



City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: September 12, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Ypsilanti Senior Center, 1015 N. Congress St, Ypsilanti MI 48197

1. **Call to Order**- The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm, September 12, 2017 at the Senior Center located at 1015 N. Congress St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Commissioners in attendance were Evan Sweet, Cathy Thorburn, Ben Connor Barrie, and Kurt Kohlmann. Also present was Joe Meyers, City of Ypsilanti Commission Liaison. Guests Anne Brown, Steven Chettleburgh and father.
2. **Approval of Agenda** Motion of approval by Commissioner Kohlmann and seconded by Commissioner Barrie.
3. **Approval of** Motion of approval by Commissioner Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann.
4. **Introductions/Public Comment** Eagle Scout candidate Steven Chettleburgh presented his idea for an Eagle Scout project at Peninsular Park. He had three ideas 1. Replace the steps and handrails from the parking lot to the fishing platform. 2. Paint over the graffiti on the building and replace with a mural. 3. Replace the picnic tables. The steps seem the most feasible and would help solve a safety issue. Evan will email him an Adopt-a-Park application. Steven's father asked if there was a person who could lend expertise into the replacement and Anne Brown suggested John Row(e)? who had been out to look at the steps before. He is an inspector for the city. The Friends of Peninsular Park have seen the proposal and think the steps are a good idea. Timeline will likely be that the design and planning would take place over the winter and the work completed in the Spring/Summer time.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. **Adopt A Park Updates**
 - i. Candy Cane Park-College Heights Neighborhood. CHN Resident Peter Church has sent Commissioner Sweet and extensive list of items that they would like done in the park. Items include adding more mulch to the play area, having a work detail from the courts come in to remove weeds and brush, fill in the cracks of the tennis court, open the bathroom and drinking fountain.

- ii. Peninsular Park-read above Frog Island –Bronze Beauties are still cleaning up
- b. **Friends Group Updates**
 - i. Rutherford Pool Commissioner Thorburn reported that the pool is mostly closed up for the season. She reported that the board will be looking for some new members. Also, the architect came out to look at the bath house to draw up more accurate and usable plans.
 - ii. Senior Center- Commissioner Sweet reported that close to \$3000 was raised through the quilt sale. The bylaws are completed for the center.
 - iii. Ypsi Baseball Project No report
 - iv. Friends of Peninsular Park The Friends have applied for a 501(c)3 for grant purposes. They meet on the 1st Wednesday. There has been a lot of continued talk regarding the dam. No police calls have been reported since the last time they called.
- c. **City of Ypsilanti Updates-** Mr. Meyers reported that the land along the trail has been remediated but the DEQ has not signed off on it yet. He will check to see if it will be usable for a nature walk on September 24 during our Fall River Day. There was a Water Street announcement today and within it was announced that the developers will have to keep open the trail during construction. On Monday there will be a public hearing and on Tuesday the architects will present to the City Council.
- d. **Commission Sponsored Events-** Fall River Day is September 24th. Volunteers are still needed. Stan from DPW will get one portable restroom and pay for it. Lots of activities are planned. Still working out the take out spot for the kayaks. Cider and donuts has not been secured. We will have a limited amount of yard signs to put out to advertise and to draw people to the park. Mr. Meyers will put out a press release and place on the city webpage.
- e. **Recreation Programming**
 - i. Ann Arbor YMCA Partnership-Summer Park Fitness is at the end. This Saturday is the last event. Zumba in Riverside Park at 10am.
 - ii. EMU Partnerships-nothing
- f. **Parkridge Park Soccer Field** the gentleman who brought the idea has not done any follow up.
- g. **Heritage Festival Park Projects-**Still looking for a project to do with the funds. The Rotary is turning 100 this year and was thinking of planting 100 trees.
- h. **Facebook** Keep posting activities

- i. **Other Old Business-** Watershed Council will be putting up three signs in Frog Island to indicate it is a take out and put in area. Signs are the size of a parking sign.

6. New Business

- a. **New Meeting location** We could not vote on it tonight but the new location will be the Senior Center. We have out grown the library.
- b. **Eagle Scout Project at Peninsular Park** discussed above. Commissioners are in favor of the step project as long as there is professional oversight for the rebuild.
- c. **Washtenaw County Sheriff Youth Work Program** No date confirmed when they will work at Peninsular Park likely October.
- d. **EMU Student Commission Member(s).** New program at EMU that focuses on nonprofit leadership alliance. It is a pilot program. Students will work for one school year and have to have to attend meetings and work on a project of their own.
- e. **Frog Island Mural** has been cleaned up
- f. **YCS Open House**-September 19th Commissioner Sweet is thinking of going to advertise the Fall River Days and see if there could be student recruitment for the board.
- g. **Peninsular Park Dam Removal**-MDEQ Commissioner Sweet, Anne Brown and Elizabeth Riggs met. There is ongoing concern regarding leaving or removing the dam. Mr. Meyers said that it is in the hands of the City Manager.
- h. **mParks New Professionals Volunteer Project**-Spring. Looking for a Spring project. May end up partnering during Ypsilanti Proud with around 25 people.
- i. **mParks Annual Awards** mParks is accepting nominations for the Spring awards. Commissioner Sweet will email out information.

7. Partner Updates

- a. **Ypsilanti Trail Town**-Representatives will come to one of our meetings either October or November. They will present their strategic plan.

8. Other Business

- a. Kiwanis is interested in helping with projects. Possibly supporting the Skate park or Riverside playground
- b. Playground update-Commissioner Barrie reported it will need to go through an ADA compliance design. Then they will have to bring it to a public hearing. Probably won't crowd source unless it is for a small item like a swing. It will not be located at the sledding hill. It will need to go through an environmental review. It was not a grant that was awarded but an allocation from the Community Block Grants.

9. Commissioner Comments/Announcements

- 10. Adjournment 8:12** Motion of adjournment by Commissioner Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann. Next meeting Oct. 10 at the Ypsilanti Senior Center, 1015 N. Congress St, Ypsilanti MI, 48197