



Parks & Recreation

City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: December 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 7:06pm, December 12, 2017 at Ypsilanti Senior Center, 1015 N. Congress St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Commissioners in attendance were Evan Sweet, Ashanti Harris, Ben Barrie, Kurt Kohlmann, Amanda Marshall and Cathy Thorburn. Also present were Joe Meyer, City of Ypsilanti Commission Liaison and EMU Board Fellows, Cristina Neil and Sierra Sharpe. Commissioners absent : Conan Malmer, Delois Wilson and Linda Horne.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was moved for approval by Commissioner Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann. Passed
3. **Minutes:** Minutes were moved for approval by Commissioner Harris and seconded by Commissioner Barrie. Passed
4. **Introductions:** None
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. Adopt-A-Park Updates
 - i. Candy Cane- College Heights Neighborhood-on hold until Spring.
 - ii. Peninsular Park- meeting of the friends group tomorrow evening. Commissioner Sweet will send information on the location of the meeting by email, tomorrow.
 - iii. Frog Island- Bronze Beauties. On hold until Spring. Commissioner Thorburn ask Mr. Meyers if there was anymore information related to the garden on Frog Island. Mr. Meyers said that DPS did deny the application but Mr. Meyers could not speak on the details of the denial.
 - b. Friends Group Updates
 - i. Rutherford Pool Commissioner Thorburn shared information from the Friends group regarding the bath house renovation. The Friends group is looking for support from the Commission for the purpose of moving forward with a grant application and support from the City. Commissioner Thorburn answered questions to the best of her ability and said she would email answers to

other questions. Commissioner Sweet and Mr. Meyers will look through the master plan for mention of the pool. Mr. Meyers stated that an amendment will likely need to be made. The amendment will require two public hearings and going before City council. Mr. Meyers stated that he would work on the public hearings. Commissioner Barrie moved and Commissioner Harris moved to support the proposed plan as stated. Motion Passed.

- ii. Senior Center - Commissioner Sweet stated that John Weiss came to Senior Center Board Meeting to talk about how to set up the formal Friends group. The YMCA was attempting to start a yoga class but the timing does not work for the Senior Center as it is use at the time desired.
- iii. Ypsi Baseball Project= no formal report but Commissioner Thorburn believes that they have torn down the old shed, built a new one and possibly updated some electrical in Recreation Park
- c. City of Ypsilanti Updates- Mr. Meyers reported that the Water Street Trail still has not had its approval by the MDEQ. Mr. Meyers is also looking for the June minutes. Commissioner Sweet will locate those as Commissioner Thorburn was not the minute keeper that evening.
- d. Recreation Programming-
 - i. Ann Arbor YMCA Partnership- Summer Park Fitness- Commissioner Sweet will meet with Colette Hemker regarding summer planning. More information needs to be dispersed sooner and to a wider audience.
 - ii. EMU Partnership- Hesitant as they do not have funding sources. May find a way two do events in the parks.
- e. Trail Town Plan- Brochure is in process. Editing is taking place. Commissioner Sweet will send out a copy when done.
- f. New Commissioner Packet- Commissioners discussed the packet at length. It was suggested by Mr. Meyers that the number of committees should be reduced/combined. It was explained that the secret ballot for election should only be needed if there are more than two people vying for a position. There is still time to take suggestions.
- g. Detroit Red Wings Partnerships – several Detroit sports teams and the Detroit Zoo offer discounted tickets for certain events with \$4 of sales going to City of Ypsilanti Parks and \$1 going to the Michigan Recreation & Park Association (mParks). Mr. Meyers and Commissioner Sweet will work on getting the advertising out to web sites and social media.

- h. By-Laws & Committees- By-Laws were discussed at length. It is common for boards to have an outside person to take minutes and not the secretary. There are absence rules added in where we have not had them before. The quorum number needed to be changed from 4 to 5. It was moved by Commissioner Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Marshall to adopt the By-Laws with the changes made. Motion Passed.
 - i. 2018 Meeting Schedule It will remain on the second Tuesday of the month, 7pm at the Senior Center at 1015 N. Congress St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197. There are no holiday or conflicts with the Senior Center. Commissioner Thorburn moved and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann for acceptance. Motion Passed
 - j. Old Business- None
- 6. New Business
 - a. Free Fishing Weekend Event – Commissioner Sweet reported that the DNR offers two dates one in February and one in June. Commissioner Sweet proposes that we use bamboo poles and he may have a line on them. He believes that we could run it with little cost and support from the Huron River Watershed Council.
 - b. mParks Green Gift Award- Commissioners did not have any suggestions for this award.
 - c. mParks Conference – The 2018 conference is on February 7 and 8. It will be held in Detroit. Mr. Meyers does not believe that any one from the City will be going due to cost and time. Commissioner Marshall is interested in attending.
- 7. Partner Updates
 - a. Ypsilanti Trail Town - Already discussed
- 8. Other Business

Former Commissioner Brown had sent a flyer on Change Makers Boot Camp. Information on how to influence your community's clean water policies.
- 9. Commissioner Comments/Announcements Commissioner Marshall has an interest in getting recycle bins in all the parks. Mr. Meyers stated that we would have to secure a commitment from DPS to pick up the recycling bins. Mr. Meyers would like to speak more about this next meeting.

Commissioner Sweet submitted a plan for volunteer workday in the Ypsilanti park system as part of the New Professionals Focus Group with mParks.
- 10. Adjournment It was moved by Commissioner Kohlmann and seconded by Commissioner Barrie to adjourn at 9pm. Motion Passed

NEXT MEETING January 9, 2018 7pm Ypsilanti Senior Center 1015 N. Congress St. Ypsilanti, MI 48917