

The Minger Family Endowment Fund

Although he never lived here, Forest R. Minger, Jr. held a life-long love for Manistee County.

A self-described fanatic, Mr. Minger had shared that he spent every possible minute of his free time fishing Manistee County waters. He received so much enjoyment from his time spent recreating in the area that he was inspired to give back. Out of his love for Manistee County, and his excitement about the opportunity to have a big impact on a small community, he made arrangements to leave a gift to the Manistee Community Foundation through his estate.

Mr. Minger passed away in 2016. His transformational \$15 million gift, established two endowments at the Foundation that will enhance Manistee County for generations to come...[One of the funds...] The Minger Family Endowment Fund will enhance and expand area recreational opportunities. (From the Manistee Community Foundation website <https://www.manisteefoundation.org/loving-manistee-county>)

Purpose

The purpose of the Minger Family Endowment Fund is to improve recreation opportunities and access to recreation within Manistee County through maintaining and expanding existing recreation facilities and acquiring and developing new recreation facilities.

The Manistee Cross Country Ski Council and the Shoreline Cycling Club pursued this grant request and were awarded 20,000 for a new ski groomer and storage barn! We fit very well into the number two funding priority:

Funding Priorities

2. Indoor and Winter Based Recreation Opportunities

Projects that will increase opportunities for indoor and/or winter based recreation. These include both outdoor and indoor facilities and amenities such as exercise facilities and community centers.

Available Funds

The amount of funds available for granting each year is determined by the MCCF Board of Directors in accordance with the founding donor's intent and the Foundation's Spending Policy.

During 2018, approximately \$215,000 is available for grants from the Minger Family Endowment Fund. (Ibid.)

Eligible Applicants

501(c)3 nonprofit organizations

Eligible Projects

- Must be located in Manistee County and benefit residents of Manistee County
- Must be supported by the applicant's highest governing body as indicated by the submittal of a resolution or letter
- Must further the purpose of the Minger Family Endowment Fund and focus on one or more of the following areas:

The Manistee Community Foundation decided that we fit within this area:

- Equipment – to provide equipment needed to maximize participation in a recreation facility or program and to promote safety.

Applicant Match Requirement

Applicants must contribute a portion of the total project cost, known as match. A minimum of 10% cash match is required. Additional match is encouraged and may include grants from other sources, donations, and in-kind donations such as the value of donated material or labor. The requested grant amount and total of all match sources should equal the total project cost.

Evaluation of Grant Applications

Grant applications were evaluated, in part, based on the criteria listed below.

1. Alignment with current funding priorities
2. Documented need for the project
3. Benefit to community
4. Quality of the project
5. Support for the project
6. Feasibility of the project
7. Ability of the applicant to successfully complete project
8. Accessibility of project
9. Leveraging of other funds/level of match
10. Collaboration with other entities
11. Ability of applicant to sustain/maintain the project
12. Plan to assure project will result in increased recreation activity

This information was taken from excerpts from the Manistee County Community Foundation – Minger Family Endowment Fund 2018 Grant Guidelines. See:

<https://>

www.manisteefoundation.org/images/

[MCCF_2018_Minger_Family_Endowment_Fund_Grant_Guidelines_final.pdf](https://www.manisteefoundation.org/images/MCCF_2018_Minger_Family_Endowment_Fund_Grant_Guidelines_final.pdf) for full text.

MCCF (231) 723-7269 or email grants@manisteefoundation.org

