

**Park
Commission**

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David Streeter, Chair
Tajalli Hodge, Vice Chair
Brad O'Conner, Treasurer
Jeff Neel, Secretary

Commissioners:
Brad Hine
Darrell Kirby
Star Smith

Charter Township of Ypsilanti

**YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP PARK
COMMISSION**

REGULAR MEETING

Date: Monday, September 13, 2021

Time: 6:30 P.M.

LOCATION

1st Floor Conference Room
Ypsilanti Township Civic Center
7200 S. Huron River Drive
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

AGENDA OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Determination of Quorum**
- IV. Approval of Agenda**
- V. Approval of Minutes**
- VI. Citizens Participation**
- VII. Reports**
 - A. Staff Reports**

 - B. Commissioner Reports**
- VIII. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Dog park update
- IX. New Business**
- X. Announcements**
- XI. Recommendations to the Township Board**
- XII. Adjournment**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2, 2021 REGULAR MEETING**

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

I. Call to Order

Commission Streeter called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Brad Hine, Tajalli Hodge, Jeff Neel, Darrell Kirby, Starr Smith, David Streeter

Commissioners Not Present: Brad O'Conner

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

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Tajalli Hodge

Seconded by Darrell Kirby

Motion Carried Unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes – July 12, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve minutes made by Darrell Kirby

Seconded by Starr Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

VI. Citizens Participation

Justin Hodge, County Commissioner, expressed support.

VII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

Mike Hoffmeister: 1) Ford Lake Park boat docks project will be completed by end of the week. 2) Loonfeather Park update: the Township approved new bid and the FINAL Bond and Insurance documents. The Park is closed and ground-breaking will begin soon although construction may not start till Dec 1. 3) Replaced roof at Community Center to fix significant leaks. 4) The skate park will be closed for repairs Aug 5 & 6. 5) Board of Trustees tree fund discussion: MH has to request that funds are transferred each year and \$5K - \$7K gets 20 to 30 trees each year. David Streeter asked about taking recommendations from community for placement of trees; Starr Smith asked about types of trees planted (MH: disease resistant hard wood like red maple and white oak.) 6) FEMA is set up in the parking lot to assist with in-person floods assistance till 9/15. Will shut down early if no people show up. Hours are from 7 am – 7 pm 7 days/week. 7) Food Truck Fridays update: scheduled for Aug. 13 and 27, and Sept. 3 and 17 (two each at Heritage and Ford Lake.) 8) Art Serafinski Sports Scholarship – Green Oaks Golf outing August 28th to raise funds. 9) MH offered parks tours for commissioners.

Angela Verges: Community Center will hold an Open House on Aug. 4 from 11 am – 1 pm and people can try programs. Arts in the Parks program in partnership with Saline and Pittsfield: North Bay session earlier today had 15 children attend.

Robin Castle-Hine: Rosie the Riveter was successful with 63 crafters, but only 1 food truck. There were 600- 800 visitors and the event made over \$2000. Considering holding a craft show in rec center in the future.

B. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Hodge discussed Sugar Brook Park project: requested \$2500 but received \$4500. Plan to add park benches; weed control fabric has been added and plants coming this week.

David Streeter: Apple Ridge trash issue due to a recent Friday-Saturday celebration. The Parks Dept has limited weekend help and the park was cleaned by Monday.

VIII. Unfinished Business

Dog Park: no updates, waiting on revised report. Mike Hoffmeister: exploring additional site north of 94, and partnerships with other communities. David Streeter: Swift Run is collaboration between county and city and we might explore partnerships as well.

IX. New Business

None.

X. Public Hearing

None

XI. Announcements

Mike Hoffmeister: Community meeting scheduled for Aug 25 at 6:30 pm for Apple Ridge Park project. Tajalli Hodge reminded people to vote in upcoming election for police/fire/recreation millage.

County Commissioner Justin Hodge announced two Zoom meetings will be held determine how best to share grant/funds from the American Rescue Plan.

XII. Recommendations to the Township Board

None

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Tajalli Hodge
Seconded by Darrell Kirby.
Motion Carried Unanimously
Meeting Adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Jeff Neel, Secretary

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING**

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

I. Call to Order

Commission Streeter called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at Appleridge Park

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Brad Hine, Tajalli Hodge, Darrell Kirby, Starr Smith, David Streeter

Commissioners Not Present: Jeff Neel

Staff Present: Angela Verges, John Hines

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present

IV. Public Hearing

Willow Run Acres Community Farm:

Presentation

T.C. Collins Discussed the mission and goals for Willow Run Acres. Deata McLemore from Bottles & Backpacks discussed the educational aspects that T.C. Collins has brought to the students. Tim Wilson from Washtenaw Promise discussed the positive impacts from previous community gardens installed by T.C. Mr. Collins broke down the strategy to a Multi-year rollout of 3 phases described as follows: Phase 1 (years 1 & 2) Establish plots for individuals to farm, explore fencing options to prevent deer or other pests, Solicit input via community outreach and education opportunities. Phase 2 (years 3 & 4) Improvements and grow community participation, begin mapping out potential for a hoop house, explore potential for an on-site well. Phase 3 (year 5 and beyond) Build a hoop house to grow and cultivate own seedlings, Begin a long term and sustainable site model.

Discussion and Q&A:

Commissioner Kirby inquired about number and sizes of plots. A: 70 raised beds and 30 separate 20'x20' tilled plots. Commissioner Hodge inquired about compost: A: Plan is to work with the existing Township recycle center across Clark Rd. Commissioner O'Connor inquired about funding A: majority self-funded with Washtenaw Promise to cover potential well drilling and installation. Commissioner Hodge inquired about bee boxes A: Not safe at the moment, will explore in the future.

V. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Tajalli Hodge

Seconded by Darrell Kirby.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by David Streeter, Chair