

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 2023 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, Darrell Kirby, Starr Smith, Ed Burnett

Commissioners Not Present: David Streeter

Staff Present: John Hines

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by Hine

Seconded by Kirby

Motion Carried Unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes –Approval of February 9, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve minutes made by Neel

Seconded by Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

VI. Citizens Participation

None.

VII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

John Hines, Recreation Services Manager and Interim Residential Services Director

- Officially started Master Plan process with Beckett & Raeder. Township leaders met to form committee and that process is complete. Township will now move forward with broadcasting meeting times and public feedback options.
- Township Parks and Grounds will start wood chipping to address downed trees from recent major ice/snow storm. Neighborhood schedule will be based on recycling schedule. Lots of damage so likely 2 to 4 weeks to clean up. Golf course was severely affected – lots of trees down and damage to fences.
- Loonfeather Update: Working Tue and Wed (March 7 & 8) to put finishing touches such as paint on railing work. John will meet with township attorneys and leadership to finalize payment in the next month.
- Community Center repairs: while floor is up, will investigate repairing old plumbing.
- Ann Arbor JC Hydroplane racing requests postponed until 2024 because of conflict with Jazz Fest. Parking, trash collection, etc. is vastly complicated when trying to run two separate events on the same weekend.

Discussion: Commissioner Hine asked if there have been any developments in the investigation into vandalism at Green Oaks Golf Course. Law enforcement has not reported any conclusion but lack of witnesses or evidence is problematic. However, Kirk Sherwood, Director of Golf Operations, feels the course is in good shape and there is more seasonal help at golf course this year.

B. Commissioner Reports

None.

VIII. Unfinished Business

None.

IX. New Business

USGS Update: Biologist Spencer Widin requesting access again this year. In 2022, USGS treated 30 plots. The major issue to successfully controlling phragmites infestation is killing root system. USGS has refined the herbicide formula and is testing again this year. Looking to expand to new areas starting in late March/early April and will monitor through fall and continue next year. Commissioner Hodge asked about change in formula, application methods. Spencer: application method is same; ingredients are same but concentration is different and Glycerol (sugar) is a new ingredient at less than 3% of new formulation. Also working with a firm in Ohio to introduce naturally-occurring microbes to test effectiveness; will submit details in a document for Township to review. Burnett: asked if other communities and parks are participating. Spencer: yes, Oakland, Wayne County Parks, and DTE site are all participating, and are in the process of negotiating with Grosse Isle.

X. Announcements

None.

XI. Recommendation

Commissioner Hodge recommends that we submit to Township Board that Parks Commission approves USGS to clear phragmites from plots treated last year and, pending submission of refined ingredients formula, approve continuation of herbicide trials.

Motion to approve recommendation: Kirby

Seconded: Hine

Motion passes unanimously.

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Burnett

Seconded: Neel

Meeting Adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Jeff Neel, Secretary