#### **Park Commission**

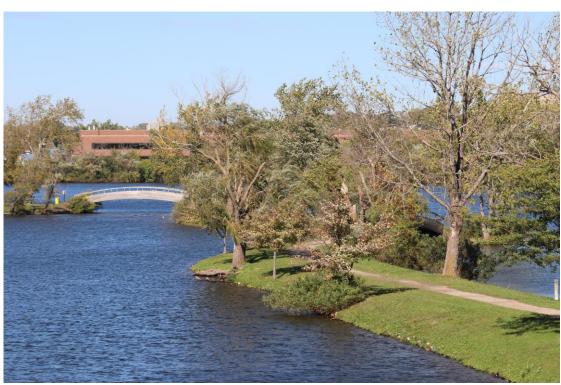
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Tajalli Hodge, Chair David Streeter, Vice Chair Jeff Neel, Secretary Brad Hine, Treasurer

> 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

<sup>\*</sup>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
- Trialed 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.