



City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Parks & Recreation

April 14th, 2021, City of Ypsilanti Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes
Recorded by Ben Connor Barrie

1. Call To Order
 - a. At 7:09
2. Roll Call
 - a. Commissioner Connor-Barrie **P**__,**A**__. From Ypsilanti City
 - b. Commissioner Collins **P**__,**A**__. From Ypsilanti City
 - c. Commissioner Sweet **P**__,**A**__. From Ypsilanti City
 - d. Commissioner Thorburn **P**__,**A**__. From Scio TWP
 - e. Commissioner Allen **P**__,**A**__.
 - f. Commissioner Kohlmann **P**__,**A**__. From Ypsilanti City
 - g. Commissioner Navarre **P**__,**A**__. (Joined at 7:24), From Ypsilanti City
3. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion by Kohlman, 2nd Thorburn
 - i. Commissioner Connor-Barrie **Yes**
 - ii. Commissioner Collins **Yes**
 - iii. Commissioner Sweet **Yes**
 - iv. Commissioner Thorburn **Yes**.
 - v. Commissioner Allen ----
 - vi. Commissioner Kohlmann **Yes**
 - vii. Commissioner Navarre ----

1. Motion Carries
4. Approval of the Minutes – March 9, 2021
 - a. Motion by Kohlman, 2nd Collins
 - i. Commissioner Connor-Barrie **Yes**
 - ii. Commissioner Collins **Yes**
 - iii. Commissioner Sweet **Yes**
 - iv. Commissioner Thorburn **Yes**.
 - v. Commissioner Allen ----
 - vi. Commissioner Kohlmann **Yes**
 - vii. Commissioner Navarre ----

1. Motion Carries
5. Introductions / Public Comment & Presentations –

- a. Patrick Quinn – Pickleball Court in Candy Cane Park
 - i. Kristen Mowrey, from City of Ypsilanti. Interested in what the plan is for Peninsular Park, specifically the plan for reconstruction after the dam is removed.
 - 1. Commissioner Sweet says best option is to talk to CM Wilcoxon. At this point no concrete plan.
 - 2. Bonnie says that there is a part of the Parks and Rec. Master Plan covers the future of Peninsular Park. There is a subcommission meeting about planning what the park will look like in the future. Specifically restoration angle. Would like Ms. Mowrey's contact if she is interested in participating.
 - 3. CM Wilcoxon says the committee is looking at habitat restoration mostly, not so much the park, per se. It would be good to have a park specific meeting and plans for that.
 - 4. Commissioner Thorburn says it's hard to plan what the future of the park will look like without knowing what it will look like without the dam being removed.
 - 5. CM Wilcoxon will give a presentation at the next Parks and Rec Commission meeting about Pen Park Plans.
- 6. Friends Group Updates
 - a. Rutherford Pool
 - b. Senior Center
 - i. Commissioner Sweet: We are working on the reopening plan. Reopening date not established yet. Lots of interest from seniors. Maybe May or June with indoor or outdoor activities. Maybe in stages. Also, the county is pushing return to meal distribution, with reasonable precautions.
- 7. City of Ypsilanti Updates
 - a. Bonnie: Ron worked with Little League to move plans to install new scoreboard forward. He formalized the relationship between the city and Little League a little better. Almost complete survey for trail visibility for Rec Park.
 - b. CM Wilcoxon: Ron is going to reroute trash trucks so they will stop getting stuck in the springtime.
- 8. New Business
 - a. Adopt-A-Park Application Update – Riverside Park – EMU Honors College
 - i. CM Sweet: Ron from DPS had a conversation with Honors College, shared with CM Sweet too. Will do work in Riverside and Frog Island park. Might do Penn Park too. Those parks are potential

options for this group. May start in May and/or September. Still finalizing dates and locations.

- ii. Commissioner Sweet asks: Do we need to formally approve this?
 - iii. Bonnie: Yes, but we can set up an expedited approval process for minor cleanups, etc.
 - iv. Commissioner Connor Barrie: How can we do that?
 - v. Bonnie explains: A resolution.
 - vi. Motion to pass the following resolution:
 - 1. Whereas, the parks and recreation commission has the power to approve adopt a park applications
 - 2. Whereas, adopt a park applications which do not significantly affect the features of the park are common and should be expedited
 - 3. Whereas, the department of public services has the capacity to process these applications
 - 4. Now therefore let it be resolved that the parks and recreation commission hereby delegates its authority to approve adopt a park applications for these minor classes of work that do not significantly alter the features of a park to the department of public services staff
 - 5. Motion by Kohlman, 2nd Collins
 - a. Commissioner Connor-Barrie **Yes**
 - b. Commissioner Collins **Yes**
 - c. Commissioner Sweet **Yes**
 - d. Commissioner Thorburn **Yes**.
 - e. Commissioner Allen ----
 - f. Commissioner Kohlmann **Yes**
 - g. Commissioner Navarre **Yes**
 - i. Motion Carries**
- b. Adopt-A-Park Application Update – GaGa Ball Pit – Candy Cane Park
 - i. Commissioner Sweet: Eagle scout sent in detailed list for GaGa pit. DPS has reached out as well. Is comfortable with items and materials. No final date yet, but sometime this spring, this will be constructed in the park.
 - ii. Commissioner Collins: the level of details was great.
 - iii. Commissioner Sweet: Any question about the plan?
 - c. Community Garden – Candy Cane Park
 - i. Commissioner Sweet: There is interest in setting up a community garden in CC Park.

- ii. CM Wilcoxon: resident is working on gauging interest. Issue is no water in the park. Looking for sites. It's expensive to connect water. One issue is person spearheading project has been in California for some time.
- d. Huron River Day Update
 - i. Commissioner Sweet: Huron river day every day is the event. Events in RIverside and FI Park that will be part of this. Part of this may be a photo competition.
 - ii. Commissioner Collins: Design looks great. Other thing is: when is this going to be announced? E.g. I have a newsletter, can I send it out as part of my newsletter?
 - iii. Commissioner Sweet: Yes.
- e. mParks – Community Service Awards
 - i. Commissioner Sweet: Last year canceled due to COVID. Accepting nominations through end of April. Will also include folks from 2020. IN addition to 2021 applicants. LAsT year we nominated B2B Trail advocate. Also friends of rutherford pool. We can submit 2 this year. Do we want to?
 - ii. Commissioner Thorburn: Did we mention Chris Jacobs?
 - iii. Commissioner Sweet: That was for a different award.
 - iv. Commissioner Kholman: What about Pete and Grace?
 - v. Commissioner Collins: My mind is blank because I haven't seen anyone in so long.
 - vi. Commissioner Thorburn: I am back in Ypsi City. What about Kiwanis? They have been doing park stuff for 100 years, they did frog island and riverside park?
 - vii. Commissioner Sweet: have they done more recent stuff?
 - viii. Commissioner Thorburn: They sponsor the Rec Park Klds Triathlon every year.
 - ix. Commissioner Sweet: should we move forward with the two that were mentioned?
 - x. Commissioner Collins: yes.
 - xi. Commissioner Sweet: I will work on the nomination and send it to the group for feedback.
 - xii. CM Wilcoxon: Mr. Brown on the south side has put in a lot of work into parkridge. I can touch base with Brian and get that information to you.
 - xiii.

9. Other Business

- a. Commissioner Collins: Frog Island looks great. One thing that is odd is that there are no trash cans.
 - b. Wessler: We were able to get a good price on Cement, but not thinking about making it thick enough for vehicles, unfortunately we can't drive on these sidewalks. So we are currently trying to figure out how to make this work.
 - c. Pickleball caller:
 - i. Will call back at a future meeting.
10. Commissioner Comments
- a. Motion to adjourn by Collins, 2nd Kholman