



Village of New Era Recreation Plan

December 2019



WMSRDC
WEST MICHIGAN SHORELINE
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**WEST MICHIGAN SHORELINE
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(WMSRDC)**

The WMSRDC is a regional council of governments representing 120 local governments in the West Michigan counties of Lake, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana.

The mission of WMSRDC is to promote and foster regional development in West Michigan... through cooperation amongst local governments.



James Rynberg, Chairperson
Bonnie McGlothlin, Vice-Chairperson
Dale Nesbary, Secretary

Erin Kuhn, Executive Director

Project Staff:

Stephen Carlson, Program Manager

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Community Description	2
Administrative Structure	3
• Roles of the New Era Village Council	3
• Village of New Era Organizational Chart.....	3
• Annual and Projected Budget	3
• Current Funding Sources.....	4
• Recreation Programming	4
• Role of Volunteers	4
• Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Orgs.....	4
Recreation & Resources Inventory	4
• Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory	4
• Location Map	5
• Village-Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities.....	6
• Accessibility Assessment.....	7
• Other Recreation Facilities.....	7
• Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities	8
Description of the Planning & Public Input Process	9
Goals & Objectives	11
Action Program	13
Conclusion.....	13
Appendix.....	14

INTRODUCTION

The Village of New Era Recreation Plan is intended to guide present and future recreational resources development within the village, including parkland, parks facilities, recreational programs, and public open space.

This plan, in addition to serving as a guide for recreation facilities and program development, is prepared to satisfy the requirements set forth by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Recreation plans are required by the MDNR for state and federal grant eligibility.

Overview of the Planning Process

In 2019, the Village of New Era contracted with the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) to concurrently assist in the update of the Village of New Era Future Land Use Plan (1998) and the Village of New Era Recreation Plan (2014). As a result of this coordinated effort, the two plans are now better aligned. This edition of the New Era Recreation Plan builds upon the 2014 edition, which was also created with assistance of the WMSRDC.

Citizen input is very important in addressing recreation-related issues facing the Village community. The planning process is most effective when all sectors of the citizenry provide input into the future of their community. The opportunity for input was provided through a public meeting on June 13, 2019, Village Council meetings, a public hearing on December 12, 2019, and a recreation questionnaire available at www.wmsrdc.com from July through November 2019. Notices of the public meeting and public hearing were published in the Oceana Herald-Journal, a general circulation newspaper in the Village of New Era. The effort to update the Village's recreation and land use plans was also discussed in the bi-monthly WMSRDC newsletter.

Function of the Plan

This particular plan is intended to serve as a guide for future decisions and actions related to recreation. It should be used by the decision-makers of the Village of New Era based on the desire of the general public and the availability of resources.

The following are specific goals of this plan:

- To provide a means for village residents to participate in determining the future of their community, thereby promoting the interests of the community.
- To establish goals and objectives to be used as a guide for future decisions regarding public recreation and open space and not to be competing with private enterprise.
- To outline implementation strategies that can ensure that future development is consistent with the goals and objectives of the village.

- To provide a detailed inventory of recreation facilities and assist decision-makers with development decisions related to those facilities.
- To provide means by which grant funding can be secured for recreation related development projects.
- To prepare a plan that is consistent with Michigan Public Act 156 of 1917, as amended.

Legal Basis and Development

This plan is enabled by Michigan law, but does not carry the power of statutory law or ordinance. Its principles are derived from Public Act 156 of 1917, an act authorizing villages to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds which states, in part that:

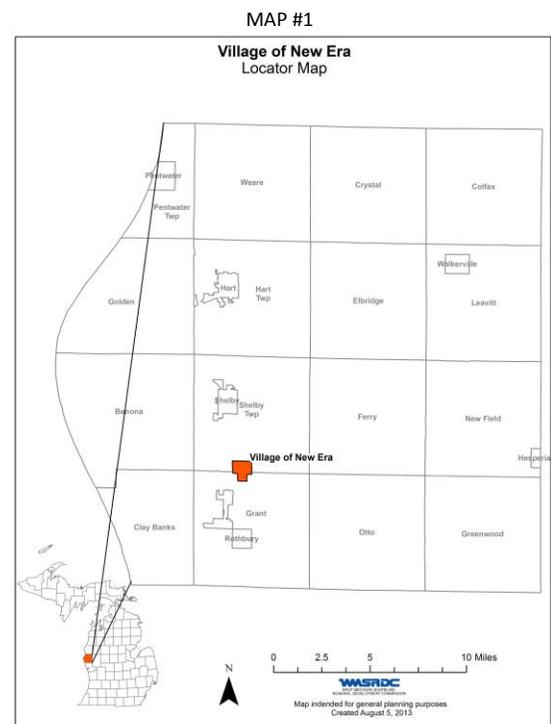
Sec. 1 (2-4). Villages may acquire, equip, and maintain land, buildings, or other recreation facilities. Villages may employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants. Villages may vote and expend funds for the operation of such a system.

Sec. 3 (1-4). Villages may operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds, independent, or cooperate with any other city, village, county, township or school district in its conduct in any manner in which they may mutually agree, or delegate the operation of this system to a Recreation Board created by any or all of them, and appropriate money, voted for this purpose, to such board.

Every effort has been made to present information that is accurate. The Village of New Era Council and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission shall not be held liable for any errors or omissions related to this plan. This plan is a general planning document. Therefore, a thorough investigation with original research materials should be undertaken before proceeding with any specific implementation decisions.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The Village of New Era is located in the south-west quadrant of Oceana County, which lies in the west central part of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula nearly halfway between the Michigan-Indiana border and Grand Traverse Bay. The Village is bordered by Shelby Township to the north and Grant Township to the south. The village lies within the Shelby Public School District. New Era Elementary School, part of the Shelby Public School District, is located in



the Village and services fourth and fifth grades. In addition, the Village is home to New Era Christian School, a private school offering preschool through 8th grade classes. Map #1 indicates the regional location of New Era within Oceana County. The Village encompasses an area of 537.6 acres, or approximately .84 square miles. The 2010 Census lists the Village’s total population at 451 with a total of 188 housing units (Table #1).

Table #1

Village of New Era Population (Historical and Projected)

Historical Census Figures					Forecasted Population					
1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
466	534	520	461	451	442	440	438	436	435	433

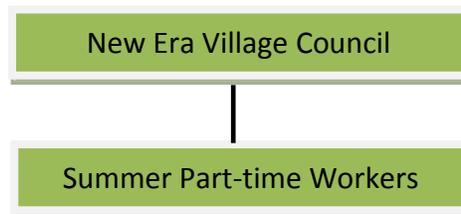
Source: West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Roles of the New Era Village Council

All recreational and maintenance decisions within the Village of New Era are made by the New Era Village Council. In the summer, the Village employs high school students responsible for doing work and recreational duties around the Village. These individuals report directly to the Village Council.

Village of New Era Organizational Chart



Annual and Projected Budget

Table #2

Village of New Era Parks & Recreation Budget	
FY 2019	FY 2020
\$15,015	\$12,215

Current Funding Sources

The Village of New Era does not have any sources that generate funding specifically for recreation within the community. Funding for recreation purposes within the Village are taken directly out of the general fund of the budget.

Recreation Programming

The Village of New Era does not currently offer any recreational programs. However, there are a few youth and adult recreational programs offered by locally-run and organized recreational leagues.

Role of Volunteers

The Village of New Era does not currently receive any volunteer work from the community unless requested.

Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Orgs

The Village of New Era partners with the Shelby Rec Club for their programs including swimming, soccer, softball, and T-ball by contributing \$1,000 annually toward the program, which is open to area residents. The Village of New Era does not currently work with or partner with the local school districts for recreational purposes. However, it is important to note that the two schools provide the community with playgrounds and athletic fields that are important to the community.

RECREATION & RESOURCES INVENTORY

Methods Used To Conduct the Inventory

Officials from the Village of New Era, along with staff from the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, completed an extensive tour of the area along with recreational facilities within the village. Located on page 5 is a map identifying the location of area parks and recreation facilities (Map #2).

Location Map

Map #2



Village-Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

New Era Ball Field

The New Era Ball Field is located at the corner of James Street and Oak Avenue. The approximately 1.5-acre property is owned and maintained by the Village. Amenities on the property include a fenced in ball diamond with bleachers; pickle ball, four-square and basketball courts; and a storage shed and portable restrooms. The ball field is utilized throughout the year for outdoor recreation, and leagues and youth soccer during warm seasons.

The Village applied for and received a Land & Water Conservation recreation grant through the Michigan DNR in 2015. Improvements to the park were completed in 2018.



Depot Park

Depot Park, also known as the Rail Trail Depot, is owned and maintained by the Village of New Era. The property is approximately one acre and is located adjacent to the Hart-Montague Trail. The park is widely used by community members and trail users for picnics and a place to rest. Amenities of Depot Park include a covered shelter with picnic tables, portable restrooms, and a wooden bridge over Carlton Creek. A small gravel parking lot with two to three parking spaces is located next to the shelter and trail. Improvements made to the park in 2018 include a small plaza with seating and ornamental lighting along First Street, and a paved sidewalk connecting the plaza to the depot shelter. Improvements were made possible through a cooperative effort between the Village of New Era and the New Era Chamber of Commerce, as well as a \$3,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Oceana County. Lastly, in the fall of 2019, the depot shelter was beginning to show cracking in the floor, which is apparently resulting from, or exacerbated by, rainwater runoff. This issue may need to be addressed within the next five years.



New Era Village Hall Property

The New Era Village Hall is located on Garfield Road in the southeast quadrant of the village. The hall sits along the roadside on approximately five acres. The property behind the village hall is wooded and undeveloped. The property has the potential to be developed for recreational use if the village determines there is a need for additional recreational opportunities within the village limits.



Accessibility Assessment

Below is an assessment of the current accessibility of the two New Era parks. A ranking of 1-5 has been assigned by the Village Council to provide a baseline for improvements that are needed and to track future progress. Rankings are given on the following scale: 1 = none of the site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design; 2 = some; 3 = most; 4 = all; and 5 = the facility meets the Principles of Universal Design.

New Era Ball Field

Accessibility Ranking: 3 (most site elements are accessible)

Description of Accessible Elements: Paved handicap parking; paved, level walkways.

Needs to improve accessibility: Portable toilets are not currently handicap accessible.

Depot Park

Accessibility Ranking: 3 (most site elements are accessible)

Accessible Elements: Paved walkway connecting plaza on 1st Street to depot building.

Needs to improve accessibility: Portable toilets are not currently handicap accessible.

Other Recreation Facilities

New Era Christian School

The New Era Christian School property is located across the street from the New Era Ball Field on the corner of James Street and Oak Avenue. The property stretches eastward to Redwood Avenue and is approximately four acres in size. The Christian School maintains a playground with climbing structures, slides, swings, benches, and a basketball court. Beyond the playground area, the school has numerous soccer fields utilized by the community



through youth soccer leagues. Portable restrooms, provided by the village, are also located adjacent to the soccer fields. The eastern edge of the property is utilized for parking by the soccer leagues.

Hart – Montague Park Trail

The William Field Memorial Hart-Montague Trail State Park is a 22-mile paved trail owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The trail was the State of Michigan’s first linear trail. The Hart-Montague Trail passes through rural and forested lands. Scenic overlooks and picnic areas are located along the route, including the Village of New Era. The DNR currently provides only emergency maintenance services and seeks governmental agencies to operate and maintain its linear park trails. Activities allowed along the trail include biking, hiking, wildlife viewing, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling. A local snowmobile group grooms the trail on a volunteer basis during the winter.



New Era Elementary School

The New Era Elementary School is located on Hillcrest Drive in the western portion of the village. The property is approximately three acres in size. It includes a playground with climbing structures, slides, swings, benches throughout the property, basketball court with four hoops, backstop for baseball, and a large soccer field with nets. Playground equipment here was updated in early 2019.



Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

(Included in appendix)

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING & PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

In 2018, The Village of New Era approached the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) for assistance with updating the Village of New Era Recreation Plan. A contract between the village and WMSRDC was signed in May 2019 with work on the Plan beginning in June 2019. WMSRDC staff attended a Village Council meeting held on May 9, 2019. During the meeting, WMSRDC staff informed the attendees of the steps involved in the process of creating the plan. A draft schedule outlining the planning process was also presented at the meeting, and information was gathered regarding past, current, and future recreational issues regarding the Village through an open dialogue with the Council.

On May 17, 2019, representatives from the Village guided WMSRDC staff on an extensive tour of the community. During the tour, the group visited recreational facilities within the Village. WMSRDC staff was able to gather detailed information regarding the area, take photos, and gain a better understanding of the local recreation system.

On June 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., the Village hosted a public meeting at The Avenue Event Center on First Street in New Era. The purpose of the public meeting was to explain the purpose and process of developing a recreation plan, as well as to gather input to help evaluate the goals and objectives of the New Era Recreation Plan. Notice of the meeting was published on May 30, 2019 in the Oceana Herald-Journal, a general purpose newspaper of circulation within the Village of New Era. In addition, neighboring communities were notified in a letter indicating the Village's intent to begin the planning process, and an invitation letter was drafted for New Era Chamber of Commerce members.

Public meeting attendees were asked to complete a survey asking the following questions:

- What do you like about the current recreation facilities in New Era?
- What don't you like about the current recreation facilities in New Era, or what would you like to see changed?
- What types of new programs or facilities would you like to see in New Era?

Each attendee was asked to share his or her responses to the questions with the group at the meeting. This exercise resulted in an in-depth discussion regarding recreational activities and facilities within the area. Responses to each of the three questions recorded during the meeting have been categorized and tabulated in the tables below:

What do you like about the current recreation facilities in your community?

<i>Category</i>	<i>Number of Comments</i>
Bike Trail	3
Carlton Creek	3
New Ball Diamond	2
Walkability	2
Depot park	2

Churches	1
Fall Fest	1
Farmer's Market	1
Fishing	1
Pickle ball	1
Safe	1

What don't you like about the current recreation facilities in your community, or what would you like changed?

<i>Category</i>	<i>Number of Comments</i>
Parking	3
Playgrounds	3
Not enough public property	2
Poor maintenance	2
Need sprinklers	2
Need picnic tables	1
No tennis court	1
Opportunities can be increased	1
Pavilion at Depot Park needs attention	1

What types of new programs or facilities would you like developed in your community?

<i>Category</i>	<i>Number of Comments</i>
Dog park	4
Shuffleboard court	3
Bird watching	2
Exercise park/path	2
Ice skating	2
Land acquisition	2
Picnic tables at Ball Field	2
Potable water at bike trail	2
Irrigation at parks	1
Improve parks	1
Little league use ball field	1
Make New Era a walking community	1
Purchase red building/demolish police garage at Depot Park	1
Tennis court	1
Organize tournaments (shuffleboard, broomball, etc.)	1
Utilize right of ways	1

Other comments regarding current and future recreation opportunities in New Era:

- Consider possibility of New Era Elementary closing and possible acquisition by the Village
- Ask students and young families for input
- Beautification

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

As a result of the public meeting held on Thursday, June 13, 2019, participants provided valuable input regarding their wishes and desires for the recreational facilities and activities within the Village of New Era. This information was documented and taken into consideration by the Village Council to evaluate the recreation goals and objectives established in the 2014 edition of this plan. The main tools used to formulate these goals and objectives were the answers to the questions asked during the group activity conducted during public meetings, as well as the general discussions with the community leaders in attendance during the fact finding meeting and community tour held in May 2019, and during the recreation goals and objectives work session conducted by the Village Council on August 8, 2019.

Based on the feedback gained through the above methods, the following goals and objectives were formulated. Please note that the goals and objectives are listed in no particular order.

GOAL: Continually seek opportunities to partner with local, regional, and state recreation providers/organizations to enhance recreational advantages in the Village of New Era.

OBJECTIVES:

- Support the efforts of the two schools located within the village to provide safe and adequate playground facilities.
- Where possible, assist the local rail trail groups in the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the Hart-Montague Rail Trail.
- Work closely with Oceana County and the Oceana County Parks & Recreation Committee regarding potential recreation projects in and near the Village of New Era.
- Remain knowledgeable regarding state recreational opportunities and programs.
- Establish a relationship with local recreation groups/organizations, and continually support their efforts to provide recreational opportunities within the village.
- Partner with other Hart-Montague Trail communities to promote recreation and commerce.

GOAL: Uphold the ongoing maintenance of existing recreational facilities and programs within the Village of New Era.

OBJECTIVES:

- Continue to hold the yearly street festivals, parades, and related activities within the village.

- Strive to maintain the depot facility near the Hart-Montague linear trail for use by residents and trail users.
- Where possible work with and support local rail trail groups in order to maintain the quality and usage of the Hart-Montague linear trail.

GOAL: Strive to improve and expand recreational facilities in the Village of New Era to foster and maintain a sense of place and community pride.

OBJECTIVES:

- Seek opportunities to improve the facilities at Depot Park.
- Consider the acquisition of additional property for recreational purposes, such as an exercise park, dog park, or bird watching.
- Support efforts to improve the Hart-Montague linear trail.
- Seek opportunities to develop a village owned playground area, especially in the event of a school closure.

GOAL: Leverage recreation, parks, and community events to attract visitors to the downtown.

OBJECTIVES:

- Utilize vacant storefronts as “pop-up shops” during events and other times of increased traffic.

ACTION PROGRAM

Over the next five-year period, the New Era Recreation Plan will be used by the Village of New Era to accomplish the goals set forth through this planning process.

Through the planning process, it became apparent that the community values the recreational opportunities and programs currently available in the village. Community leaders stressed the need to sustain the existing recreational opportunities within the village and celebrate the rural character of the community. It remains a priority for the community to continue supporting annual festivals, parades, and many other community activities.

The village will continue to work with and support the numerous partnerships required to hold community events, as well as seek opportunities for new partnerships. With limited financial resources, it will be necessary for the community to forge additional partnerships to not only sustain existing recreation opportunities, but also to improve or expand upon them.

While the two existing community-owned parks are highly valued, it was noted during the planning process that additional public land for recreation is desired by some members of the community. Therefore the village will be open to considering land acquisition opportunities for public recreation. The planning process also indicated there may be public support for unique recreation opportunities that encourage physical activity. There was also a noted desire to leverage recreation opportunities and community events to support commerce in the downtown district, which has experienced decline in recent years. Future recreation and community development plans should tie into the rail trail as much as possible. New recreation opportunities, such as a dog park, exercise walkway, or bird-watching, may be utilized to encourage physical activity within the community, as well as attract new visitors and entice/encourage bike trail users to linger within the community longer.

CONCLUSION

When used appropriately, the Village of New Era Recreation Plan will assist village leaders in the management of existing recreation facilities and the development of new recreation opportunities. The plan is a guide for decision making and should be consulted regularly. Public input should not to be forgotten as an essential facet of recreation planning. The desires of the community should always be taken into consideration when specific recreation facility decisions need to be made. Lastly, this plan should be updated as the local situation warrants, or every five years as required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, to allow the village to remain eligible for grant consideration.



Appendix

Plan Adoption, Public Notification, & Other Documentation

Resolution of Adoption

RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTING A RECREATION PLAN

*THE VILLAGE OF NEW ERA RECREATION PLAN
For New Era Village,
Oceana County, MI*

WHEREAS, New Era Village 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 2020 through 2024, and

WHEREAS, New Era Village 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 the New Era Village 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 final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 12, 2019 during the regular New Era Village Council meeting to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the proposed New Era Village Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, New Era Village has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for New Era Village, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the New Era Village Council voted to adopt said Village of New Era Recreation Plan.

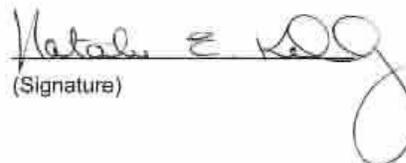
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the New Era Village Council hereby adopts the Village of New Era Recreation Plan.

Yeas: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

I, Natalie Kelly, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the New Era Village Council at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 12th day of December, 2019.


(Signature)

Meeting Minutes from 12/12/19 – Public Hearing & Plan Adoption

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA Minutes of Hearing December 12, 2019

Hearing called to order by President Richards at 7:00 pm.

Attendees: Pres Richards, Treas. Pepple, Clerk Kelly, Trustees Fessenden, Fleury, Grinwis, Kelly, Sobers and VanSickle; also in attendance Clifford Prince, Scott Meyers, and Stephen Carlson.

Hearing is for information for the village's Rec Plan being done by West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Corp. (WMSRDC)

Stephen Carlson presented plans and thoughts. Council added comments or questions.

Kelly made note that the depot park had financial support from Oceana Community Foundation. They gave \$3K grant for the work done on park. This should be added to description.

Prince asked about street lighting and police report. Also wants pavement done on First St. Asked who pays for that – the village does.

Fleury asked if there is a way to make mention that some of our plans should tie to the Rail Trail. Carlson replied we can perhaps put that in the Goals & Objectives section.

Kelly noted that the picture on p. 13 was old (Village sign), could we get a newer picture? Fleury to take and get to Carlson.

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
December 12, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Richards at 7:11 pm. (After Public Hearing for Rec Plan)

Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance was said by all those who cared to join in.

Roll: Pres Richards, Treas. Pepple, Clerk Kelly, Trustees Fessenden, Fleury, Grinwis, Kelly, Sobers and VanSickle present. Also present Clifford Prince, Scott Meyers and Stephen Carlson.

Minutes: Price of flag pole is \$1980 not \$1880. Under Police, just a note after the fact, the person who fell last month was Don Priese and he has since passed away. Don was on council for some time. Express our sympathy. Motion by Kelly to accept the November minutes as corrected and noted; Grinwis support; Carried

FINANCIAL REPORT: Question of \$6795 for Brickley, not all the audit, just a portion. Motion by Grinwis to accept the financial report as presented. Fessenden support; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Scott Meyers here for many things

1) Park at south end of village. The flag pole is not in but the base is all in. Spoke with Blackmer to bid on the south light and for the wiring at the north (depot) park. \$1300 for both.

2) Trees. Asked if the boys got hold of trustee Kelly. No. Meyers told them to do so as Kelly works with such items.

3) UPS drop off. Meyers is fine with listing Meyers Chevrolet as Village UPS drop off.

4) South Park. Showed a picture of figurine kneeling with a cross. Also shows WWI, WWII, bugler, Woman. He still needs a price quote. Would have it anchored in, the designer is a good welder. He complimented the scouts working on the park for their eagle project. Cherry Pie money will be used, Meyers is fronting it at this time. He does anticipate a need of money from village.

5) Land on Wolting (realization later that he meant Elm). What is the story on land, is it buildable. What will we do with it? It is wetlands and we cannot touch it.

6) Village website. He expressed displeasure with not many emails. Fleury stated she had submitted it. It is done based on council members preference.

7) Village money to chamber. We had previously approved \$1k to go from village to chamber, when can they expect it? President told clerk to do it this month.

-Clifford Prince stated this was interesting being here. He left

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Motion by Grinwis to accept Blackmer bid for the lighting work on south park and depot park wiring. \$1310. Fleury support. We figure the bid does include the light. Carried.

-Let chief know that some lights are still out.

-Bad hole on Third St. Others as well. Beckman has said it is not warm enough.

POLICE:

-Kelly noted items from Chief's report. Dealing with family problems, dog issues, bike found and suicide on Oak St.

-Fessenden asked about hours spent outside village. Our police have been seen in unusual places.

-VanSickle questioned time sheets and mileage. What is the credibility and accountability. Clerk and Kelly replied that chief and police do many daily reports required by state and we are given a summary.

-Kelly relayed complaint from Wolting regarding the Blair house and cars when he is trying to plow.

PARKS/RECREATION:

- Resolution by Fleury to Adopt the Rec Plan. Support Grinwis, Carried 7-0. (See additional page)
Clerk told to give Carlson copies of minutes. To be emailed.
- Fleury will be the authorized representative to discuss with Carlson. Mention of Certificate of Publication and an affidavit from Publisher. (After the fact note-affadavit sent to village after meeting)
- Land Use Plan. Council went over Map. Lots of time. Exact boundaries of village limit discussed hard. (Strait arrived)

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

- Clerk meeting with auditors tomorrow.
- Jamie Near to be here next month for building request.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING:

Fleury submitted to Chris at Keyhole Production things for village web info. Need to add Chris to email list once they are approved.

SEWER: Nothing to Report

OTHER ITEMS:

- Grinwis received a text about rules for marijuana.
- President had a meeting the 3rd RE: HHW. There was a lot of discussion of the money/costs. Discussion of electronics, old fashioned TVs and computers-charge \$10? There was a \$10K donation.
- Fessenden – mention of Jim and Jan Reavey and the old TenBrink house. Lots of vehicles. Also noted one on Oak east of James, and then mention of old Arnie Postema house (Oak & Elm). Lots of discussion.

Bills presented. Motion by Kelly to pay bills as presented. Fessenden support; Carried.

Pres. Richards adjourned meeting 8:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Letter to Regional Planning Agency

December 18, 2019

Erin Kuhn, Executive Director
West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission
316 Morris Ave, Suite 340
Muskegon, MI 49440

Dear Ms. Kuhn,

On behalf of the New Era Village Council, and pursuant to the requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the development of a community park and recreation plan, I am transmitting to you the recently adopted Village of New Era Recreation Plan 2020-2024.

Please contact me at (231) 861-4960 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Don Richards, President
Village of New Era

Enclosure

Letter to County

December 18, 2019

Chairperson
Oceana County Planning Commission
100 S. State St.
Hart, MI 49420

Dear Chairperson,

On behalf of the New Era Village Council, and pursuant to the requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the development of a community park and recreation plan, I am transmitting to you the recently adopted Village of New Era Recreation Plan 2020-2024.

Please contact me at (231) 861-4960 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Don Richards, President
Village of New Era

Enclosure

Public Review Period & Public Hearing Notices

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION State of Michigan

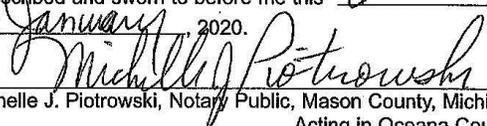
In the Matter of Public Hearing

COUNTY OF OCEANA _____ SS.

Banks Dishmon 

being first duly sworn, says that he is the VP/Chief Revenue Officer of Oceana's Herald-Journal, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published on the following dates:

November 7 _____, 2019 _____, 2020
December 5 _____, 2019 _____, 2020
_____, 2020 _____, 2020

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th
day of January, 2020.

Michelle J. Piotrowski, Notary Public, Mason County, Michigan
Acting in Oceana County.

My commission expires 12/18 _____, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING

New Era RECREATION PLAN

The New Era Village Council will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 12, 2019 to receive comments regarding the proposed New Era Recreation Plan update. The hearing will take place at 7:00 PM at the New Era Village Hall located at 2589 Garfield, New Era, MI 49446. The meeting is open to the public. Those with an interest in the New Era Recreation Plan are encouraged to attend. A copy of the proposed Recreation Plan will be available from November 11, 2019 through December 11, 2019 for public viewing at the New Era Post Office and online at <https://wmsrdc.org/project/planning-assistance-to-the-village-of-new-era/>.

Written comments regarding the proposed draft may be submitted by Wednesday, December 11, 2019 to the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, 316 Morris Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49440 or via email at scarlson@wmsrdc.org. Questions should be directed to Mr. Stephen Carlson (231) 722-7878 (extension 11).

Post-Completion Self Certification Report



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND RECREATION PASSPORT BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Village of New Era - Oceana County

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01755 PROJECT TYPE: _____

PROJECT TITLE: New Era Ball Field and Tennis Court Renovation Project

PROJECT SCOPE: Renovation and enhancement of community ball field and tennis court.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)		
Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Village of New Era	Don Richards	President
Address	Telephone	
2589 Garfield	231-861-4960	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
New Era, MI 49446	N/A	
SITE DEVELOPMENT		
Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s).		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SITE QUALITY		
Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No
Mowing of the field is done by the Village on a weekly basis.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. Yes No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. Yes No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?
The Ball Field is open to the public year-round.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)



POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

<p>Don Richards</p> <p>_____ Please print</p>	<p><i>Don Richards</i></p> <p>_____ Grantee Authorized Signature</p>	<p>9/11/19</p> <p>_____ Date</p>
<p>Stephen Carlson</p> <p>_____ Please print</p>	<p><i>Stephen Carlson</i></p> <p>_____ Witness Signature</p>	<p>9-11-19</p> <p>_____ Date</p>

**Send completed report to: POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**



