1. Parks And Recreation Commission July Agenda

    Documents:

        2022-07 PRC STAFF AGENDA.PDF

2. Parks And Recreation Commission June Draft Minutes

    Documents:

        2022-06 PRC DRAFT MINUTES.PDF

3. PRC Special Events Background Presentation

    Documents:

        2022-07 PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING AND FACILITIES UPDATE.PDF

3.I. PRC Special Events Policy Update RFL

    Documents:

        2022-07 SPECIAL EVENTS POLICY UPDATE RFL.PDF

Agenda
Parks and Recreation Commission
Monday, 18 July 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
City Hall – Council Chambers, 1 S Huron St
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81159944412

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Dillon Navarre, Vice Chair	P	A
Cathy Thorburn, Secretary	P	A
Ben Connor-Barrie	P	A
Tarik Fermin	P	A
Blake Harrity	P	A
Lola Malmer	P	A
Brian Merlos	P	A

III. Approval of Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes
- June 20, 2022

V. Audience Participation
Open for general public comment. Please limit to five minutes.

VI. Presentations

VII. Old Business
- Fall River Day updates

VIII. New Business
- Elections
- Special Events Update & Ordinance Change Recommendations (Christopher Jacobs)

IX. City of Ypsilanti Updates

X. Facility Partner Updates
- Rutherford Pool
- Senior Center
- Parkridge Community Center

XI. Future Business Discussion / Updates & Announcements

XII. Adjournment

Meeting
Date: June 20, 2022
Time: 7pm.
Location: Meeting was held at the Council chambers in City Hall at 1 S. Huron Ypsilanti, Mi 48197. 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** Present were Evan Sweet, Cathy Thorburn, Dillon Navarre, Brian Merlos and Ben Connor-Barrie .Absent was Julia Collins. City of Ypsilanti employee Bonnie Wessler, along with City Council member Steve Wilcoxen.
3. **Approval of Agenda**- It was moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Merlos to approve the agenda. Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** – May 16, 2022, minutes. Moved for approval by Commissioner Navarre and Commissioner Merlos seconded approval. Passed
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations –** None
6. **City of Ypsilanti Updates.**
   Ms. Wessler reported that the basketball court at Parkridge will be decorated in an artistic manner by a local artist. The Juneteenth Festival went well. There has been a loss of several staff members and positions will be posted.
   Mr. Wilcoxen reported that there have been several applications for new board members and that he has interviewed a teen and a ward 3 candidate.
7. **Friends Group Updates**
   i. Rutherford Pool -Commissioner Thorburn The first full week was successful. Swim lessons are mostly filled. The Kids' Triathlon will be back on August 13th. A fundraiser will be held on August 12 to kickstart raising money for refurbishing the pool floor bottom.

8. **Old Business**
   None

9. **New Business**
   a. 2022 Officer Elections
   Chariman-Nominated Commissioner Sweet moved and seconded by Connor-Barrie and Merlos, Accepted
   Nominated Commissioner Connor-Barrie, moved and seconded by Sweet and Thorburn-Declined. Roll Call vote and Commissioner Sweet will remain Chairman
   Vice Chairman- Nominated Navarre it was moved and seconded by Sweet and Connor-Barrie, Accepted Roll Call vote and Commissioner Navarre is Vice Chair.
   Secretary-Nominated Commissioner Thorburn-moved by Connor-Barrie and seconded by Sweet. Accepted. Roll Call vote and Commissioner Thorburn remains secretary.
   b. **Fall River Day** Tentative date is September 25, 2022. A meeting is scheduled this week with HRWS council.

DRAFT

10. Other Business/Commissioner Comments/Announcements

Commissioner Thorburn reported that she emailed Ron Akers regarding cleaning the parking lot at the pool and how he would prefer it to be done.

Commissioner Merlos reported that a neighbor spoke to him regarding the lack of a sidewalk up to the pool entrance, so people do not need to walk in the parking lot. The project could possibly be added on to the project in the park if funds are ever allocated.

Commissioner Sweet said that the Senior Center needs more board members

Ms. Wessler mentioned that there is a golf outing to fundraise for Parkridge Center this weekend.

11. Adjournment 7:30 pm

Next Meeting: 7:00pm July 18, 2022 City Council chambers at 1 S. Huron St. Ypsilanti, Mi 48197

DRAFT

PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING/FACILITIES UPDATE

July 12, 2022

AGENDA

- Programming by City Facility
- Calendar of Events
- Community Event Policy
- Park System Opportunities

YPSILANTI FREIGHTHOUSE

Since the Freighthouse adopted a community events policy in August 2021 we have hosted the following free events:

- Frog Island Jazz Series (Rained Out 8/21)
- Red Cross Blood Drive (8/21)
- First Fridays (9/21)
- Ypsi Glow (10/21)
- Warming Center (11/21-3/22)
- Free Thanksgiving Community Meal (11/21)
- Depot Town Tree Lighting Ceremony (12/21)
- Holiday Markets (12/21)
- Ypsilanti Disc Golf Putting League (1/22-3/22)
- Beautifypsi (4/22)
- Spring Artisan Market (5/22)
- Really Really Free Market Series (5/22-7/22)
- Ypsi Flea Market (7/22)

YPSILANTI SENIOR CENTER

- Tai Chi class Thursday July 14 from 10:30 -11:30.

- The Ypsilanti Senior Center currently is partnering with EMU to offer an intergenerational Spanish language and culture class.

- The AAA1b (Area Aging on Aging 1b) has asked us to develop a pilot program that would help Grandparents raising grandchildren get some respite. This pilot program will help find and pay for the activities for the grandchildren so the grandparents can have some time for themselves.

- EMU has received a grant to start a program called "Lori's Hands". It is available for anyone with a chronic illness. Students from EMU will be available to visit on a weekly basis to provide some help around the house or companionship.

PARKRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER

Summer Camp Offered July – August Monday-Thursdays 8am-4pm, Friday Field Trips

After School Program Offered Mondays – Thursdays, 4pm-7pm between November 8 – June 10

Weekend Academy - Empowers young women (ages 12-18) to achieve emotional self-sufficiency and enhance their leadership skills through membership and career exploration. Offered Saturdays, 12pm-2pm

Young Men of Purpose - To increase the number of young black men in Ypsilanti Community Schools successfully persisting through middle school (grades 6 – 8) and matriculating to attend high school. February 22 – ongoing. Offered Saturdays, 10am - 2pm

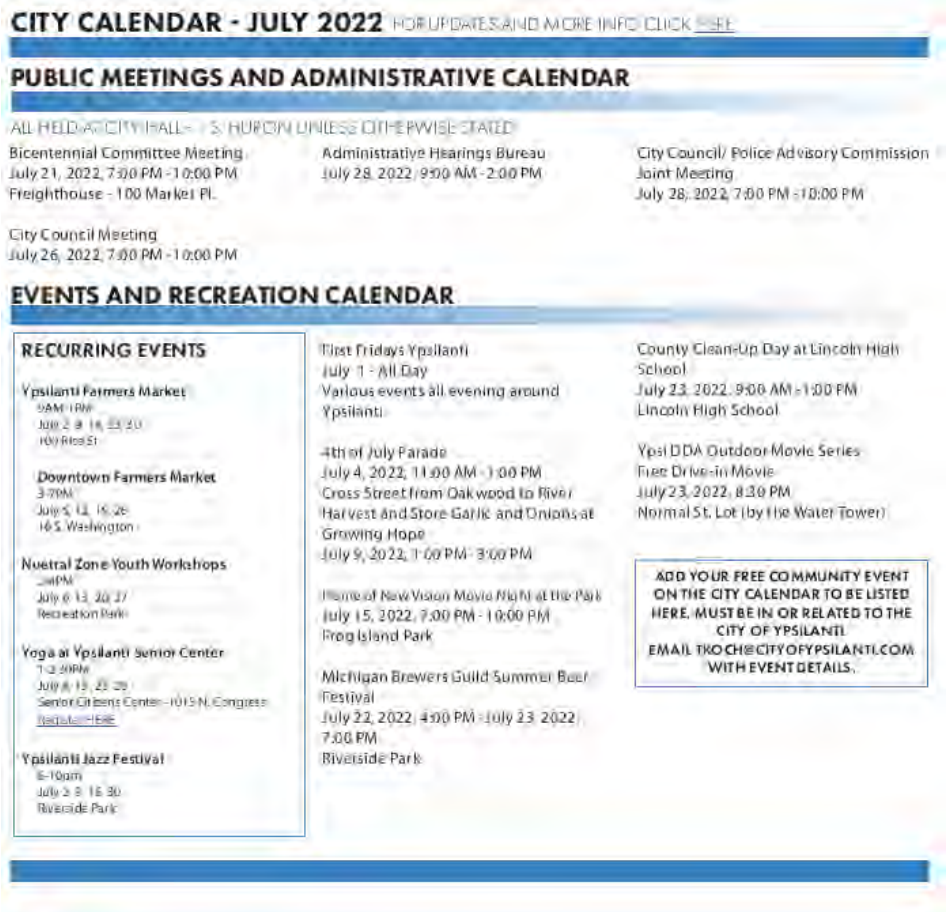
RUTHERFORD POOL

- Water exercise and swim classes offered between June-September from beginner to advanced at all ages.
- June 3 Katie Stanley Band in partnership with A2SF
- Kids Triathlon Saturday, August 13th, 2022 - 8:30 AM
- Ypsilanti Otters Swim Club
- YDL Summer Reading at the Pool
- Volunteer Opportunities

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND NEWSLETTER

City website updated with information about the park system, facility and programming partners, and special events. Programming and special events are featured prominently in the newsletter

- Downtown Farmers Market - July 12, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM,
- Avalon Housing Staff/Family Event- July 13, 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- Neutral Zone Youth Workshops - July 13, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- Yoga at Ypsilanti Senior Center- July 15, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Home of New Vision Movie Night at the Park- July 15, 7 PM - 10 PM
- Ypsilanti Jazz Festival - July 16, 6 PM - 10 PM, July 30 6 PM - 10 PM
- Michigan Brewers Summer Beer Festival- July 22, 4 PM - July 23, 7 PM
- Ypsilanti Farmers Market - July 23, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- Ypsi Vintage Flea Market– July 17 and July 31, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- DDA Movie at the Water Tower – July 28, 9:00 PM – 11:00 PM
- Really Really Free Market – July 28, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM
- Depot Town Cruise Nights - July 13, 20, 27 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Rally in the Alley - July 13, 20, 27 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM



CITY CALENDAR - JULY 2022 FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFO CLICK HERE

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR

ALL HELD AT CITY HALL - 1 S. HURON UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Bicentennial Committee Meeting
July 21, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Freighthouse - 100 Market Pl.

Administrative Hearings Bureau
July 28, 2022, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

City Council/ Police Advisory Commission Joint Meeting
July 28, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

City Council Meeting
July 26, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

EVENTS AND RECREATION CALENDAR

RECURRING EVENTS

Ypsilanti Farmers Market
9AM-1PM
July 2 9 16 23 30
100 Rice St

Downtown Farmers Market
3-7PM
July 5, 12, 19, 26
16 S. Washington

Nuetral Zone Youth Workshops
2-4PM
July 6 13, 20, 27
Recreation Park

Yoga at Ypsilanti Senior Center
1-2:30PM
July 8, 15, 22, 29
Senior Citizens Center - 1015 N. Congress
REGISTER HERE

Ypsilanti Jazz Festival
6-10pm
July 2 9 16 30
Riverside Park

First Fridays Ypsilanti
July 1 - All Day
Various events all evening around Ypsilanti

4th of July Parade
July 4, 2022, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Cross Street from Oakwood to River
Harvest and Store Garlic and Onions at Growing Hope
July 9, 2022, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Home of New Vision Movie Night at the Park
July 15, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Prog Island Park

Michigan Brewers Guild Summer Beer Festival
July 22, 2022, 4:00 PM - July 23, 2022, 7:00 PM
Riverside Park

County Clean-Up Day at Lincoln High School
July 23, 2022, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Lincoln High School

Ypsi DDA Outdoor Movie Series
Free Drive-in Movie
July 23, 2022, 8:30 PM
Normal St. Lot (by the Water Tower)

ADD YOUR FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ON THE CITY CALENDAR TO BE LISTED HERE. MUST BE IN OR RELATED TO THE CITY OF YPSILANTI.
EMAIL TKOCH@CITYOFYPSILANTI.COM WITH EVENT DETAILS.

COMMUNITY EVENTS POLICY

The City Manager has established the following criteria to waive fees at the Freighthouse so to encourage community event programming:

1. The event is completely open and free to members of the public; an entry fee may not be charged under any circumstances.

2. If vendors can sell goods, the cost to participate may not be prohibitive. Priority must be given first to City of Ypsilanti residents and businesses. All opportunities to serve as a vendor must be advertised sufficiently in promotional materials and on the City website. The maximum rate at which vendors may be charged is $10 per hour and a financial report must be provided to the City proving what funds were raised and for what purpose specifically from vendor fees collected.

3. A public event shall not engage in hateful or derogatory speech including symbols of racism, homophobia, or violence. Weapons shall not be sold by vendors or any merchandise or goods which depicts these symbols of hate.

4. Religious Services are not eligible community events under this policy.

PARK SYSTEM OPPORTUNITIES

- Recently, City Council has directed staff to develop more community programming in the parks system and promote the events happening around the city with our community partners. This directive requires staff to consider how a community event policy could be applied in our parks system to better meet the goals of Council.

- If this policy is adopted and one of our community partners or a member of the public wishes for the City to promote their public event and it complies with our policy, the City Manager may choose to waive fees in the park system or City Facility, and we will share the event on social media and send out a newsflash on the City website.

- In lieu of a Parks and Rec Department this policy is the single best way to identify potential programming gaps (ex: live music, children's activities; particular time periods) and solicit existing partners to help fill them.

QUESTIONS?

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION
06/21/2022

For: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Christopher Jacobs, Community Development Manager

Subject: Special Events Policy Update

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND:

The Freighthouse adopted a community events policy in August 2021. Since the policy was adopted, we have hosted blood drives, COVID-19 vaccination pop ups, a free thanksgiving community meal, the depot town tree lighting ceremony, the Frog Island Jazz Series, Ypsi Glow, a ten-week disc golf putting league, First Fridays, a resident organized holiday market, a city staff holiday party, and the daytime warming center between November and March. This policy has simplified the process for residents and organizers to hold public meetings and community events at the Freighthouse, especially compared to the hardship fee waiver policy we use in the parks system where each decision must be taken to City Council.

As we consider the best use of our limited financial resources in lieu of a parks and recreation department that can internally develop community programming, the free use of our parks system and city facilities becomes one of the most effective tools we have at our disposal to encourage such programming with external partners.

The City Manager has established the following criteria to waive fees at the Freighthouse so to encourage community event programming:

1. The event is completely open and free to members of the public, an entry fee may not be charged under any circumstances.

2. If vendors can sell goods, the cost to participate may not be prohibitive. Priority must be given first to City of Ypsilanti residents and businesses. All opportunities to serve as a vendor must be advertised sufficiently in promotional materials and on the City website. The maximum rate at which vendors may be charged is $10 per hour and a financial report must be provided to the City proving what funds were raised and for what purpose specifically from vendor fees collected.

3. A public event shall not engage in hateful or derogatory speech including symbols of racism, homophobia, or violence. Weapons shall not be sold by vendors or any merchandise or goods which depicts these symbols of hate.

4. Religious Services are not eligible community events under this policy.

Recently, City Council has directed staff to develop more community programming in the parks system and promote the events happening around the city with our community partners. This directive requires staff to consider how this important community event policy could be applied in our parks system to better meet this directive. If this policy is adopted and one of our community partners or a member of the public wishes for the City to promote their public event and it complies with our policy, the City Manager may choose to waive fees in the park system or City Facility, and we will share the event on social media and send out a newsflash on the City website.

If one or more of the criteria is not met per the policy, the event will still be listed in a central calendar on the Parks and Recreation Division page of the city website but the parks system or city facility will not be made free of charge. Moving forward, City Staff will seek to proactively develop additional community programming with our community partners and identify gaps in the calendar and types of events offered to ensure members of the community are informed and provided the opportunity to participate as attendees or organizers.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

ATTACHMENTS:

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: _____COUNCIL AGENDA DATE: _____

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: _____

FISCAL SERVICES DIRECTOR APPROVAL: _____

Resolution No. -
07/18/2022

RESOLVED BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the City wishes to encourage community event programming in our parks system and city facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City does not have a Parks and Recreation Department dedicated to developing such community event programming internally; and

WHEREAS, a community events policy has been successful in utilizing the Freighthouse for free community event programming developed by external partners; and

WHEREAS, the hardship fee waiver process has not been effective for reviewing these requests over the last several years; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks and Recreation Commission recommends amending the Special Events Policy section 1.3c to allow the City Manager to waive fees in the park system that comply with the community events policy.

OFFERED BY: _____

SUPPORTED BY: _____

YES: NO: ABSENT: VOTE: