

Park Commission

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

Commissioners:
Edward Burnett
Darrell Kirby
Star Smith

2022 Annual Report



“Come Visit – Get Active – Leave Happy – YT Parks!”

Park Commission Common Goal: Quality Living, One Park at a Time

Park Commission Core Values

- *Maintain, preserve, and protect Ypsilanti Township Park amenities*
- *Value partnering with the community to support and sustain Ypsilanti Township parks*
- *Promote nature, recreation, and health*

2022 Charter Township of Ypsilanti Park Commission

Tajalli Hodge, Chairperson David Streeter, Vice Chairperson
Brad Hine, Treasurer Jeff Neel, Secretary

Commissioners

Edward Burnett* Darrell Kirby Brad O’Conner* Star Smith

Staff Liaison – Mike Hoffmeister, John Hines

*Brad O’Conner resigned partway through the year to be replaced by Edward Burnett

Pursuant to the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Park Commission by-laws, the following annual report lists the Park Commission's activities and accomplishments supporting the Park Commission's purposes as listed in said by-laws.

- A. To develop a park master plan and to carry out programs for the acquisition, management, and control of parks and places of recreation of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti.**
- Utilized the 5-Year Parks and Recreation master plan to guide discussion around parks and park improvement.
 - Started the process of securing a contractor for the development of the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- B. To promote the development of a system of neighborhood parks and other places of recreation to serve the various neighborhoods within the Charter Township of Ypsilanti.**
- Addressed neighborhood park concerns that have been brought to its attention.
 - Continued to work with staff to address areas found to need repair.
 - Continued support for the Community Garden at Appleridge Park and the installation of an apple orchard in the Spring.
 - Installed 10 trees at Sugarbrook park.
- C. To promote the development of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti parks and other places of recreation in the Charter Township of Ypsilanti.**
- The Park Commission has:**
- Evaluated safety concerns for gate staff
 - Reviewed the park hours ordinance language and recommended changes to the Township Board
 - Supported the John E. Lawrence jazz concert series be hosted in the Charter Township of Ypsilanti
 - Supported the construction of the Huron Street pathway, providing a safe place for residents to walk and bike across.
 - Passed a resolution encouraging stricter anti-hunting language in the township ordinance.
 - Supported installation of two new docks at the Ford Lake boat launch
 - Supported multiple updates to the Community Center
 - Tried a successful cornhole tournament in August.
- D. To further and encourage cooperation between governmental units, private agencies, and private citizens toward these ends.**
- Attendance at some of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti board meetings, and neighborhood watch meetings.
 - Communicated with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office regarding incidents and public safety concerns
 - Supported the establishment of Covid-19 testing sites at Township buildings, including the Community Center.
 - Worked in partnership with the Washtenaw County Conservation District to obtain trees to be planted
 - Approved a project at North Hydro Park with the U.S. Geological Survey to research *Phragmites*.
 - Supported partnership with DTE for recreation scholarships.

Additional Accomplishments

- Continued the placement of Park Commission packets and minutes on the township website.
- Reviewed various documents and requests of residents.
- Passed a resolution honoring Angela Verges and her contributions to the township Parks and Recreation Department.