

1. March Agenda

Documents:

[2023-03 PRC STAFF AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. February Draft Minutes

Documents:

[FEBRUARY 20 2023.PDF](#)

**Agenda**  
**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Monday, 20 March 2023 – 7:00 P.M.**  
**City Hall, Council Chambers – 1 S Huron St**  
**Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

Dillon Navarre, Chair	P	A
Brian Merlos, Vice Chair	P	A
Cathy Thorburn, Secretary	P	A
Ben Connor-Barrie	P	A
Tarik Fermin	P	A
Blake Harrity	P	A
Lola Malmer	P	A

**III. Approval of Agenda**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

- February 2023

**V. Audience Participation**

*Open for general public comment. Please limit to five minutes.*

**VI. Presentations**

**VII. Old Business**

- Fall River Day
- 2023 Commission Projects discussion
- Peninsular Dam update

**VIII. New Business**

- mParks Hall of Fame nominations

**IX. City of Ypsilanti Updates**

**X. Facility Partner Updates**

- Rutherford Pool
- Senior Center
- Parkridge Community Center

**XI. Future Business Discussion / Updates & Announcements**

**XII. Adjournment**

## Meeting

Date: February 20, 2023

Time: 7pm.

Location: Meeting was held at City Hall 1 South Huron St. Ypsilanti, Mi 48197. It was recorded and hosted by the City of Ypsilanti Staff Bonnie Wessler

1. **Call to Order** Commissioner called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.
2. **Roll Call** Present were, Cathy Thorburn, Blake Harrity, Ben Connor-Barrie Youth Commissioner Lola Malmer. Absent Tarik Fermin, Dillion Navarre (excused), Brian Merlos  
City of Ypsilanti DPS Director Bonnie Wessler and City Council member and liaison Evan Sweet were present.
3. **Approval of Agenda**- Date of Minutes were corrected. It was moved by Commissioner Thorburn and seconded by Commissioner Connor-Barrie to approve the agenda. Vote- passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** – December 19, 2022 minutes. Moved for approval by Commissioner Harrity and Commissioner Malmer seconded approval. Vote passed
5. **Audience Participation**-None
6. **Presentations**– None
7. **Old Business. mParks Conference** Council Member Sweet reported on what he knew about the conference. The mParks Conference will be held in Lansing this year. Sweet and Wessler will make sure the Little League is aware that they were nominated and will receive an award for the Anhut field/project.
8. **New Business-**
  - a. **mParks Hall of Fame Nominations** The recipient usually has at least 15 years of experience in the field of Recreation. They also need to be retired or out of the field for two years. March 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for submission. The Commission did not have anyone in mind for this year.
  - b. **2023 Commission Projects Discussion** Commissioner Connor-Barrie led a discussion on what possible projects we would like to focus on for this year. All support continuing the Fall River Days. Commissioner Malmer is interested in having her school's NHS do a volunteer clean-up project in the parks. Commissioner Harrity is interested in leading a river sampling or tree walk through the parks. Maybe it could coincide with Ypsilanti's Bicentennial activities. July in honor of Park's month we could resume the Photo contest.
  - c. **Peninsular Dam update**- EGLE submitted a report that indicates what should be done in preparation for the removal.
9. **City of Ypsilanti Updates** Ms. Wessler reported that we were not rewarded the Spark grant in the first round for projects in Prospect park. The City will formalize an use agreement the Little League. Ms. Wessler will get us a copy of the Tree survey that was done regarding trees in the parks. The bids came back for Parkridge Park softball field. What the City was anticipating was \$50,000 but came in \$100,000 and higher. It will likely go out for rebid.

**10. Friends Group Updates**

**i. Rutherford Pool** Proposed 2023 plans were presented to the board in January. Staff are waiting to hear regarding pricing and registration policies before setting registration dates.

**ii. Senior Center** Making facility upgrades

**iii. Parkridge** No report except for a large event this Friday to celebrate Black History month.

**11. Future Business Discussion/Updates & Announcements** Council member Sweet will

let the Watershed Council know that we would like to host the Fall River Day again this year. We would like to host either September 17 or 24. Funding will be needed. Last year it cost around \$3,000 and was paid for through a grant from mParks. Mr. Sweet will check to see if that funding is available this year. There will be an effort to decrease the paper waste and go to more of a media blast.

**12. Adjournment** 7:49pm

**Next Meeting:** 7:00pm March 20, 2023 City Council chambers at 1 S. Huron St. Ypsilanti, Mi 48197