



City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Parks & Recreation

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 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 7:04pm
2. **Roll Call** Commissioners present were, Evan Sweet, Cathy Thorburn, Kurt Kohlmann, Amanda Marshall, Ben Connor-Barrie, Ashanti Harris and City Staff Representative Chris Jacobs the Community Development Manager. Commissioner Allen was excused.
3. **Approval of Agenda-** Moved by Commissioner Marshall and seconded by Commissioner Connor-Barrie to approve the agenda. Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –February 12, 2019 Commissioner Connor-Barrie moved and Commissioner Harris seconded approval. Passed
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations** Michelle Shankwiler from the Frog Island Adopt A Park was present. She inquired whether she could get an agreement between the City and Frog Island group to move forward with corrects as she believed that they would not approve a new Adopt A Park form. Commissioner Connor-Barrie will sit down with her and develop a plan to take to the City.
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 Connor-Barrie will begin work on the application, soon.
 - b. **Friends Group Updates**
 - i. **Rutherford Pool-** The Pool was able to raise more than the \$50,000 match. \$74, 375 was raised. The FORP Board will now hire an architect to begin plans. Work will begin this Fall if possible.
 - 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 on March 24th Adrienne Meyer is the new President. Looking to have an intergeneration program with the Girl Scout Heart of Michigan. Meet the

needs of the elderly and young. Ollie Life Long Institute will have two drop-in sessions on March 18 and 25th different topics will be covered.

c. City Updates- City Manager has retired and Frances McMullen will be the Interim Director. There should be no interruptions with any of our plans. The Border-to-Border Trail is in the process of finalizing paperwork and looking to construct this year.

d. Commission Committee Updates: None

e. Programming

a. Youth Rugby League Share out the information. Dates are set.

b. Community CPR Program-Share out the information
Fall River Day Daniel Brown from the Huron Watershed Council joined the committee. Set for September 22. Will River Up continue to fund it? Costs less than \$4,000 for food, flyers, rentals and supplementing the kayak rentals. Other donors?

f. mParks Community Service Award Commissioner Sweet sent out the proposed nominees applications-no edits were suggested so he will submit.

g. Other Old Business-Michelle Shankwiler suggested that the Frog Island group might be able to help with the buckthorn removal. Commissioner Marshall will contact her. She also wondered if anyone knew if the parking lot was going to expand near the garden area. Commissioner Sweet reported on the Frog Island Mural info gained from the Dan at the HRWS council that it will cost around \$1,000 to repaint the graffiti protection. Open to options.

Washtenaw County Playground Program can't expand the program and need to focus on the sites they have. They are open to ideas.

Skate Park update A name has not been selected, yet.

Working on selecting contractors. Amenity upgrades and landscaping needs will have to be worked out with the Township.

7. New Business

a. Outdoor Fitness Program with Ann Arbor YMCA High registration rate but low turnout. Could childcare help? Inconsistency with classes and parks? Too much time between sessions? The YMCA would like to offer a lot more classes. June through September. Should we offer weekday or weekend hours? Perhaps simpler classes that don't need equipment. Increase advertising. The YMCA may offer Y on the Fly during the adult classes. It is a drop in, mobile unit that goes to neighborhoods and bus stops.

b. Park History Tours Commissioner Sweet met with the Historical Society. They are happy to provide information. May be able to send a member to lead the historic part and a commissioner to speak on the current park. We will start with Riverside Park. Local historian, Matt Seigfried is not available to help on this event but maybe the Fall River Day.

c. St. Clare's Episcopal Church Ann Arbor Service Project

Would like to do a service project on May 5. May have 20 volunteers.

d. Community Clean Up Day- Name for a year will be Ypsilanti Clean Up Day. The Chamber does not have enough manpower to run a large scale project anymore. Reinvent, listen to community members, look for community money to back it. Idea is to be able to select sites that can be completed in a day. Seven sites are proposed: Recreation Park, Prospect Park, Downtown, Depot Town, Riverside/Frog Island, Parkridge and West Willow. The Township has not sent representation in the past few years. Next meeting is March 31 at 4pm at Cultivate Coffee

e. Tree Planting Project Commissioner Sweet will reach out to find more info. Thought is that there could be trees replaced downtown where there has been loss.

8. Other Business When will the gate to Riverside Park be opened back up? When will Porta-potties be brought back into the parks? The YMCA is working with the Community Foundation of South East Michigan and the Wilson Foundation to run a sports rental program in areas. Sites would have sports equipment to rent out. Sites have not been identified, yet.

9. Commissioner Comments/Announcements-None

10. Adjournment Commissioner Kohlmann and Commissioner Connor-Barrie moved for adjournment at 8:17pm. Passed

Next Meeting: April 9, 2019 at Senior Center 7pm