

City of Ypsilanti Parks And Recreation Commission
January 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

1. Call To Order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:07pm, January 9, 2014 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Commission members present were Anne Browne, Bob Krzewinski, Eric Maes and Conan Malmer. Also attending was City Council member Peter Murdock.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation – Public Input – None.
 - b. Guest presentations – None. For the February meeting, Anne Browne has lined up a speaker concentrating on volunteer action.
3. General Business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made to accept the agenda by Conan Malmer, seconded by Eric Maes, and approved unanimously.
 - b. Approval of November meeting minutes (no December meeting) – A motion was made to approve the minutes by Eric Maes, seconded by Conan Malmer, and approved unanimously.
 - c. New Commission members (Cal Winning, Christian Cannon) – It is understood that Cal Winning was approved by City Council to serve on the Commission. Anne Browne will research the status of Christian Cannon and other potential Commission members.
 - d. Other – Anne Browne reported on a recent meeting she had with City staff on Commission matters, including the publication of the Parks Master Plan, recognizing Adopt-A-Park volunteers, the revision of the Adopt-A-Park application, a Commission annual report. It was also suggested that Commission members attend City Council meetings when Commission-related items are on the agenda, or at least quarterly to report to Council on Commission projects.
4. Continuing Business Items
 - a. Communications received – None.
 - b. Adopt-A-Park applications and updates – No new applications but further discussion was held on revising the application. Bob Krzewinski and Conan Malmer will work on an application revision through the Assistant City Manager Ericka Savage. Bob Krzewinski will also send out the list he has (in need of revision/updating) of Adopt-A-Park applications.
 - c. City and facilities updates – Rutherford Pool rebuild is around 80% complete with some pool building inside work taking place over the winter with outside work to resume in the early spring.
 - d. Commission priorities – Discussion on 2014 priorities with tasks for the upcoming year to include revisiting the creation of a dog park, creating an annual report, establishing a baseball facility subcommittee (Conan Malmer coordinating), updating the Adopt-A-Park process (and recognizing it's volunteers) and considering further improvements to the Rutherford Pool.
 - e. Commission sponsored events – New Years Day walk was held with a small turnout probably due to the weather. Movies continue to be co-sponsored by the Commission every Friday at the Historical Museum. Bob Krzewinski will work on a fall Ypsilanti "Huron River Day" as well as spring "walk and talk" walks (involving possibly the Mayor, Police Chief, Council members, health professionals, etc.).
 - f. Other – Anne Browne gave an update on the Huron River Watershed Council "River Up" meeting which includes Ypsilanti as a "river trail" town to include canoe/kayak facilities to City Parks. Bob Krzewinski will also work on a thank you letter to Lowes for donations to improve City park baseball facilities.
5. Old Business
 - a. Park Master Plan update – Plan approved by City Council. Printed copies of Plan should be available to Commission members shortly.
 - b. Smoke free City parks – Bob Krzewinski reported on conversations with the Mayor and City Council members on this subject, with a consensus by Commission members to focus on a smoking ban at the three, small "tot-lot" parks. Bob Krzewinski will follow up on this matter.
 - c. Ordinance change – City of Ypsilanti Parks & Recreation Commission name change – Name change approved by City Council and effective in early January.
 - d. Michigan DNR Trust Fund Grant – Frog Island/Riverside Parks – Bob Krzewinski will meet with Planning Department staff on this on January 10th.
6. New Business – Pete Murdock spoke about possible revisions to the park use fees by City Council. Bob Krzewinski will look into possible Ypsilanti Parks Foundation (possibly through the Ann Arbor Community Fund) to raise park improvement funds. Bob Krzewinski will also look into a new street closing procedure for yearly neighborhood street picnics.
7. Adjournment – A motion was made by Conan Malmer to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Eric Maes, and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm with the next Commission meeting being Thursday, February 13th, 7pm at the downtown Library main level meeting room.