

Ypsilanti Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes - March 8, 2016

1. Call To Order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:06pm, March 8, 2016 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Commission members attending were Bob Krzewinski, Conan Malmer, Linda Horne (Chair), Evan Sweet, Nicole Putala and Cathy Thorburn. Also attending was City Council member Anne Brown.
2. Approval of agenda – A motion was made by Conan, seconded by Evan, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – A motion was made by Conan, seconded by Evan, to approve the February minutes, passing unanimously.
3. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation - None
 - b. Guest presentations - Riverside Playgroup Commission Committee update – Attending for the Commission Riverside Playgroup Committee were Jen Maigret, Teresa Gillotti and Cara Talaska who gave an overview of past Committee actions as well as the updated playground plan using graphics and a scale model. There is a survey being compiled through a dedicated website at <https://playriverside.wordpress.com> and there will be another public input session at the Ypsilanti Senior Center at 7pm on March 10th. Requested by the Committee to the Commission was a Resolution Of Support to City Council which would be needed by the Commissions April meeting. Committee members would draft a resolution and forward it to the Commission for approval. Funding for the playground is expected to be done largely through the <https://www.patronicity.com/puremichigan> crowd-sourcing program which also provides grants from the State of Michigan.
4. Old Business
 - a. Adopt A Park Updates
 - Application revision update (Evan Sweet) – The matter of an online electronic form is moving forward but needs to be reviewed by the City Attorney office. Also mentioned was putting all approved applications into an online database.
 - Friends of Peninsular Park (Bob Krzewinski) – A reorganization meeting was held on February 29th with nobody attending. A notice was also sent out for those interested in improving the Park to attend tonight’s meeting.
 - Disc golf – No update.
 - Ypsilanti Running Company - No update.
 - Friends of Prospect Park - No update.
 - Heritage Park Neighborhood Association - No update.
 - b. Friends Groups Updates – Cathy reported the Friends of Rutherford Pool will have a Board meeting soon to work on tasks associated with the pool opening in May. A list of all Friends groups and neighborhood groups would be helpful with Nicole working on this.
 - c. City of Ypsilanti Updates
 - M-Parks program update (Evan Sweet) – Evan is very active with the Ypsilanti M-Parks (www.mparks.org/About) April through August Come Out And Play (child-based) and Walking With Ease (seniors) programs and will be attending an M-Parks meeting on March 15.
 - Community Development grants (Anne Brown) - Anne will check with potential Community Development Block Grant funds for playground equipment (i.e. Mattingly Tot Lot)
 - Park Capitol Fee report (Anne Brown) – New report reviewed.
 - Eastside Recreation Center – The project is on hold due to increased construction costs but being researched is a possible private firm creating a fitness center in the same location.
 - d. Commission Sponsored events
 - Friday Movie Night – Still every Friday, 7pm at the Historical Museum co-sponsored by the Commission.
 - Ypsilanti River Day Update – Planning meeting for either March 21, 22 or 23 with Bob sending out an email with a date pick by March 11th.

- e. Ypsi PRIDE Day (May 21st) – The next PRIDE Day organizing meeting is March 16th and Evan will attend.
 - f. Scout Community Service Day – May 15 – (Eric Maes) – There is an organizing meeting for this Service Day on March 10, 7pm at the downtown library. Recreation Park is the probable site of work.
5. New Business
- a. Commission members terms expiring (Cathy Thorburn – 6/19, Bob Krzewinski – 6/19, Conan Malmer – 4/23) – Those with terms expiring can go to the City website to put in a request to continue serving - <http://www.cityofypsilanti.com/FormCenter/Boards-Commissions-6/Citizen-Advisory-Boards-and-Commissions--45>
 - b. Commission reports to City Council – Linda will start working on an annual report of the Commissions actions to Council
 - c. Commission City staff liaison – Anne will check into having a dedicated City staff support person to the Commission.
6. 2016 Priorities (Updates at this meeting listed in italics below) – Linda suggested Commission members research the rough cost of each project below and email those numbers to her.
- Peninsular Park: Step replacement, shelter roof repair, and general park improvement - *The HRWC is still taking input on the Plantwise Study for the Park. The City has been trying to contact the Washtenaw Community College construction trades group about volunteer labor for step and shelter repairs at the Park but has not been able to contact anyone. Bob will talk with the City Planning Department about contacting WCC by phone or letter.*
 - Riverside Park: Improve drainage, repave paths and open the Cross Street entrance gate for parking – *Anne reported that the City Public Services closed off the wooden steps to Depot Town after a safety inspection with no update on when they would be open again.*
 - Ypsi River Day (10/9/16): *Canoe rental, displays with assistance of the Huron River Watershed Council – Reported on in agenda item 4.b.*
 - Adopt-A-Park Application: Simplify and have where individuals/groups can submit in an email format – *Reported on in agenda item 4.a.*
 - Mattingly Tot Lot: Clear, signed east/west entrances to park, new playground equipment, trash cans/benches, park fencing repair – *Anne looking into Community Development Block Grant funds for playground equipment.*
 - Frog Island: Improve amphitheater for events (i.e. power supply) – *Bob will attend the March 17 DDA meeting and bring up this item.*
 - All Parks: Uniform signage that is visible and refurbished if already in place – *No update.*
 - Dog Park: At least one in a City Park – *No update.*
 - Baseball Diamonds: Improvement, maintenance and increased use of funding - Explore funding sources for parks improvements and recreational programs (Conan Malmer) – *Conan reported work taking place to open up Recreation and Candy Cane Park baseball fields for the season. There is more information at www.Ypsibaseballproject.org and that groups Facebook page.*
7. Partner Updates
- a. Ypsilanti Trail Town/Huron River Watershed Council – Bob and Evan attended a Trail Town meeting on March 4th and Bob will attend a Water Trail Partners meeting on March 9th. Bob will send out minutes of the March 4th meeting in a few days.
 - b. Bike Ypsi – Spring Ride The first Sunday of May.
 - c. City Non-Motorized Advisory Committee – Bob gave a report on Committee activities including work to educated residents about sidewalk snow removal ordinances. To this extent suggestions were made to put notices into water bills and a news item in the new City quarterly newsletter.
8. Other Business – None.
9. Adjournment – A motion was made by Bob, seconded by Nicole, to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm with the next Commission meeting being Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 7pm at the downtown Library.