



Parks & Recreation

City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 09, 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 7:03 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), Dillion Navarre (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County and Brian Merlos (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County). Bonnie Wessler from the City was present along with City Council member Steve Wilcoxon. Commissioner Julia Collins was absent
3. **Approval of Agenda**- It was moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Merlos to approve the amended agenda. Roll call vote, Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –October 13, 2021, minutes. Commissioner Kohlmann and Commissioner Connor-Barrie seconded approval. Roll call vote, Passed Commissioner Merlos abstained as he was not present
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations** – Introduction of new commissioner-Brian Merlos
6. **City of Ypsilanti Updates.**

Ms. Wessler reported that the work on the Parkridge basketball court was completed. Part of the surface did not adhere correctly and will be repaired in the Spring.

Mr. Wilcoxon reported that a meeting was held with a representative from the HRWS council, himself, Senator Irwin and lobbyist Kirk Profit regarding Penn Dam removal. It will likely be 1 and ½ years before the project is started. Working on securing funds. People need to have an idea about what the park will look like after the dam is removed. He is looking for someone to help complete mock ups
7. **Friends Group Updates**
 - i. **Rutherford Pool** -Pool bathhouse floor has been resurfaced and the pool has been winterized.

ii. Senior Center- Sunday was the quilt raffle. It raised a few thousand dollars. Small scale rentals and programs are being held. The 60th anniversary of the center is December. There will be a drive through celebration and a box of goodies handed out.

8. Old Business

a. Pen Park Invasive Species Grant Proposal Support Letter -the letter of support was sent. Ms. Wessler created the letter for us.

b. mParks Community Service Awards-A date still has not been set to honor those recipients. Commissioner Sweet will follow up with City staff to help schedule a date.

9. New Business

a. mParks Annual Awards-Commissioners should think of nominations for a staff member, printed material or facility design.

10. Other Business/Commissioner Comments/Announcements

Commissioner Sweet shared that he had not heard from the sorority that wanted to put little libraries in the park. The Honor's College at EMU worked at cleaning up some parks but it was unsure which ones they did.

11. Adjournment 7:30 Moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann

Next Meeting: December 14, 2021 If we are still under COVID 19 restriction it will be held via Zoom.