

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 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 6:32pm via virtual public Zoom meeting.

II. Roll Call

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

Commissioners Not Present: Brad Cannon

Staff Present: Mike Hoffmeister, Robin Castle-Hine and Angela Verges

Township Trustees Present: none

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Peterson

Seconded by Swanson

Motion Carried Unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes – May 4th, 2020

Motion to approve May 4, 2020 minutes made by Swanson

Seconded by Peterson

Motion Carried Unanimously

VI. Citizens Participation

Michael Woon, Ypsilanti Township Resident near Hewitt and Packard, asked when may be able to use playground again at Burns Park.

VII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

Verges announced, in light of Governor Whitmer’s announcement on this day, Ypsilanti Township Parks will accept applications for shelter rentals for parties of less than 100. Hoffmeister stated we are unable to offer indoor programming due to restrictions; however, parks are able to have outdoor programming. As far as Mr. Woon’s inquiry on opening playgrounds, staff are going to discuss how to reopen safely in the next couple days to make equipment available for use. In addition, Hoffmeister shared that the Parks have been able to offer online recreational programming, and gave appreciation to Verges and Castle-Hine regarding its implementation.

Further updates on projects are that the Skate Park action meeting was today regarding starting construction and the tentative finish date is the end of August, 2020. Also the renovations at Burns Park will soon start for one tennis and two pickle ball courts.

Castle-Hine stated the Parks remain understaffed for the season at this time due to lack of applicants. As a result, not able to collect gate fees yet. Staffing for golf course and general maintenance are prioritized. When sufficient staffing is available, park staff are discussing procedures of having PPE available, and whether to accept cards instead of cash only.

The Washtenaw County Sheriff's office has been helping with managing the opening and closing of gates.

Corder inquired about how we would get updates on changes aside from governor order. Hoffmeister stated they also get direction from Supervisor Stumbo and the fire chief.

Peterson asks when bathrooms at parks would be opened and how play equipment may be sanitized. Hoffmeister said they will discuss bathrooms, but do not have staffing to clean daily so cannot open them at this time. There is concern of liability if not cleaned adequately so renting port-a-potties could also be an option. However, Hoffmeister is looking for more info on CDC guidelines on how often bathrooms need to be cleaned.

For playgrounds, Hoffmeister shared that COVID 19 does not last on surfaces such as play equipment as long as initially thought. Also, was told the UV light kills germs which may be sufficient protection since structures are outside. In addition, leadership is communicating with other park organizations regarding what would be best practices.

B. Commissioner Reports

Swanson noted there were some orange paint markings in a park she walked thru indicating trip hazards. Asks if this was done by the Park staff. Hoffmeister said he would check.

Streeter stated there were some inquiries from residents about the tennis courts at Burn Park being closed, but they were quickly reopened to the public thereafter.

VIII. Unfinished Business

None

IX. New Business

A. #1 Request to set a public hearing at the July 6th Park Commission meeting 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 at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Motion to approve by Pazyamor

Support by Peterson

Motion Carried Unanimously

B. #2 Request to set a public hearing at the July 6th Park Commission meeting for Spicer Group to apply on behalf of Ypsilanti Township for a Recreation Passport MDNR grant to make improvements to Clubview Park at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Motion to approve by Peterson

Support by Swanson

Motion Carried Unanimously

These requests were approved by Park Commission at March 2nd, 2020 meeting, but there was not notice to the public via newspaper per MDNR grant requirements so hearings will be held again. Swanson asked if this would be virtual. Hoffmeister said hearing format would be determined by future gubernatorial direction on local government proceedings.

X. Announcements

Swanson expressed gratitude to Hoffmeister, Verges, Castle-Hine and all Parks staff for all the work they have put in to keep programming going and to continue projects forward.

XI. Recommendations to the Township Board

None

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Peterson
Seconded by Burnett
Meeting Adjourned at 7:08pm

Motion Carried Unanimously

Minutes Taken and Prepared by Sage Pazyamor, Secretary
Minutes Approved by Park Commission on July 6, 2020