



*Parks & Recreation*

# City of Ypsilanti

## Parks & Recreation Commission

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### Meeting Minutes

Date: May 12, 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 7:08 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 (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Ben Connor-Barrie (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Dillion Navarre (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Kurt Kohlmann (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Julia Collins (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Cherisa Allen (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Bonnie Wessler from the City was present along with City council member Steve Wilcoxon
3. **Approval of Agenda**- Agenda was amended to include presentation from Steve Wilcoxon on Pen Dam. It was moved by Commissioner Navarre and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the amended agenda. Roll call vote, Passed.
4. **Approval of the Minutes** –April 14, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Collins and Commissioner Connor-Barrie seconded approval. Roll call vote, Passed
5. **Introduction/Public Comment & Presentations** – Steve Wilcoxon presentation was on the Removal of Peninsular Dam. It was created by Daniel Brown, watershed planner. Wilcoxon answered questions from Commissioners and heard comments made concerning future use of the proposed new park land that will be gained.  
Bill Nickels, Linda Lawther and Kate McDevitt. Bill spoke on the service of 100 years of Kiwanis service and work to the city parks. It would be a bolder with a brass plaque and cost approximately \$4,000
6. **City of Ypsilanti Updates.** Ms. Wessler reported on several projects in the city.  
Drive in Movies hosted by DDA. Once a month and scattered throughout the city and Frog Island Park.  
The State monies through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to encourage movement. Projects she finds suitable for applying for are completing the sidewalk along Prospect Park, another section along Cornell near the Border to Border Trail and putting bicycle stalls in three

business locations. Stalls would hold around 10 bikes each. May 28<sup>th</sup> is the submission date.

A feasibility study was done in Recreation Park to see if a path could be rebuilt/improved upon. To asphalt a path with several ramp access points will cost near 500,000. May break the project into smaller bits to see if that makes it more feasible.

## **7. Friends Group Updates**

**i. Rutherford Pool** -Working hard on satisfying the COVID protocols. Hiring interns from the SummerWorks program to assist with the COVID cleaning and monitoring/enforcing of rules/procedures. Have had a great start to sales of passes and lessons. This Saturday we have a work weekend-our own Ypsi Pride Clean up. 9-11:30. Staff have mostly been hired.

**ii. Senior Center**- The Center has opened back up with a limit of 25 persons at a time. No exercise groups, yet. Staff are looking into having classes on the patio and maybe under the pavilion. No rentals, yet.

## **8. New Business**

**a. Ypsilanti Kiwanis Club-Commemorative Plaque Installation**-No questions or concerns from Commissioners. City council will have ultimate approval of resolution of. Commissioners agree to the project. Roll Call vote Passed.

**b. Huron River Day Everyday Update** Signs are available to be installed in Recreation and Frog Island parks.

**c. Volunteer Park Clean-up** Residents and groups from EMU have been cleaning up the parks. Parkridge, Riverside, Prospect and Waterstreet Trail have all been worked on. Commissioner Allen stated that the kids love the new playground equipment in Parkridge Park but people are letting their dogs run loose and not cleaning up after them. Ms. Wessler will check with DPW if they have a plan to help.

## **10. Other Business**- None

## **11. Commissioner Comments/Announcements**- None

**12. Adjournment** 8:17pm. Moved by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Allen

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

