

Proposed Resolution #D
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Greg Peter, MUCC Past President
Proposed: December 3, 2022 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: State Park Endowment Fund (SPEF) Oversight

1. **WHEREAS**, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) has proven to be an effective
2. mechanism for allotting royalty extraction funds through a governing citizens Michigan Natural
3. Resources Trust Fund Board (MNRTF Board); and,
4. **WHEREAS**, these projects are judged against criteria created to best benefit the public lands
5. and the natural resources from which wealth is extracted, for purposes of acquisition,
6. improvement, and development of recreation on land held in public trust; and,
7. **WHEREAS**, the premise of the royalty payment is compensation for the extraction of resources
8. from public lands by benefiting the expansion and conservation of state holdings, and constitute
9. assets placed in a public trust; and,
10. **WHEREAS** the Michigan State Parks Endowment Fund (SPEF) has no such governance by a
11. citizen board as constituted in the MNRTF; and,
12. **WHEREAS**, the use of public funds above and beyond the \$500 million cap for the MNRTF
13. constitute the funding of the SPEF, and by extension should be used for the same purpose, and
14. **WHEREAS** recent federal funds have been made available to the DNR to meet some of the
15. state park deficiencies intended to be addressed by SPEF, and yet the limit to which this fund
16. can rise remains unchanged; NOW,
17. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, MUCC will discuss the establishment of a similar governing
18. body for the SPEF to make decisions as to the disbursement of the fund for acquisition,
19. improvement, and restoration (capital expenditures) and not for operations (recognizing that any
20. such project will have a certain % of labor cost and staff time needed above and beyond the
21. normal operating costs of the Division – a % to be considered by the suggested board as that
22. which is appropriate to the grant proposal)