

1. Call To Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Commission members attending were Nicole Putala, Cathy Thorburn, Bob Krzewinski, Linda Horne (Chair), Evan Sweet, DeLois Wilson and Conan Malmer. Also attending were Anne Browne (Ypsilanti City Council), John Rose (City of Ypsilanti Fire Department) and Andrea Kline (Huron River Watershed Council), Pete Murdock (Ypsilanti City Council).
2. Approval of agenda - A motion was made to approve the agenda by Nicole Putala, seconded by Conan Malmer, passing unanimously.
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – A motion was made to approve the March minutes by Cathy Thorburn, seconded by Conan Malmer, passing unanimously.
3. Introductions
  - a. Audience participation – None.
  - b. Guest presentations: Andrea Kline & Bill Kinley – Huron River Watershed Council – An update was given on the Frog Island canoe landing. Planned work in the spring includes railing improvements, wall artwork, adding gravel/wood chips and signage. The Commission enthusiastically supports the work planned under the Watershed Council's Adopt A Park application.
  - c. Guest presentation: John Roe – Riverside & Peninsular Park repairs (agenda item 5.d) – A review was given for the Riverside Park step reconstruction which was needed after the steps were condemned for use. The Water Street non-motorized bridge was discussed that needs repair, with estimated repair costs being \$5000. The Riverside Park gazebo is also need of repair and may be blocked off soon with a basic repair being \$2400. At Peninsular Park, repairs are needed on the steps, retaining wall, picnic tables. Step repairs are estimated to be \$3600. A study is also being done on the Riverside Park “tridge” repairs. A common theme of all repairs is that they are largely due to a lack of continuing maintenance.
4. Old Business
  - a. Adopt A Park Updates
    - Application revision update (Evan Sweet) – No new developments.
    - Friends of Peninsular Park – Not discussed.
    - Disc golf – Not discussed.
    - Ypsilanti Running Company – Not discussed.
    - Friends of Prospect Park – Not discussed.
    - Heritage Park Neighborhood Association – Not discussed.
  - b. Friends Groups Updates
    - Friends/neighborhood groups listing (Nicole Putala) – There will be a list of all groups by May.
  - c. City of Ypsilanti Updates
    - Riverside Playgroup Committee update – No new updates.
    - M-Parks program update (Evan Sweet) – Very briefly discussed.
    - Community Development grants (Anne Brown) - Conan Malmer is working with Anne Brown on a grant for baseball field improvements.
    - Park Capitol Fee report (Anne Brown) – Not discussed.
    - Eastside Recreation Center – Not discussed.
  - d. Commission Sponsored events
    - Friday Movie Night – Not discussed.
    - Ypsilanti River Day Update – Not discussed.
  - e. Ypsi PRIDE Day (Evan Sweet) – Projects are needed for this event, as are site captains, with such information should be forwarded to Evan.
  - f. Scout Community Service Day – May 15 – (Eric Maes) – A motion was made by Bob Krzewinski, seconded by Conan Malmer, to approve the Adopt A Park application on this project, passing unanimously.
  - g. Commission members terms expiring (Cathy Thorburn – 6/19, Bob Krzewinski – 6/19, Conan Malmer – 4/23) - Not discussed.

- h. Commission reports to City Council (Linda Horne) – Linda Horne continuing to work on the reports.
- i. Commission City staff liaison (Anne Brown) – Not discussed.

5. New Business

- a. Park spring cleanup sessions (Bob Krzewinski) – Not discussed.
- b. Riverside Park stairs reconstruction bill (Terry Heis Carpentry) approval - A motion was made by Bob Krzewinski, seconded by Cathy Thorburn to recommend use of \$1595 out of the Park Capitol Improvement Fund to the reconstruction, passing unanimously.
- c. Sign request – Edith Hefley Park sign purchase out of Park Capitol Fee program – Linda Horne will respond to the City Managers office on this matter.
- d. Riverside & Peninsular Park repair estimates – A motion was made by Nicole Putala, seconded by Conan Malmer, to place Riverside Park’s gazebo first on the list for City parks repairs, passing unanimously.
- e. Repair schedule - There is a sense of the Commission that a repair schedule should be set for all parks and this subject be a continuing agenda item at all Commission meetings. Linda Horne will contact John Roe and Beth Earnt for establishing such a park maintenance schedule.

6. 2016 Priorities

- Peninsular Park – Step replacement, shelter roof repair, and general park improvement – Discussed in item 2.c.
- Riverside Park – Improve drainage, repave paths and open the Cross Street entrance gate for parking – Not discussed.
- Ypsi River Day (10/9/16) – Canoe rental, displays with assistance of the Huron River Watershed Council – Not discussed.
- Adopt-A-Park Application – Simplify and have where individuals/groups can submit in an email format – Discussed in item 4.a.
- Mattingly – Clear, signed east/west entrances to park, new playground equipment, trash cans/benches, park fencing repair – No new updates.
- Frog Island – Improve amphitheater for events (i.e. power supply) – Not discussed.
- All Parks – Uniform signage that is visible and refurbished if already in place – Not discussed.
- Dog Park – At least one in a City Park – Not discussed.
- Baseball Diamonds – Improvement, maintenance and increased use of funding – Not discussed
- Funding – Explore funding sources for parks improvements and recreational programs – Not discussed.

7. Partner Updates

- a. Ypsilanti Trail Town/Huron River Watershed Council – Not discussed.
- b. Bike Ypsi – Not discussed.
- c. City Non-Motorized Advisory Committee – Not discussed.

8. Other Business – Pete Murdock stated the City was going to do a safety inspection of the Prospect Park area used as a skatepark as there may be liability issues.

9. Adjournment - A motion was made by Linda Horne, seconded by Evan Sweet, to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm with the next meeting being Tuesday, May 10, 7pm, at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 W. Michigan Avenue.