



City of Ypsilanti

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 12, 2020

Time: 7:00pm.

Location: Meeting was held via Zoom due to the COVID 19 closure. It was recorded and hosted by the City of Ypsilanti Staff Andrew Hellenga and Sarah Stachnik

1. **Call to Order** Commissioner Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:10pm
2. **Roll Call** Introductions of Commissioners present were, Evan Sweet, Cathy Thorburn, Ben Connor-Barrie, Julia Collins, Kurt Kohlmann, Amanda Marshall, Cherisa Allen, Dillion Collins were all present. No absences. DPW Director Ron Aker was present to represent the City as well as Bonnie Wessler.
3. **Approval of Agenda-** Agenda moved by Commissioner Connor-Barrie and seconded by Commissioner Kohlmann to approve the agenda. Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –March 3, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Kohlmann and Commissioner Connor-Barrie seconded approval. Passed. There were not any April minutes as the meeting in April was cancelled due to COVID-19.
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations** None
6. **Old Business** None
7. **Friends Group Updates**
 - i. **Rutherford Pool** Commissioner Thorburn reported. The workers have just returned on Monday to the pool as the restrictions for them have been lifted. The board has been discussing whether we even will open or not as it is likely the bath house will not be done until July and will people feel safe gathering. No definitive date has been set yet for a decision.
 - ii. **Senior Center-** Commissioner Sweet reported. The Senior Center will be closed until at least the 31st of May. Over 600 frozen meals have been served in April which is more than ever before. Students are conducting phone calls with seniors as a resource. United Way grant to cover staffing and supplies was issued. The City is giving \$10,000 towards operations of the Center. WCC fitness classes are all on line.
8. **City of Ypsilanti Updates** Ms Wessler reported that the parks are all still closed per State directives. Non-essential workers are still at home til possibly May 28th. Little League asked what the status was and if they would be able to have a season this year.

9. Playground Resolution Commissioners looked at the five options that came through for playground equipment for Candy Cane park. After discussion, the commissioners passed a Resolution in support of Option 2 from Play Environments/Playcraft to be located in the lower part of Candy Cane Park. A roll call vote was taken and all commissioners voted in favor. Commissioner Connor-Barrie and moved and Commissioner Navarre had seconded the motion.

10. Park Projects. Commissioners looked at the list of park projects to choose what projects to recommend to the City to use park funds on after Candy Cane is completed. Commissioners felt projects that had risk assessment coding assigned to them might be of higher priority and tried to spread jobs out to different parks in different wards. Commissioners informed DPS Director Ron Akers that they would like to focus on the electrical concerns at Parkridge Park and the pavilion concerns (roof, broken glass windows, electrical) at Prospect Park.

11. Commission Committee Updates:

The goals developed have not been worked on due to COVID

19. Commissioners Collins and Thorburn may work on a video library that people could access. Commissioner Navarre brought up the Photography Challenge. Launch it in late May and run through June. Nature in the parks as a theme. The virtual 5k will likely take place later in the summer. Email Commissioner Sweet if there are more ideas. Fall River Day is still on the schedule for September 27th. Commissioners agreed that information should be shared with Township. Let's build a relationship through recreation, together.

14. Adjournment Commissioner Connor-Barrie moved for adjournment at 8:14 pm and Commissioner Marshall seconded. Passed

Next Meeting: June 9, 2020 likely to be another Zoom/virtual type of meeting.