
Park

Commission

Tajalli Hodge, **Chair**
Dave Streeter, **Vice Chair**
Brad Hine, **Treasurer**
Jeff Neel, **Secretary**



**YPSILANTI
TOWNSHIP**
— WHERE YOUR FUTURE GROWS —

Commissioners:
Edward Burnett
Darrell Kirby
Star Smith

Park Commission

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

Date: Monday, June 5, 2023

Time: 6:30 P.M.

LOCATION

1st board room
Ypsilanti Township Civic Center
7200 S. Huron River Drive
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Chairperson
Tajalli Hodge
Vice Chairperson
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REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023
6:30 P.M.

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Determination of Quorum**
- IV. Approval of Agenda**
- V. Approval of Minutes from the May 1, 2023 regular meeting**
- VI. Citizens Participation**
- VII. Reports**
 - A. Staff Reports**
 - B. Commissioner Reports**
- VIII. Unfinished Business**
- IX. New Business**
 - A. Life Scout Troop Mini Library**
- X. Announcements**
- XI. Recommendations to the Township Board**
- XII. Adjournment**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
PARK COMMISSION
PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 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: Jeff Neel, Starr Smith, Ed Burnett, David Streeter, Tajalli Hodge

Commissioners Not Present: Brad Hine, Darrell Kirby

Staff Present: John Hines

III. Determination of Quorum

Quorum present.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by Neel

Seconded by Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes –Approval of April 3, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve minutes made by Burnett

Seconded by Streeter

Motion Carried Unanimously

VI. Citizens Participation

John Woodcock: question about opening of parks. Commissioner Hodge answered that Memorial Day is official opening. JW suggests posting signage for those opening hours and dates. Opposes Hewen’s Creek Park closing in winter – cross country skiing, ice fishing, etc. Parking is a major issue. Lots of traffic/crossing at Hitchingham entrance – Hitchingham is paved vs. Bemis unpaved/dirt. Asked County to provide signage for crossing – e.g., “Park Entrance 500 Ft” - but was told this is Township responsibility. JW asked about expanding park hours; TH replied that this is likely a staffing issue with the Township. Also suggested having some parks members walk the trails with John to see where signs should go. John Hines also offered to help address concerns.

VII. Reports

A. Staff Reports

John Hines, Recreation Services Manager and Interim Residential Services Director

- Community Center improvements update: insurance wrapped up from Belfor. All checks submitted from MML. Also discovered restroom issues to replace/fix since floors are already torn up. Will take another few months to fix all issues. Proposal to repair damaged flooring and other issues submitted by Belfor. At the last Township board meeting a line-item amendment to the budget was approved to track costs and fix damage.
- Golf course is open and pro shop is revamped. Few days of 100+ rounds but cold days are about 20. Tree contractor has help clear ice storm damage to trees.

- Ford Lake Park renovations to shelter. Planting “tree wall” along soccer field as an experiment. Exploring adding solar lighting along paths (especially given with Jazz Fest traffic.)
- Hewen’s Park discussion: already had conversation with citizens and Township leaders about same issues. Could residents open/close parks? Would need to address legal and safety issues with Board/Law Director.
- Outside athletic programs are booming. Over 300 players. 7 teams for both adult soccer and softball.
- Washtenaw CC offering ESL and GED programs. Was using only one room at Community Center but programs are expanding so will need three rooms in the fall.
- Most parks are open every day; mulching and mowing are done.
- Community Center gym will close May 15 for two weeks to refurbish gym – and include pickleball lines.
- Tennis courts refurbishing proposal submitted from Spicer for Clubview and Community Center.

B. Commissioner Reports

Commission Hodge asked about Gault Village/Nancy Park baseball field needed upgrades. Turns out this is actually YCS property and John Hines informed YCS about the need to fix field.

Commissioner Burnett asked about Skate Park Parking. Branches placed on Midway but haven’t been picked up yet and so impact parking. John Hines will investigate.

VIII. Unfinished Business

Recommendation for public hearing on park hours. Proposal/recommendation to Board was lost in administration changes, so Planning Director and Clerk/Supervisor has suggested having public hearing on new hours. Will plan to have public hearing at next park board meeting in June 5, starting at 6:00 pm.

IX. New Business

None.

X. Announcements

None.

XI. Recommendation

None.

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Streeter

Seconded: Smith

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Minutes taken and prepared by Jeff Neel, Secretary



24.5 x 13 x 56 inches



My name is John Buchanan and I am a Life Scout with Troop 243 in Ypsilanti. I lived in Ypsilanti until I was thirteen years old. I attended K-8 school in Ypsilanti. Growing up, I participated in t-ball and soccer through Ypsilanti Township at Ford Heritage Park. For my Eagle Scout project, I am installing three sharing libraries in Ypsilanti. I would like to purchase and install one at Ford Heritage Park by the play structure, as I spent many days playing at this park. I chose the Simplay 3 Sharing Library because it is maintenance free and made in America. I have been in communication with John Hines, and he added me to the Park meeting agenda on Monday, 6/5/23 at 6:30 pm. Thank you for your time and for considering my project.