



# City of Ypsilanti

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### Parks & Recreation

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#### Meeting Minutes

Date: February 12, 2019

Time: 7:00pm.

Location: Ypsilanti Senior Center, 1015 N. Congress St. Ypsilanti, MI. 48197

1. **Call to Order** Commissioner Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:09pm
2. **Roll Call** Commissioners present were, Evan Sweet, Cathy Thorburn, Kurt Kohlmann, Amanda Marshall, Ben Connor-Barrie, and City Staff Representative Chris Jacobs the Community Development Manager. Ashanti Harris called in sick.
3. **Approval of Agenda-** Moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann to amend the Agenda to include discussion and voting on Resolution 2019-1 to New Business A. Passed. New agenda adopted and passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –January 8, 2019 Commissioner Kohlmann moved and Commissioner Connor-Barrie seconded approval. Passed
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations** None
6. **Old Business**
  - a. **Adopt A Park Updates** Commissioner Connor-Barrie reported that there has not been a lot of movement at this time of the year with Adopt A Park applications. Commissioner Sweet asked if he would be able to work on a creating a less lengthy/complicated application. Commissioner Connor-Barrie will report back in March on what he has accomplished.
  - b. **Friends Group Updates**
    - i. **Rutherford Pool-** Half way through with the Patronicity Grant. Have raised about half the money. Phone calls will be made on February 23 to prospective donors. City has committed \$25,000. Planning for programming has started. Commissioner Thorburn will send information to Commissioner Sweet regarding dates that can be sent out through media sources.
    - ii. **Senior Center-**Still working on the 5013c application. Need to develop a MOU with the City. Board president has resigned. Haab's Fundraiser-eat at Haab's and they will donate 10% to Center. New chairs with arms and more tables have been ordered. Rental fee did go up to

\$62. Events coming up later are the Senior Health Month and Corn Roast.

- c. **City Updates-** Master Plan for the parks will need to get underway. City Council has spent most of their time on goal setting and budget development. There has been a large staff turnover in the City. Mayor asked Commissioner Sweet at a meeting what is our opinion on the mural at Frog Island. It has been vandalized numerous times and the protective coating is in need of replacement. It may cost \$1,000. We are not sure if that is just the coating or touching up of mural. Discussion occurred around whether the mural should be replaced with something more representative of our community. There had been some negative comments to regarding the mural when it first was revealed. May be something for the mayor's Arts Council. We need more information.
- d. **Commission Committee Updates:** Commissioner Sweet reported on the following:
  - \*Washtenaw County Parks runs a free summer park program and is interested in running one in Ypsilanti. Prospect, Recreation and Parkridge would be parks that would be usable.
  - \*Summer Park Fitness through the YMCA has not been able to be set up at this time.
  - \* CPR and First Aid class through YMCA interest in having Ypsilanti host. Cost is usually \$65-break even would be \$50. Senior Center or Parkridge would be options.
  - \* Park History Tour-Commissioner Sweet met with Bill Nicholas of the Historical Society. The Society is interested.
  - \* Movie in the Park-Commissioner Sweet spoke with Ann Arbor to see how they run theirs.
- e. **Other Old Business-** Commissioner Marshall brought up the Resolution she drafted. Chris Jacobs would like a copy of it as he is looking into other recycling issues in the city.

## 7. New Business

- a. **Resolution 2019-1** Drafted by Ms. Wessler of the city regarding the attendance of Commissioners and the fact that Commissioners Wilson and Voelker have missed more than the allotted meetings. Moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Marshall to approve. Passed.
- b. **Annual Report** A prototype of the Annual Report was looked over by the Commissioners. All approved of the design.
- c. **2019 Goals Updates** Most were mentioned above under Updates. Commissioner Harris is looking into a concert series on Wednesdays in Frog Island. There is power but is there money to support the artists? Should it be part of First Fridays?

Geocaching  
Parks Recognition Program

- d. **Youth Rugby**-Legacy Program from Brighton (Local resident connection) would like to offer youth K-8<sup>th</sup> programming during April, July and August. cost. Monday in Frog Island and Wednesdays in Parkridge. Pricing and promoting still need to be worked out.
  - e. **mParks Community Service Awards**- Five groups were nominated  
Friends of Rutherford Pool, YIES PTO for the gaga pit, Conan Malmer and the Little League, Liz Dahl Playground, and St. Luke's Church. Discussion occurred and we decided that Liz is already honored, the Pool and Little League will be around next year and perhaps will be the nominees then. It was decided that Commissioner Sweet recommend the YIES PTO and Church for their volunteer hours.
  - f. **mPark Ticket Programs**. The following sprogram will donate a portion of ticket sales to Ypsilanti Parks and to mPark. There will be different discounts with each program. Red Wing Hockey, Detroit Zoo, Cedar Point and Michigan Adventure. Also, in September there will be another virtual 5k. \$30 to register with half going to parks.
8. **Other Business**-Commissioner Marshall spoke about the invasive plants in Frog Island around the Border to Border trail and river edge. She will work with Chris Jacobs, and other entities to see if the buckthorn can be removed, bank shored up and replanted with native species. Skatepark is going into Ypsilanti Township as there were not any viable spots in Ypsilanti. Located across from Township Recreation Center on Clark Road. They will keep us in the loop regarding their progress.
9. **Commissioner Comments/Announcements**-None
10. **Adjournment** Commissioner Kohlmann and Commissioner Marshall moved for adjournment at 8:48pm. Passed

**Next Meeting:** March 12, 2019 at Senior Center 7pm