

Chairperson

Tajalli Hodge

Vice Chairperson

David Streeter

Treasurer

Brad Hine

Secretary

Jeff Neel



**YPSILANTI
TOWNSHIP**

— WHERE YOUR FUTURE GROWS —

Park Commission

2023 Annual Report

Commissioners

Edward Burnett

Darrell Kirby

Star Smith



“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*

2023 Charter Township of Ypsilanti Park Commission

Tajalli Hodge, Chairperson David Streeter, Vice Chairperson

Brad Hine, Treasurer Jeff Neel, Secretary

Commissioners

Edward Burnett Darrell Kirby Star Smith

Staff Liaison – John Hines

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 current 5-Year Parks and Recreation master plan to guide discussion around parks and park improvement.
- Completed creation of the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan with Beckett & Raeder.

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 a second well.
- Supported park clean up days at neighborhood parks with local community organizations.
- Supported American Rescue Plan Act disbursements for projects in West Willow Park and Burns Park.

C. To promote the development of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti parks and other places of recreation in the Charter Township of Ypsilanti.

- Supported the 2nd annual John E. Lawrence jazz concert series hosted in the Charter Township of Ypsilanti.
- Supported community events to encourage visitors to visit Community Parks, including the annual Rosie Show and the Field Day that occurred during the summer months.
- Supported American Rescue Plan Act disbursements for projects in Community Parks and Recreation Facilities including Ford Heritage Park, Ford Lake Park, Lakeside Park, Green Oaks Golf course and the Community Center.
- Completed repairs to Loonfeather Park, which was reopened in 2023.
- Planted trees along the soccer fields at Ford Lake Park.
- Observed increased participation in outside athletic programs with over 300 players.

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.
- Approved a project renewal at North Hydro Park with the U.S. Geological Survey to research *Phragmites*.
- Solicited feedback from community members through workgroups, open houses and surveys for input into the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Hosted a special meeting to review the proposed park hours ordinance language and allow for community feedback.

