

January 19, 1967

Mr. Glenn Gregg, Deputy Director for Parks
Michigan Department of Conservation
Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Mr. Gregg,

I understand the Department has been invited to the Lincoln Township Public Meeting, Friday night, February 10th.

Will you personally make every effort to attend this meeting? I sincerely hope you will, not only because you can speak with authority as head of the Department, but because I know from talking with you your presentation would be sincere and convincing.

Do you know of the conference with the Governor's aide and Mr. Harry Gast of last week?

This meeting is obviously the last chance to persuade local officials to wait. I have my doubts if they will change their minds, however we may convince more local citizens of the merits of a Park in preference to sand mining. If necessary, there are other steps we can take if the area is rezoned. Such action can only serve to gain time and to get more expressions of interest to Senator Zollar to seek his support for your budget request. Several County wide organizations have endorsed the Department's plan for Grand Mere.

Some questions:

1. Has your budget formally been submitted with a request for acquisition of Grand Mere?
2. What assurance can you get from the Federal Government that matching funds will be available in 1967? Would you try to acquire Grand Mere without Federal funds?
3. Will the Department use condemnation if necessary?
4. Would there be any possibility of involving the State Waterways Commission to challenge the concept of a privately financed outlet to the lake and marina?
5. The American Power Co. is building a nuclear plant just south of Grand Mere. Could you possibly get a statement from them that they could plan their facility to leave a lot of the area in its natural state and compliment a State Park at Grand Mere?
6. How much checking has been done to establish the validity of the appraisal?

(con't)

(Mr. Gregg, con't)

The Association is mailing to all Township residents a good sized copy of the preliminary plan of the Conservation Department, superimposed on this are prints of people fishing, swimming, boating, etc.. The interchange shows some commercial development.

We will work towards a good turnout at the meeting! Hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Frank Lahr

fl/cl