

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 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 6:31 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Tajalli Hodge, Jeff Neel, Brad Hine, Ed Burnett, Darrell Kirby

Commissioners Not Present: Starr Smith, David Streeter

Staff Present: John Hines, Robin Castle-Hine

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by Neel

Seconded by Kirby

Motion Carried Unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes – September 12, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve minutes (with correction to spelling of Commissioner Burnett’s name) made by Burnett

Seconded by Hine

Motion Carried Unanimously

VI. Citizens Participation

Josh McCallister asked why West Willow Park’s facilities have not been upgraded to same standards as other gated parks. Gate is sometimes locked, other times not. Commissioners will look into situation with township staff.

VII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

Tajalli Hodge, reporting for Mike Hoffmeister, Residential Service Director

- Huron St. Trail Phase 1 is officially complete and our reimbursements from the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission for our Connecting Communities grant is in process.
- The Clubview Park and Community Center Parks tennis courts renovations will start design soon and will take the rest of 2022. Bidding and construction will take place in 2023. At Sept 12, 2022 meeting, Park Board approved the Community Center Park improvement documents. On 9/14/22, MDNR and National Park Service approved the Clubview Park project and those items were added to the board agenda.
- Township staff, engineers, and legal counsel met about Loonfeather Point Park. Contacted J. Ryan Bonding (JRB), the bonding company for the project, and who will assist the township in pushing PGA to complete the project sooner, before we file a claim against the bond. JRB has contacted PGA and will provide a more detailed answer.

- Willow Run Acres will start work at Appleridge Park for the approved community farm and garden. First phase is construction of the raised flower beds.
- 5 Board of Trustees tabled the ReLeaf tree maintenance agreement for Sugarbrook Park previously approved by Park Board. The main issue is a staffing capabilities. Staff has communicated with ReLeaf and DTE about the decision. In place of these trees, we will go forward with our annual tree planting program and plant trees at Sugarbrook Park (trees have already been ordered.) Tree purchased for annual program come with a 1-year warranty rather than requiring a maintenance agreement.

John Hines, Recreation Services Manager

- Saturday Oct. 8, 12 – 4 pm: U Michigan Medicine will provide free Flu & Pneumonia Vaccine Clinic at the Community Center; will also provide rides
- Winter Basketball league sign up/registration deadline Oct. 11
- Oct 29: Trunk or Treat offered again at Community Center; looking for participants.

B. Commissioner Reports

None.

VIII. Unfinished Business

Continued discussion of park hours; survey details results presented. Discussion: Kirby – safety concerns are most important. Hine – simplify hours, 9 pm in summer and 6 pm rest of year. Hodge – suggests that no need to criminalize after-hours usage. Feedback is that there are no complaints about community parks but larger, residential parks (with parking lots and gates), are where issues and complaints are occurring. Hodge – question about paying Washtenaw Sheriff to patrol parks in summer. Commissioners will reach out to surrounding communities/parks & rec offices to determine how those communities address this issue. Commissioner outreach plan:

- Hine - Van Buren/Belleville
- Kirby - Superior
- Burnett – Washtenaw Sheriff
- Hodge – Pittsfield
- Neel – Saline and/or, Ann Arbor

IX. New Business

None

Seconded by Burnett

Motion passed unanimously.

X. Public Hearing

None

XI. Announcements

None.

XII. Recommendation

None

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Kirby

Seconded: Hine

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Jeff Neel, Secretary