov-08		0.49	36.93		216.65	617.11
Dec-08	10,000.00	38.28	2,318.72		198.89	8,137.78
Jan-09	90,686.47	9.26	32.24	90,000.00	799.10	8,002.17
Feb-09	350.00	6.21	68.30		699.66	7,590.42
Mar-09	1,000.00	6.70	28.14		720.97	7,848.01
Apr-09	11,090.00			10,000.00	703.21	8,234.80
May-09	2,285.00		28.12		443.95	10,047.73
Jun-09	57,601.89	11.08	1,637.29	60,245.77	287.68	5,489.96
Jul-09	62,300.00		29.92	65,000.00		2,760.04
Aug-09	71,998.00	0.43	772.50	70,000.00		3,985.97
Sep-09	7,036.66	2.45	507.50			10,517.58
Oct-09	27,906.00	1.54	446.25			37,978.87
Nov-09		9.92	473.15			37,515.64
Dec-09	3,333.34	1.91	2,780.00			38,070.89
Jan-10	5,060.00	3.86				43,134.75
Feb-10	360.00	3.44	376.26			43,121.93
Mar-10		6.81	136.32			42,992.42
Apr-10	6,435.12	3.93	581.88			48,849.59
May-10		2.62	365.00			48,487.21
Jun-10		3.63	1,956.95			46,533.89
Jul-10	1,000.00	2.33				47,536.22
Aug-10	1,000.00	2.65	827.25			47,711.62
Sep-10	105.00	3.17				47,819.79
Oct-10		5.90				47,825.69
Nov-10	100,500.00	5.03				148,330.72
Dec-10	1,666.67	9.15	40,062.29			109,944.25

City of South Haven
 SHARP Cast Receipts & Expenditures

	Donations	Bank Int or Fee	Expenses	Applied to Land Purchase	Administrative Assistant	Cash Balance
Jan-11	40,500.00	9.71	8.50			150,445.46
Feb-11		8.91	40,000.00			110,454.37
Mar-11	40,100.00	5.08	15.87			150,543.58
Apr-11	14,640.00	4.34				165,187.92
May-11		4.94	14,640.00			150,552.86
Jun-11	375.00	3.90				150,931.76
Jul-11		0.95				150,932.71
Aug-11		0.53	5,000.00			145,933.24
Sep-11	100.00	1.20	4,019.03			142,015.41
Sep-11	-375.00 *					141,640.41
Oct-11			100,000.00			41,640.41
Oct-11		5.00				41,645.41
Oct-11			700.00			40,945.41
Nov-11	100.00	2.29	500.00			40,547.70
Dec-11		2.61	2,856.00			37,694.31
Jan-12	1,666.67	0.68	1,837.83			37,523.83
Feb-12		0.37	1,763.21			35,760.99
Mar-12		1.25	1,408.14			34,354.10
Apr-12			4,137.31			30,216.79
May-12			3,359.15			26,857.64
Jun-12		1.33	2,020.09			24,838.88
Jul-12		0.13	1,400.00			23,439.01
Aug-12			1,436.03			22,002.98
Sep-12		1.40	1,400.36			20,604.02
Oct-12		-0.17	-3,782.50 **			24,386.35
Nov-12		-0.09				24,386.26
Dec-12		-0.16	1.26			24,387.36
Jan-13						24,387.36
Feb-13						24,387.36
Mar-13			1.26			24,388.62
Apr-13						24,388.62
May-13						24,388.62
Jun-13						24,388.62
Jul-13						24,388.62
Aug-13						24,388.62
Sep-13			1.32			24,389.94
Oct-13						24,389.94
Nov-13						24,389.94
Dec-13						24,389.94
Jan-14						24,389.94
Feb-14						24,389.94
Mar-14			1.38			24,391.32
Apr-14						24,391.32

* June contribution from Entergy made in error (they requested money be refunded)

** Reimbursement for audit & fee expenses

	Donations	Interest Earnings	Expenses	Applied to Land Purchase	Administrative Assistant	Cash Balance
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City of South Haven
SHARP Cast Receipts & Expenditures

<u>Donations</u>	<u>Bank Int or Fee</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Applied to Land Purchase</u>	<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	<u>Cash Balance</u>
756,393.05	1,906.81	301,038.23	424,566.51	8,314.24	24,380.88
	Land Purchase Price		424,566.51		
Loan Balance Remaining			0.00		

Memorandum

To: SHARA Board
From: Michael Dopp, PE
Date: 5/13/2014
Re: SHARP Phase 1

Board Members,

MCE staff sent final plans in January in pdf format to the City of South Haven.

The revised plans will need to be submitted to the Casco Township Planning Commission for approval for the new plan with revised phasing. At this time a decision has not been made on this item. It would be anticipated that this would require a month to two months of lead time to get on the Casco Planning Commission's agenda and would take a maximum of two meetings to get approved. Only the phasing has changed from what the Planning Commission approved in the past, so it would be basically the same master plan to approve with a larger first phase.



City of South Haven

City Hall • 539 Phoenix Street • South Haven, Michigan 49090-1499
Telephone (269) 637-0700 • Fax (269) 637-5319

April 22, 2014

To: South Haven Area Recreation Authority

Cc: South Haven City Council, P. VandenBosch, W. Hochstedler

From: Brian Dissette, City Manager

Re: Potential Park Partnership

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014, local officials, including Supervisor Stein and Mayor Burr, met with representatives from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to discuss the status of the "Riverwoods" site. The "Riverwoods" site is located in South Haven Charter Township, on Blue Star Highway, between 2nd Avenue and the Black River. The MDNR recently purchased the site, with the intent of developing the site into a park which allows camping. Currently the MDNR is working to address some onsite environmental remediation. Once complete, the MDNR is desirous of developing the site to allow for campsites which could accommodate recreational vehicles, trailer style camper units, and rustic (tent based) camping.

As part of the meeting, the MDNR officials indicated an interest in partnering with the South Haven Area Recreation Authority (SHARA) for the development and management of the proposed campsite. The MDNR officials indicated that SHARA could be the grant applicant to seek capital improvement funds from the State of Michigan's Natural Resources Trust Fund, to develop the site. MDNR officials indicated a willingness to extend a multi-year operating agreement, which could grant authority to SHARA to operate the site as a campground, and potentially allow SHARA to receive a portion of the profits from the campground operations.

While discussing the site development, city staff inquired as to whether the MDNR is willing to fund the purchase of additional properties along the Black River. The response from the MDNR officials was that they are willing to submit a 2015 grant submission for the acquisition of the Sherman Hills site and the Walgren site. Attached is a map which illustrates the properties discussed in this memo.

At this time, I recommend that SHARA discuss the potential partnership at the next regular meeting. That meeting is tentatively planned for Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.

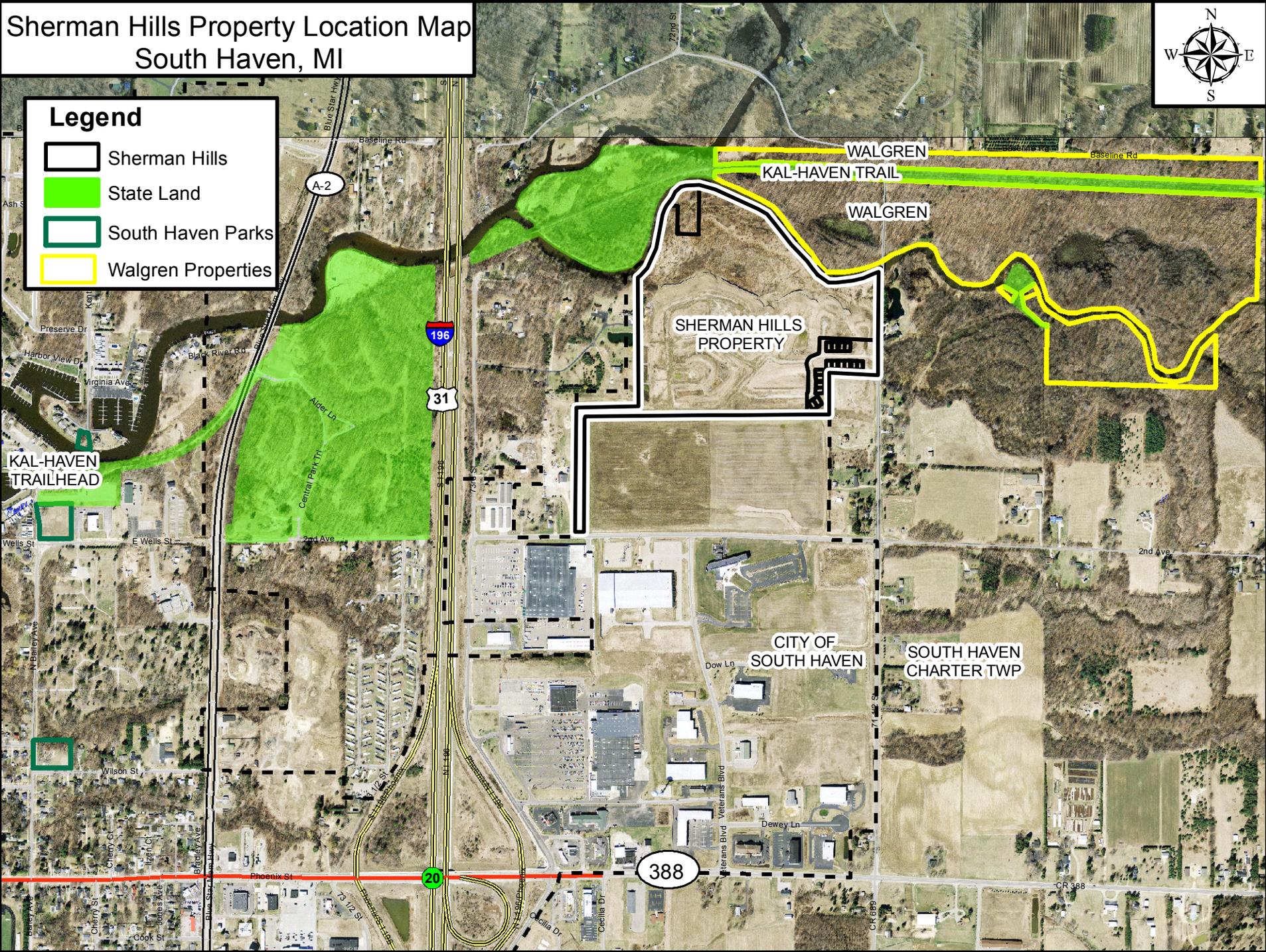
Thank you for the time and attention. Please let me know if there are any questions and/or concerns.

Sherman Hills Property Location Map South Haven, MI



Legend

- Sherman Hills
- State Land
- South Haven Parks
- Walgren Properties



April 22, 2014

TO: South Haven Area Recreation Authority

FR: Paul VandenBosch

RE: Draft Letter of Intent

Thanks to investment by the State of Michigan in purchasing the Riverwood site, there is an opportunity to establish a state park with camping and other recreational amenities. In discussions with DNR officials, there appears to be a desire for local participation in planning, construction and operation of the park.

One way of initiating negotiation on the park would be for the South Haven Area Recreation Authority to invite the City, Township and DNR to cosign a letter of intent which lays out a process for negotiation and eventual agreement on how to planning, construction and operation of a state park at the Riverwood site.

This draft Letter of Intent is not an agreement, but can serve as a framework for negotiation to develop a contractual relationship for planning, construction and operation of a number of recreation facilities in the South Haven Area.

Letter of Intent

The City of South Haven, South Haven Township and the South Haven Area Recreation Authority (Partners) will consider collaborating with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop and operate one or more recreational facilities in the South Haven Area. The intent is for the local governments and/or authority to develop and operate the facilities for a number of years on a long term lease basis, with ownership of the land and improvements remaining with the DNR. Some projects in the area may be individually owned and developed by any of the Partners.

Recreational Facilities

The recreational facilities under consideration include campground sites, bicycle trails, fishing opportunities, a paddlecraft route and connections to other area amenities. The intent is that the development of these facilities will occur in phases.

Land Acquisition

Development of some of the desired recreational facilities is subject to land acquisition and funding for land acquisition.

Grant Funding

It is the intent of this collaboration and partnership that development of recreational facilities will be funded by and depends upon successful acquisition of grant funding for land acquisition, project engineering and construction.

State Park Status

It is the intent that one or more of the project facilities be included in a newly established state park. The state park will be constructed and operated to standards of Michigan state parks, and will be identified to the public as a Michigan state park. The operation of the state park will be included with state reservation system, park pass requirements, marketing and other state park methods and requirements.

Phased Process

The initial phase of the effort is to develop a campground at the former Riverwoods site. Future phases and projects will depend upon land acquisition efforts and grant funding.

Long Term Lease

It is proposed that one or more of the Partners would enter into a long term lease with the DNR to operate the state park. The Lessee will operate and manage the park as agreed upon, subject to DNR oversight, inspection, regulation and standards.

Organization and Control

The City of South Haven, South Haven Township and South Haven Area Recreation Authority will enter into an Organizational Agreement, to collaborate and agree upon which entity should own property, lease property, apply for grants, enter into contracts and perform which parts of the development and operation of the recreational facilities. Each development step, phase and project may be constructed and operated separately by the different entities. The parties will enter into an agreement stating which entity will be the lessee for each project. The agreement will lay out funding sources and commitments, and will provide for review and approval authority among the partners for various stages of the project.

Concept Plan

For each phase of the project, the Lessee will enter into a concept plan design contract with a design professional acceptable to the DNR. The concept plan will include enough information to allow for grant application for the project. The DNR will be invited and may participate in the concept design process. The concept plan will be used to illustrate the intent for development as an exhibit to a lease.

Public Design Process

The concept design will be presented to the public in a public meeting in the local government in which the project is located. Site plan and construction design plans will be presented in similar public meetings. The public shall have the opportunity to comment on the plans prior to any final decisions on the plans.

Grant Application

Any of the Partners may serve as grant applicant, as agreed upon in the Organizational Agreement. All Partners and the DNR will have the opportunity to review and approve the grant application prior to submittal. Grant applications may be considered for design, construction, marketing and improvements to projects.

Site Plan Design and Approval

The Lessee will seek funding and confirm funding availability for site plan design prior to entering into a contract for site plan design. The Lessee will enter into a site plan design contract with a design professional acceptable to the DNR. The DNR will be invited and may participate in the design process. DNR approval of the site plan is required prior to application for zoning approval. The executive of the local government in which the project is located will be invited and may participate in the design process. Informal approval of the site plan by the executive of the local government in which the project is located is required prior to application for zoning approval. The Lessee (or then owner of the land) will be the applicant for zoning approval. Any changes to the site plan in the zoning approval process are subject to approval by the DNR prior to applying for building permits or advertising construction bid announcements.

Construction Plans and Bid Specifications

The Lessee will confirm funding for development and construction of the project prior to entering into any contract. The Lessee will contract with a design professional to develop detailed plans and bid specifications for construction of the project facility. The process of plan development will include regular communication with the DNR and any granting agency. Prior to publishing an announcement of the bid opportunity, a public meeting will be held to allow public comment on the detailed plans and bid specifications. Prior to publishing an announcement of the bid opportunity, the DNR, Partners and any granting agency may approve the detailed plans and bid specifications.

Construction

The Lessee will confirm funding prior to authorizing the contractor to proceed with construction. The Lessee will follow procedures of the granting agency and cause the project to be constructed according to the construction plans. The Lessee will engage a construction inspection professional to verify that proper construction methods are used and that the project is built to plan.

Operation

The DNR and Lessee will prepare an operation manual. The Lessee may subcontract management and operation of the facility to another entity.

This Letter of Intent is not an agreement, it is a framework for further negotiation which may lead to agreements and leases.

The undersigned hereby express the intent to negotiate with each other, generally following the concept herein, to develop a state park in the South Haven area.

South Haven Area Recreation Authority

_____ Date: _____

South Haven Township

_____ Date: _____

City of South Haven

_____ Date: _____

Department of Natural Resources

_____ Date: _____

DRAFT Letter to the DNR

Re: Possible collaboration related to intended new state park

Dear _____,

During our recent meeting, we discussed the state's recent purchase of property in South Haven Township on which the state desires to see development of a new state park. South Haven area leaders are thrilled about that effort and believe it will be supported by the entire community. We are eager to discuss ways in which local leaders and local governments can partner with the state to ensure the proposed state park will be a "jewel" among parks in Michigan and throughout the Midwest.

As we have shared with you, South Haven Charter Township and the City of South Haven have broad experience in intergovernmental cooperation. While, like many areas of the state, we cooperate with respect to utilities, our cooperation is much more extensive. We have agreements related to fire, police, and ambulance services, and to economic development efforts. In addition, we recently formed the South Haven Area Recreation Authority ("SHARA") to ensure coordinated, cooperative efforts with respect to recreational facilities and programs.

We understand the state is also looking for collaboration and a possible long-term partnership that could include a significant local role in the development and operation of the proposed state park. While the exact nature of the relationship would require discussion and refinement, we understand the DNR may desire local development and operation of the state park consistent with DNR standards and specifications. The DNR would have a major role in the design process for the park. We understand the design and development process will be a public one. We also understand that the completed park would be identified and marketed as a state park, would use the state park reservation system, and would be accessed by those with state park passes just as any other state park.

Development of the park would likely be phased with the initial phase including development of a state park campground. As we further discussed the opportunities, we shared a vision of development of other recreational facilities including fishing facilities, paddle craft facilities, bicycle trails (particularly a well-developed mountain bike trail), and interconnections with other area recreational facilities. We discussed possible acquisition of additional property, possible ownership models, and potential grant funding.

We understand work on this project is in initial stages. We look forward to further discussions that may provide a bit more detail enabling us to determine how to best organize the local collaborative effort, who to designate as continuing local contacts, etc.

If this letter accurately reflects your understanding of our discussion, we would appreciate your written confirmation. With that, we could then engage in discussions at public meetings and resulting resolutions of support by the Township Board, the City Council and the SHARA Board that would also more formally designate representatives for continued discussions. Of course, if this letter is in any way inaccurate, we would similarly appreciate your correction of our misunderstanding.

We appreciate this opportunity. We look forward to your response.

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