

**Updated Public
Comments
(Received through
1.29.2012)**

FROM

RECEIVED CONTENTS

Adam Wirth email ?? Passed on information about cost of Charlevoix Community pool - construction and operations

Adam Wirth conversation 1/20/2012 What are the longterm costs of a parking lot associated with a boat launch site? Don't we need a feasibility study for identifying best site in harbor, and costs of development? Would the tribes provide grants to support building a fitness center?

Sharon Hurkmans email 1/23/2012 I was just reading all the public comments that you received on the St. James Recreation plan and I am writing to say that I agree with Don Tritsch in that this recreation plan should be Island wide. As I was reading the recreation plan it mentioned that St. James wanted to connect all of the trails on the island so that they are accessible and connected throughout the island. Most of the trails are in the Peaine township area. Why does St. James get to say that they want all of the trails connected if the recreation plan was only meant for the St. James residents only??? When it was mentioned to connect all of the trails I thought the survey would also include the Peaine township residents as well, but it didn't. Most of the trails are in the Peaine township area and I think that if St. James wants to connect all of the trails then this recreation plan should have been for the whole island to decide on what they wanted to see as far as recreation goes. And Peaine township residents live on this island too and should not be excluded from having a say so on what they want to see for recreation on this island. As Don said that we are all in this together so this plan should include all the Beaver Island and not just for the St. James residents to decide on what is happening on this island as far as recreation goes. We will be spending our money at these places of recreation as well as St. James residents. So this should be an Island wide survey. We should just start over with a new survey that will include both townships.

And nothing was included in the survey that dealt with handicapped, the elderly and the disabled people to be included in their being able to participate in all of the activities. Most older people have back problems, knee problems and can't walk very far. Most of the trails especially in Peaine township are miles of trails and would not be accessible to these people. These people also pay taxes and rent rooms or hotels, buy groceries, buys things from all the gift shops and should not be excluded from the recreation plan. Everything that I mentioned is in St. James and they all come into St. James to spend their money.

**Pam and Brad
Grassmick**

email

1/26/2012

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on St. James Township's Recreation Plan. The responses to the recreation plan's survey show that we islanders are aware that preserving our island's beauty is fundamental to our recreational enjoyment. It's obvious that invasive species threaten our beautiful island and can destroy the very things we treasure and enjoy here. Invasive species, in their many forms, are a threat to our forests, interior lakes, and wildlife however you choose to use these resources for recreation. Keeping aquatic invasive species out of our interior lakes will be a challenge. Phragmites threatened our beaches and is an ongoing problem with new patches identified in interior areas. The Emerald Ash borer or Beech bark disease has the potential to decimate our hardwood forests with implications to wildlife. The Mute swans drove the loons off Barney's Lake and may do so on Font Lake as well. There are a multitude of invasive plants that we are aware of such as: Swamp thistle, spotted knapweed, Autumn olive, and Japanese knotweed to name a few. Unless we are vigilante, we may lose the very environment that brings so much enjoyment to Islanders and visitors alike. Control of invasive species and preserving our island's beauty is the foundation of any far sighted recreation plan.

**Beaver Island
Human Services
Commission**

email

1/28/2012

At the January 26th meeting of the Beaver Island Human Services Commission, the Rural Health Center, the Community School, Food Pantry, and other members present requested that we provide comment on the St. James Recreation Plan. We would like to offer our appreciation for the fine work in capturing public comments on the proposed Recreation Plan for St. James Township. If the plan is adopted by the township board, the Human Services Commission will work to identify and collaborate on financial opportunities to complete projects identified in the plan which will enhance recreational opportunities for property owners and visitors with special needs. The members also wished to state that other opportunities may present themselves that the commission may wish to pursue that are not listed within the plan. All grant requests from this commission will be presented to the St. James Board for your approval prior to submission.