

City of Ypsilanti Parks And Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes - July 11, 2013

1. Call To Order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:07pm at the Ypsilanti City Hall, 1 South Huron Street. Commission members in attendance were Anne Brown, Halie Brown, Bob Krzewinski, Conan Malmer and Cathy Thorburn. Special guests included Bonnie Wessler (City Planning Department) and Pete Murdock (City Council).
2. General Business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Conan Malmer, seconded by Cathy Thorburn, to accept the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of June meeting minutes – A motion was made by Cathy Thorburn, seconded by Conan Malmer, to accept the minutes, passing unanimously.
3. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation – Public Input – None at beginning of meeting.
 - b. Guest presentations – A presentation was given by Bob Tetens, Executive Director of the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission who gave an update on the history of the Commission, current projects and funding sources. A period of time was also spent discussing the proposed east County (Ypsilanti) recreation center.
4. City Of Ypsilanti Park Master Plan Update
 - a. Park Master Plan update overview – Bonnie Wessler gave an overview of the Plan update process, including public comment periods, indicating that the Plan could be ready for final approval by City Council by the end of September 2013. Part of the plan approval process is to have an official public comment period of thirty (30) days. With that in mind, a resolution motion was made by Conan Malmer, seconded by Halie Brown, stating “The proposed City of Ypsilanti Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2013-2018 be released to the public for review and comment”. The motion was approved with no objections.
 - b. Park Master Plan public input – No public input given.
5. Continuing Business Items
 - a. Adopt-A-Park applications and updates – None.
 - b. City and facilities updates – Cathy Thorburn gave an update on the Rutherford Pool project.
 - c. Other – A short discussion was held on recent modifications to the Park Capitol Fund fee structure. Anne Brown will research the new fee structure (obtained from major park events for park improvements) and send these to Commission members.
6. Old Business
 - a. Smoke free City parks – Bob Krzewinski provided a fact sheet and over the next month asked Commission members to talk to their City Council members on their feelings about a smoke-free parks ordinance.
 - b. Ordinance change – City of Ypsilanti “Parks” & Recreation Commission name change – Bob Krzewinski talked to the City Attorney John Barr who recommended adding park-specific language to any ordinance change. Bob provided sample language to the Commission members and asked for further input by July 17th, after which some time he would forward suggested ordinance language back to the City Attorney.
7. New Business – It was noted that the area Junior Olympics would be held at Eastern Michigan University at the end of July into early August.
8. Commission Work Session
 - a. 2013 Commission priorities
 - Work Plan for 2013 –15 – A general discussion was held on potential projects. Member Recruitment – Bob Krzewinski will continue to post Commission Facebook items inviting residents to become Commission members.
 - Capitol Improvements – Discussed as a part of the Park Master Plan.
 - Collaboration for Recreational Programming - Keeping in mind that the area YMCA is becoming more active in Ypsilanti, Anne Brown will invite a YMCA representative to the next meeting.
 - Park “Friends” groups contact and updates – Cathy Thorburn is continuing to research and update a master list.
 - 2014 Michigan DNR Trust Fund Grant – Frog Island/Riverside Parks – Bob Krzewinski will work on researching a potential Trust Fund application to improve drainage and repave pathways in the Parks. Potential assistance could be from the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission and the Huron River Watershed Council.
9. Adjournment – A motion was made by Anne Brown, seconded by Cathy Thorburn, to adjourn the meeting. With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:08pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, August 8, Ypsilanti District Library meeting room #1 (upstairs off the main lobby).