

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2020 REGULAR MEETING**

Park Commission Agendas and Minutes are available on the township website at <https://ytown.org/park-commission>

I. Call to Order

Commission Chair Streeter called the meeting to order at 6:35pm in the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Civic Center's Cafeteria

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Edward Burnett, Brad Cannon, Elizabeth Corder, Sage Pazyamor, Gloria Peterson, David Streeter, and Debbie Swanson

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Mike Hoffmeister, and Angela Verges

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with corrections made by Peterson
Seconded by Swanson

Motion Carried

V. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2020

Motion to approve made by Peterson
Seconded by Burnett

Motion Carried

VI. Citizens Participation

John Woodcock of 6303 Oakhurst Drive expressed concerns regarding Hewen's Creek parking lot gate being closed. He says that the dumping of mattresses has relocated from the park to down the street a little ways. Mike Hoffmeister stated that they would like to put a camera in, but is difficult due to lack of access to electricity. Swanson said that perhaps the township could put up notices at the park directing residents to other parks that are open right now.

VII. Public Hearing

A. Request for Spicer Group to apply on behalf of Ypsilanti Township for a Land and Water Conservation Fund MDNR grant to make improvements to Community Center Park.

Kevin Wilks of Spicer Group outlined grant proposal. Ideas included were to reduce the size of courts and incorporate pickle ball as well as tennis courts. For the grant, Township would also need residents to send letters of support to be included with application.

B. Request for Spicer Group to apply on behalf of Ypsilanti Township for a Recreation Passport MDNR grant to make improvements to Clubview Park.

Wilks of Spicer group also outlined improvements to tennis courts for Clubview Park. In addition, there would be incorporated sustainability initiatives such as recycling bins alongside trash. Grant proposal would also include a rain garden. Swanson said the garden could be a great opportunity to incorporate a shared experience with residents who would enjoy volunteering to work on it.

VIII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

Hoffmeister shared that the \$10,000 grant from mParks for Applegate is being utilized for picnic tables, benches and waste receptacles. John Heinz has helped in training and implementing new 310 software which has increased ease of record keeping. The repairs for Burns park were bid out and awarded to Best Asphalt, pending contract review by Township Attorney. Further improvements in Park Services is implementing electronic point of sale at park gates to make it easier to collect fees. Hoffmeister is also communicating with the University of Michigan Football Team to have them volunteer to have a clean-up date, members of the Park Commission would also be invited to participate in this effort. Another consideration may be to replace the storm pipe at Loonfeather at the Southeast corner of southern shelter which was discovered to be broken when there were road renovations on Grove.

B. Commissioner Reports

Streeter shared progress on skate park which will be moving ground end of March/early April. Says work is anticipated to be complete in June or July. He also shared that Clerk Karen Lovejoy-Roe had asked on behalf of the Ypsilanti Township Board to have representation from the Park Commission come to a Board Work Session to discuss the recommendations on April 7.

IX. Unfinished Business

None

X. New Business

A. Ford Lake Picnic/ Structure Pad

Eastern Michigan University (EMU) rowing team would like to make changes to the rowing course to meet National Collegiate Athletics Association requirements as an official course. There needs to be a pad at the end of the course. Commissioners shared ideas that perhaps this could be a picnic area when not in use. Also discussed working with EMU to help pay for these renovations. Also expressed concerns about having a dog park in this area in light of these proposed changes and the impact on the boathouse. Swanson also mentioned inquiring with EMU industrial arts to see if they could do the job adequately at a lower cost.

XI. Announcements

Swanson shared that she saw a video from a local historian about Gault Village and history of indigenous peoples in the Ypsilanti Township area. She suggested the Township may want to look into learning more, and creating historical markers for residents and visitors to learn more. There may be opportunities for grants from the Michigan Arts and Humanities Council.

XII. Recommendations to the Township Board

- A. Recommendation to adopt a resolution to authorize submittal of a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant through the MDNR for tennis court improvements at Community Center Park. The resolution also commits to the required local match. Total project cost is estimated at \$352,400. This grant has a 50% local match requirement so the grant will fund \$176,200 and will require \$176,200 of local funds.
- B. Recommendation to adopt a resolution to authorize submittal of a Recreation Passport grant through the MDNR for tennis court improvements at Clubview Park. The resolution also Ypsilanti Township Park Commission commits to the required local match. Total project cost is estimated at \$249,500. This grant has a maximum request of \$150,000 so the required local match will be in the amount of \$99,500.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Corder

Seconded by Cannon

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35pm

Motion Carried Unanimously

Minutes Taken and Prepared by Sage Pazyamor, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Park Commission on May 4, 2020