



Parks & Recreation

City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 10, 2020

Time: 6:30pm.

Location: Meeting was held via Zoom due to the COVID 19 closure. It was recorded and hosted by the City of Ypsilanti Staff Bonnie Wessler. The meeting was held 30 minutes earlier due to a scheduling conflict of Bonnie's.

1. **Call to Order** Commissioner Sweet called the meeting to order at 6:36pm
2. **Roll Call** Introductions of Commissioners present were, Evan Sweet, Cathy Thorburn, Ben Connor-Barrie, Dillion Navarre, Cherisa Allen and Julia Collins were all present. Commissioners Kurt Kohlmann and Amanda Marshall were absent. Bonnie Wessler from the City was present
3. **Approval of Agenda**- Agenda was moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the agenda. Roll call vote, Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –September 15, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Navarre and Commissioner Allen seconded approval. Roll call vote, Passed. There were no minutes from October due to the COVID 19 meeting closure.
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & None**
6. **Old Business** None
7. **Friends Group Updates**
 - i. **Rutherford Pool** Commissioner Thorburn reported. FORP Board is sent a letter out to members and supportive pool people. We have raised around \$3,000. The POD has been emptied. The front counter has been lowered to ADA standards.
 - ii. **Senior Center**- Commissioner Sweet reported. Meals have continued to be made. One meal a week has to be hot. \$300 was raised by an artist in Normal Park for the Center. EMU continues to engage Seniors through programs and classes.
8. **City of Ypsilanti Updates** Ms Wessler reported on a Frog Island park River Access Grant. It will make it more open and accessible to all. Improve the kayak and parking access. Make it more ADA from the parking area in Depot Town. It would rework the market plaza area. We will have to amend the parks and recreation plan and then conduct public hearings. The Parks Commission show support for the plan. Parkridge has been started. Candy Cane park is complete. B2B Trail is wrapping up the Grove Rd. segment. The I94 bridge area will be done next year. Frog Island is wrapping up for the Fall. There has been a retaining wall with bleachers built. Parkridge playground is partially installed. Part of the

sign at the playground in Riverside park will need to be replaced do to graffiti that can't be removed. Evan will follow up on a ribbon cutting ceremony for Candy Cane Park. Ms. Wessler thinks one is in the works for Parkridge Park.

9. New Business

A. Annual Report- The Annual Report was voted on for adoption. Commissioner Connor-Barrie nominated adoption and seconded by Navarre. Roll Call vote approved. Commissioner Sweet will provide links for publication.

B. mParks Awards-Commissioner Sweet has proposed the following Pool for Facility Design. Commissioner Thorburn will get information to Commissioner Sweet.

2019 Annual Report- Graphic Design

Parks Leadership Award-Christopher Jacobs for his work last year.

C. Youth Soccer Program-Jaimie from AFC Ann Arbor Soccer is looking for other sites to use. Free or reduced. Commissioner Sweet is checking with the Y so that programs do not compete.

10. Other Business-

A. Commissioner Navarre is in contact with a company that makes communication boards for kids with autism speech issues. These boards would go around park play areas. He will see if they are able to with stand weather or need a special coating.

B. Julia Collins one of her running group members has not received their mParks run swag. Commissioner Sweet will check into it. We did not raise enough money for the historical marker. Only raised about \$300 of \$1200.

11. Commissioner Comments/Announcements

Commissioner Connor-Barrie took his young son to Riverside Park and had fun

12. Adjournment 7:38pm. Adjournment moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Allen

Next Meeting: December 8, 2020 Will still be under COVID 19 restriction so it will be via Zoom.