

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI  
PARK COMMISSION  
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7, 2022 REGULAR MEETING**

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

**I. Call to Order**

Commission Hodge called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center.

**II. Roll Call**

**Commissioners Present:** Brad Hine, Tajalli Hodge, Jeff Neel, Darrell Kirby, David Streeter, Brad O’Conner

**Commissioners Not Present:** Starr Smith

**Staff Present:** Robin Castle

**III. Determination of Quorum**

Quorum present

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda made by Kirby

Seconded by Hine

Motion Carried Unanimously

**V. Approval of Minutes – February 7, 2022 Regular Meeting**

Motion to approve minutes made by O’Conner

Seconded by Kirby

Motion Carried Unanimously

**VI. Citizens Participation**

None

**VII. Reports**

**A. Staff Reports**

Mike Hoffmeister and John Hines attending out-of-town conference but sent notes:

- 1) Applied for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to replace and /or repair Apple Ridge playground
- 2) A second new dock will be installed at Ford Lake boat launch.
- 3) Shelters at Lakeside Park will be reroofed.
- 4) Trash barrels at parks will be replaced this spring.
- 5) The dog park project has been put on hold due to new other projects.
- 6) Residential Services updates include sidewalk repairs, tree removal, and new playground mulch at half of playground before Memorial Day.
- 7) No-cost Covid tests at Rec Center were due to end on February 25<sup>th</sup> but will continue to be offered until March 25.
- 8) Softball leagues will change to double-headers, allowing the township to host 2 seasons instead of only one.
- 9) John is exploring the possibility of a cornhole tournament.
- 10) Nicole is planning to offer three new “50 and Beyond” events.

Robin Castle-Hine

Summer Jazz Festival: John E. Lawrence, who has been organizing an annual summer jazz series, wants to hold this year's event at Ford Lake Park on Fridays from July 1 through Sept 2, 7 – 9 pm. (Last year's event was held at Frog Island.) His team sets up and tears down the stage as well as schedules vendors and food trucks.

Discussion: Commissioner Hodge asked about parking capacity. RCH thinks at least 1,000 cars but will be determined by where the stage is set up. The Township will staff the gate and supply two rangers but will have to charge \$5/car for parking fee. We will also likely need a sheriff's deputy (or two?) for traffic control.

Interview for parks and golf maintenance will be starting soon.

## **B. Commissioner Reports**

Darrell Kirby discussed Washtenaw County Clean-up Day, to be held March 26, 9 am – 12 pm at 222 Ford Rd fire station. Commissioner Kirby later sent an email with amended dates and locales, which can be found at the following website: <https://www.washtenaw.org/2414/County-Clean-Up-Days>

## **VIII. Unfinished Business**

**Dog Park:** On hold due to many new projects being undertaken this summer. Will revisit this later in the year.

## **IX. New Business**

Discussion of Park Commission by-laws, which were last updated in 2006. General updating of language and terminology is needed but also there needs to be a more thorough understanding and discussion of the Commission's authority and responsibilities, as set by the Township Parks & Recreation Act 157 (1905). That act indicates that park commissions are to have a role in making decisions about park policies and programs. There needs to be a discussion about the budget and how decisions are made about which projects are prioritized. Pittsfield and Superior have elected park boards and discussions with or observations of their meetings would be helpful for determining what other communities/boards do.

Plan: Commission Hodge will send By-Laws and Act. Will discuss in more detail at April meeting.

## **X. Public Hearing**

None

## **XI. Announcements**

None.

## **XII. Recommendations to the Township Board**

None

## **XIII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Streeter

Seconded by Hine

Motion Carried Unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Park Commission May 2, 2022.