



Parks & Recreation

City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 13, 2021

Time: 7pm.

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.

1. **Call to Order** Commissioner Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.
2. **Roll Call** Introductions of Commissioners with new procedure of location and county of person while on Zoom meeting. Present were Evan Sweet (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Cathy Thorburn (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Ben Connor-Barrie (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Kurt Kohlmann (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Julia Collins, (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County and Dillion Navarre (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County. Bonnie Wessler from the City was present along with City Council member Steve Wilcoxon.
3. **Approval of Agenda**- It was moved by Commissioner Navarre and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann to approve the amended agenda. Roll call vote, Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –August 10, 2021, minutes. Commissioner Kohlmann and Commissioner Navarre seconded approval. Roll call vote, Passed There was not a meeting in September
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations** –
 - a. Shayla Ferrell a senior at EMU In the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority. The sorority would like to build a Little Library box in either Frog Island and/orRiverside Park as a service project that will hope to increase literacy rates. Pros/cons were discussed. She was directed to submit an adopt a park application and DPS will review.
6. **City of Ypsilanti Updates.**

Mr. Wilcoxon reported on a grant proposal that Huron River Watershed Council is applying for to remove invasive species in Peninsula Park as part of the prep for removing the dam. Commission members voted and gave our support to pursue the grant. Commissioner Connor-Barrie moved, and Commissioner Collins seconded the support of letter. Roll call vote. Passed. There have been focused meetings regarding the dam removal. Landowners have had many questions and concerns. The public meeting was postponed. The townhall meeting will be held after more information is gathered. Ms Wessler reported that Parkridge basketball court has been worked on and is almost done. DPS has hired an employee as the lead to the Parks

maintenance. Street repairs are wrapping up. Weather has been a hold up. New, larger trash bins have been purchased for the parks. The Black Lives Matter project that was vandalized was cleaned up by DPS and will be retouched this weekend by volunteers. An anti-graffiti paint layer will be added.

7. Friends Group Updates

- i. Rutherford Pool** -Pool is closed. Contractor that put the floor coating on is coming back to re do the floor as there are stains and concrete patches that are not smooth. Soil will be spread this Saturday to level out low areas.
- ii. Senior Center**- December starts the 60th anniversary. There will be a yearlong celebration. Hopefully in the Spring will be an in-person event. Interns from EMU and UM are gathering information for grants. Not too many rentals at this point.

8. New Business

- A. Huron River Day** has been cancelled due to no canoe vendors.
- B. Mparks Awards** The award ceremony has been cancelled due to low registration. We will ask that the following be recognized at the November City Council meeting: Pete Murdock, Bob Krzewinski, Kiwanis and Friends of Rutherford Pool as recipients of 2020 and 2021 awards.
- C. Luna Lake Workday**- Commissioner Connor-Barrie will help lead the clean-up. Planning a workday on October 23
- D. City website update** Commissioner Sweet up dated the website and made it more user friendly.

9. Other Business/Commissioner Comments/Announcements

Commissioner Kohlmann mentioned the door to the gaga pit in Prospect Park has been replaced.

10. Adjournment 8:09

Next Meeting: November 9, 2021 If we are still under COVID 19 restriction it will be held via Zoom.

