



Parks & Recreation

City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 9, 2021

Time: 7pm.

Location: Meeting was held via Zoom due to the COVID 19 closure. It was recorded and hosted by the City of Ypsilanti Staff Bonnie Wessler.

1. **Call to Order** Commissioner Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. **Roll Call** Introductions of Commissioners with new procedure of location and county of person while on Zoom meeting. Present were Evan Sweet (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Cathy Thorburn (Superior Township, Washtenaw County), Ben Connor-Barrie (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Dillion Navarre (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Cherisa Allen (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Kurt Kohlmann (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County). Absent Julia Collins. Bonnie Wessler from the City was present
3. **Approval of Agenda-** Agenda was amended to include time for City Council member Steven Wilcoxon to speak on Peninuslar Dam under New Business. It was moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the amended agenda. Roll call vote, Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –January 12, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Navarre and Commissioner Connor Barrie seconded approval. Roll call vote, Passed
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations –**
Mr. Wilcoxon introduced himself as our liaison from the City Council to the Parks and Recreation Commission. We in turn, introduced ourselves. Scout, Zander Barr asked if we had any additional questions for him. He was asked if he had decided on a gate or not for accessibility. He will put in a gate with a locking mechanism for safety during play.
6. **Old Business**
 - A. **Adopt A Park** GaGa Ball Pit. Final approval will need to be given by DPS staff. To be truly accessible it would need a sidewalk up to the area. Commissioner Connor-Barrie moved and Commissioner Kohlmann seconded that we support the project moving forward with final approval by DPS staff. Roll Call vote, passed.
 - B. **Huron River Fall Days**-Still under development. It will be at a go on your own pace. There is a draft logo.

7. Friends Group Updates

i. Rutherford Pool Commissioner Thorburn reported that the solar panels are a go. Dave Strenski and AJ Leo will be leading the project. We are moving forward with planning for the Summer with contingency plans.

ii. Senior Center- Commissioner Sweet reported the MOU with the City was reviewed so that everyone understands their rights and responsibilities. Food is still being distributed Monday-Friday. No known opening time set.

8. City of Ypsilanti Updates- Bonnie Wessler reported that she would send us the photos of the lights on at Frog Island. No further updates.

9. New Business

a. New Meeting Schedule The months of May, June, July and September will need to have the meeting nights changed from the second Tuesday to the second Wednesday. It was moved by Commissioner Kohlmann and seconded by Commissioner Navarre. Roll call vote. Passed

b. Ordinance to Rename Streets/parks and such A proposal for an ordinance to establish a way to be able to change the name of established items in the City will be introduced to the City Council on the 16th.

c. Peninsular Dam Mr. Wilcoxon spoke on the past timeline and what is currently happening with the Dam removal procedure. He informed the Commission that the size of the park will increase. He is looking for help for ways to engage informing the public.

10. Other Business-

None

11. Commissioner Comments/Announcements-Commissioner Kohlmann reported that he saw while he was at the Liz McGregor Playground a mallet was missing from the equipment. He had already reported it gone. Ms. Wessler stated that this is not the first one to disappear and they have purchased a box of them so that they can replace as needed. Commissioner Sweet asked that Ms. Wessler know that we appreciate the good job being done by DPS in clearing the streets.

12. Adjournment 8:07pm

Next Meeting: March 9, 2021 If we are still under COVID 19 restriction it will be held via Zoom.