

Park Commission

7200 S. Huron River Drive
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone: (734) 484-0073
Fax: (734) 544-3501
www.ytown.org



Sandy Andresen, Chair
Marcia Chapman, Vice Chair
Debbie Swanson, Secretary
Lawrence W. Johnson, Treasurer

Commissioners:
Elayne Black
Marsha Lathion
Ted Vasicek
Carissa Watson
Monica Ross-Williams

2010 Annual Report



North Hydro Park

2010 Charter Township of Ypsilanti Park Commission

Sandy Andresen, Chairperson Marcia Chapman, Vice Chairperson
Scott Martin, Treasurer Debbie Swanson, Secretary

Commissioners

Elayne Black Lawrence W. Johnson Marsha Lathion Ted Vasicek Carissa Watson

Staff Support – Art Serafini & Brian Durant

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 the 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.**
- Supported Acquisition of Land Parcel Located North of Ecorse Between Harris & Glenwood for use as township park space
- 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.**
- The Park Commission has addressed neighborhood park concerns that have been brought to its attention
 - Explored alternative park options for Pine Park due to high water table
 - Explored options for maintenance of tennis court surfaces in neighborhood park
 - Supported neighborhood initiated clean up of Water Tower 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:**
1. Supported "Welcome to the Ypsilanti Township Park System" pamphlet
 2. Ford Heritage Park
 - Support extending water and sewage taps just beyond the property lines of park
 - Recommendations to the Township Board: The park commission feels very strongly and recommends that water and sewer be put in Ford Heritage Park while incentives are in place so that substantial savings can be realized.
 3. Ford Lake Park
 - Supported necessary improvements to boat ramp and other items as noted by Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
 4. Hewen's Creek Park
 - Created Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Michigan Mountain Biking Association. Approved by Township Board of Trustees pending legal review, Presented to township attorney for legal review.
 - Wood Duck Houses in Hewen's Creek Park - Approved allowing 2 to 4 Wood Duck Houses to be placed in Hewen's Creek by resident Paul Pobursky with his plan and locations to be communicated and reviewed by Brian Durant prior to placement and documented after placement
 5. Supported Annual Park Permit Fees for 2010 for Ford Lake Park System.
 - Ypsilanti Township Resident \$15 minus instant rebate of \$5 = \$10
 - Ypsilanti City Resident \$15
 - All Others \$20
 - Senior City/Twp. – Free & All Others - \$10
 6. Continued to support the creation and implementation of unified signage in all township parks
 7. Explored options for maintenance of tennis court surfaces in community parks
 8. Explored options for resident access to locked gated parks during the winter season
 9. Created, approved and sent Personnel Training/Certification Recommendations to the township board

D. To further and encourage cooperation between governmental units, private agencies and private citizens toward these ends.

- Attendance at the Charter Township of Ypsilanti board meetings
- Invited Administrative Officials to park commission meeting to hear their views on Ford Heritage Park – Supervisor Brenda Stumbo and Clerk Karen Lovejoy-Roe attended May 2010 meeting to share their views regarding charging an entrance fee for Heritage Park
- Water Conservation Advisory Commission (WCAC) – YTPC representation on this Commission. Commissioner Martin served as the YTPC representative and provided regular updates to the park commission.
- MRPA 2010 Annual Conference- Attendance at conference, Interesting Sessions included: Value of Parks & Recreation in increasing tax base & role of retaining seniors
- Created a Memo of Understanding with Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) – establishing a formal partnership for volunteer trail work in Hewen’s Creek, document was approved by the township board of trustees pending legal review, current status – document is with the township attorney for legal review.
- Non-Motorized Pathways – Washtenaw County Safety Summit
- Created, Reviewed, and Approved Ypsilanti Township Non-Motorized Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway System Study
- Supported the Re-Imagine Washtenaw Avenue CIA (Corridor Improvement Authority)
- Support EMU’s application for grant funding to build a boathouse at Lakeside Park, with understanding that specifics of boathouse and the partnership with the township will be determined once funding is secured – Trust Fund approved this grant
- Supported New Boy Scout Planting Project @ Loonfeather Park
- Attendance at Township summer community forums
- Created List of Possible Projects and Worked with potential Eagle Scouts on service projects
 1. Restoring gazebo in Ford Lake Park – completion Fall 2010
- Greenways Advisory Committee County meeting attended in November. There is some interest in looking at the non-motorized plan for our I-94 Huron Street Corridor
- Rolling Hills County Park – The County is in the process of creating several improvements in Phase I of the improvements to the park, including a ring drive, a roundabout and soccer fields
- Supported EMU Rowing Team park usage at Ford Lake Park
- Participation in Ypsi Pride 2010 at Ypsilanti Township Park clean up sites
- Supported organized activities in the parks – Township recreation programming, Ypsilanti National Little League (YNLL) Harris Park, league softball at Community Center Park, and Youth football & soccer at various parks.
- Citizen participation and concerns shared at park commission meetings

Additional Accomplishments

- Continued to update Park Commissioner bio information and pictures to township website
- Continued the placement of Park Commission minutes on the township website
- Park commission packets now available on township website
- Researched possible trail from Ford Heritage Park to Library following ITC Transmission right of way.
- Worked with township board to fill vacant park commission position
- Continued to pursue information on Splash Pads
- Reviewed process for placement of cell towers in park spaces
- Reviewed various documents and requests of residents

- Completed and submitted 2009 Park Commission Annual Report to the board of trustees
- Elected Park Commission Officers (December 2010)
- Approved meeting times/dates for 2011

Future Additional Goals

- Fencing in Harris Park on the north side as a barrier between the railroad tracks and the park
- Establish a standing resident's advisory committee to the Park Commission
- Establish a system for documenting the history of the park commission: past, present, and future
- Continue to pursue grant funding opportunities
- Create a Preservation of Park Property Policy for preserving the integrity of park land and explore options for future planning for placement of maintenance and storage facilities not directly related to the parks being relocated to a non park locations
- Explore options with the township and businesses for creation of cooperative park usage space on the Seaver Farm Property
- Explore options for surveying our community