

Chapter One. Administrative Structure

Newaygo Community Recreation Authority

In conjunction with the development of this plan, official representatives from each jurisdiction met to discuss the creation of an intergovernmental body capable of both raising the necessary funds and providing for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the new and existing facilities. After carefully considering several options, representatives from each jurisdiction determined to establish a Recreation Authority under Public Act 321 of 2000 (MCL 123.1131 *et seq.*, see *Appendix B*). In April of 2006, all four jurisdictions adopted the Articles of Incorporation by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members serving on each legislative body. A printed copy of the Articles was then filed with the Secretary of State Office of the Great Seal. Upon the filing, the Authority became effective on May 3, 2006. Upon Everett Township's withdraw from the Authority, new Articles of Incorporation were drafted. In July and August of 2007, the remaining three jurisdictions adopted the revised Articles of Incorporation by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members serving on each legislative body. Another printed copy of the Articles was then filed with the Secretary of State Office of the Great Seal. Upon the filing, the reorganized Authority became effective on August 23, 2007. The Authority possesses all the powers specified in Act 321, subject to the limitations of authority as provided by law and or limitations as specified in the Articles of Incorporation.

Newaygo Community Recreation Authority Board

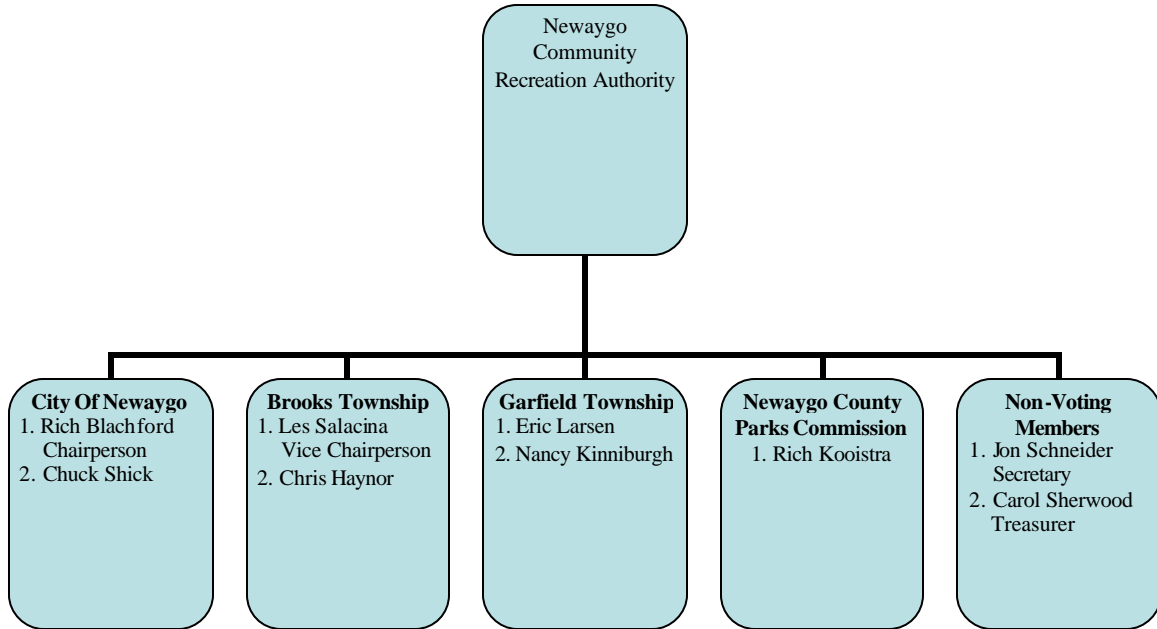
The Newaygo Community Recreation Authority is directed by a seven member board. The Board is made up of two members selected by the legislative body of each jurisdiction and one member selected by the Newaygo County Parks Commission. Board members are appointed for two year terms. The Board has four appointed Officers, including, Rich Blachford, Chairperson, Les Salacina, Vice Chairperson, Jon Schneider, Secretary, and Carol Sherwood, Treasurer. The Chairperson is the presiding officer and in the absence or disability of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson will perform the duties of the Chairperson. The Secretary and Treasurer are *not* considered members of the board and serve only in an administrative capacity.

Newaygo Community Recreation Authority Funding

In the spring of 2007, the Authority acquired the management responsibility of the organized sports areas of Henning Park. To that end, the Authority established a formal budget. For the 2007 - 2008 Fiscal Year, the three participating municipalities fund the Authority with contributions from each jurisdiction's general fund. In addition, the Newaygo Public School contributes funding to the Authority. The total budget from the participating entities for the 2007 - 2008 Fiscal Year is \$14,760.

In July 2007, the Authority was awarded a \$75,000 grant from the Fremont Area Community Foundation to improve a number of the recreation facilities at Henning Park and the Winter Sports Park.

Figure 1. Newaygo Community Recreation Authority Organizational Chart



Newaygo Community Recreation Authority Relationships in the Community

The Newaygo Community Recreation Authority is responsible for only those goals and objectives outlined in this Plan. Existing park and recreation resources (i.e. municipal) are administered separately by each jurisdiction. That said, several of the facilities outlined in this plan connect with and/or build upon existing facilities in at least three of the participating jurisdictions and Newaygo County.

In addition, the Articles of Incorporation detail a series of items that require the approval of the legislative body of each jurisdiction including the budget, any withdrawal from the Authority, a millage proposal, the dissolution of the Authority, amendments to the Articles and the reversion of leases of existing park land. (See the original/revised Articles of Incorporation in *Appendix C*. for more details.) To that end, the following pages outline the administrative structure of those entities that provide for recreation in the Newaygo Community other than the Recreation Authority.

City of Newaygo

The City of Newaygo was incorporated as a city in 1968. The city is governed by a six-member council, responsible for setting city policies and approval of the annual budget. Each council member is elected. The day-to day administrative functions are carried out by the City Manager. The City Manager is appointed by the City Council. The Public Works Department manages the maintenance and care of City parks. The Planning Commission is responsible for the review and recommendations to the City Council for new parks and park facilities.

City Council Members

Ron Armstrong - *Mayor*
 Ed Fedell
 Jane Parsley
 Roger Palmiter
 Chuck Shick
 Wayne Bumstead
 Douglas Day

Planning Commission Members

Dave Chambers - *Chairman*
 Ron Armstrong
 Douglas Day
 Art Westcott
 Wayne Fetterley
 Paul Mulholland
 Ron Wight
 LeeAnn Clor
 Robin Faulk

City of Newaygo Expenditures

In 2007 - 2008, \$56,461 were allocated to parks and recreation from the City's general fund. The City also contributed \$3,252.00 to the *Authority* during the 2007-08 fiscal year.

Brooks Township

Brooks Township was established as a general-law township in 1851, and reduced to its present boundaries in 1881. The Township is governed by a five-member Township Board consisting of a supervisor, treasurer, clerk, and two trustees, all of whom are elected representatives. The Township Supervisor and the Planning Commission are responsible for the implementation of the *Brooks Township Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas Master Plan, 1999*. In addition, an *Environmental Commission*, made up of Township officials, the U.S. Forest Service, the Michigan Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, and the Land Conservancy of West Michigan is responsible for overseeing the management of the *Coolbough Natural Areas*.

Township Board

Les Salicina -
Supervisor
 Jennifer Badgero - *Clerk*
 Christina Haynor -
Treasurer
 Bob Wood - *Trustee*
 Marc Libants - *Trustee*

Planning Commission

Mike Bouwer
 Phil Knape
 Mark Pitzer
 Ruthann Brunsting
 Jim Dutkiewicz
 Mike McHugh
 Marc Libants
 Kim Hoyle
 Adam Wright

Environmental Commission

John Legge - *The Nature Conservancy*
 Chris Haynor - *Brooks Township*
 Steve Hattling - *U.S. Forest Service*
 Les Salicina - *Brooks Township*
 Jack McGowan -
 Stinski- *The Nature Conservancy*
 Julie Stoneman - *Land Conservancy of West Michigan*
 Elizabeth Pitzer-
 Teacher, *Newaygo Public Schools*

Brooks Township Expenditures

In 2007, maintenance and capital improvement expenditures for the *Coolbough Natural Areas* totaled \$5,000. Parks and Community project expenditures totaled \$15,000. Brooks Township contributed \$3,835.00 to the *Authority* during the 2007-08 fiscal year.

Garfield Township

Garfield Township was established as a general-law township in 1959. The township is currently governed by a five-member Township Board consisting of a supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and two trustees, all elected representatives. The Planning Commission is responsible for the review and recommendations to the Township Board for new parks and park facilities. At the present time, Garfield Township has no existing parks.

Township Board

George Suchy - *Supervisor*
Arlene Grabill - *Clerk*
Jill Vandenberg - *Treasurer*
Robert Kinniburgh - *Trustee*
Michael Wallace - *Trustee*

Planning Commission

Miriam Stohpaul
Janis Barnhard
Gabrielle Blackwell
Rob Kinniburgh
Marilyn Melvin
Harry Stroven

Garfield Township Expenditures

Garfield Township contributed \$2,616.00 to the *Authority* during the 2007-08 fiscal year.

Newaygo County

Newaygo County oversees and manages several parks throughout the county, including *Henning Park*, located within the Newaygo Community. A ten-member County Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for administering county park and recreation facilities. Day to day activities are administered by the Newaygo County Deputy Administrator, who serves at the pleasure of the Commission. County parks are maintained by the County Building and Grounds Department.

Newaygo County Parks and Recreation Commission

Cynthia J. Sullivan	Stanley Stroven
James Maike Jr.	Jack Hoving
Richard Kooistra	Daniel Powell
Gerald Deschaine	Dale Twing
Rachel Wisner Simard	

Newaygo Public Schools

The Newaygo Public School District has no formal representation in the Newaygo Community Recreation Authority. However, the School District contributed \$2,561.00 to the Authority during the 2007-08 fiscal year.

Newaygo Public School Board

Ed Haynor - *President*

Kim Roehrig - *Vice President*

Jackie Malsom - *Secretary*

Tina Mayers - *Treasurer*

Les Salcina - *Trustee*

Reid Sherwood - *Trustee*

Dan Sorden - *Trustee*

Newaygo Public Schools Administration

Larry J. Lethorn - *Superintendent*

Mark Fellows - *Buildings/Grounds Director*

Jackie Knight - *Athletic Director*

The Michigan Chapter of the Nature Conservancy

The Michigan Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, in collaboration with Brooks Township, contributes two members to the *Environmental Commission*, charged with overseeing the management of the *Coolbough Natural Areas*

Nature Conservancy Staff

Helen Taylor - *State Director*

Stephen Edison - *Chief Administrator*

Garret Johnson - *Chief Conservation Officer*

Tina Hall - *Director of Conservation Programs*

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John Legge - *West Michigan Conservation Director*

Lara Kramarz - *Conservation Assistant*

Susan DeVries - *West MI Director of Land Protection*

Jack McGowan-Stinski - *West Michigan Land Steward*

The Land Conservancy of West Michigan

The Land Conservancy of West Michigan, in collaboration with Brooks Township, contributes one member to the *Environmental Commission*, charged with overseeing the management of the *Coolbough Natural Areas*.

Board of Directors

Rick Sullivan - *President*

Jim Reminga - *Secretary*

John Cleveland - *Treasurer*

Conservancy Staff

Julie Stoneman - *Executive Director*

April Scholtz - *Land Protection Director*

Nora Callow - *Membership and Business
Coordinator*

Doug Powless - *Science and
Stewardship Coordinator*

Danielle Fogel - *Outreach and
Communications Coordinator*

Rhoda de Zoete - *Land Protection
Director*

U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service in collaboration with Brooks Township also contributes one member to the *Environmental Commission*, charged with overseeing the management of the *Coolbough Natural Areas*.

Administrative Structure

LeAnne Marteil - *Forest Supervisor*
Jerry Bird - *Deputy Forest Supervisor*
Eric Dahlaamp - *Administrative Officer*

Rose Ingram - *Operation Officer*
Ken Arbogast - *Public Affairs Officer*
Barbara Bonefield - *Forest Manager Officer*

Veterans of Foreign Wars

The Veterans of Foreign Wars owns and manages the *Pendergast Memorial Ball Diamond*. The ball diamond primarily serves the Tri-City Little League Baseball Program.

Administrative Structure

Wade Hanshue - *Commander*
Earl Tefft - *Senior Vice Commander*
Lawrence Gibb - *Junior Vice Commander*

North Country Trail Association (NCT)

The North Country Trail traverses over 4,000 miles from the Adirondacks of New York State to the plains of North Dakota. Portions of the trail pass through Everett Township and Brooks Township. This portion of the NCT is managed by the Western Michigan Chapter of the North Country Trail (a non-profit service organization).

North Country Trail

Board of Directors

Chuck Vannette - *President*
Stephanie Black - *Vice President*
Roger Meyer - *Secretary*
Werner Veit - *Treasurer*
Werner Veit - *Past President*
Aaron Phipps - *Communications*
Stephanie Black - *Membership*
Ginny Wunsch - *School House*
Paul Haan - *Trail Manager*

Board Members at Large

Alad Adsmons
Max Boyd
Jack Buege
Sharon Phipps
Jack Post

Friends of the Authority

The Recreation Authority is currently working to establish a “Friends of the Authority” Committee. The Committee will be comprised of local officials, members from local conservation groups, business owners and interested citizens. Among other things, the Committee will be charged with disseminating information, fundraising, and providing general support to the Authority.