

## Park Commission

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Lonnie Scott, Chair  
Keith P. Jason, Vice Chair  
Debbie Swanson, Secretary  
Richard Roe, Treasurer

Commissioners:  
Gail Boyd-Palmer  
Evan Hayes  
Jasmine Mackey  
Jimmie Maggard  
Monica Ross-Williams

## 2014 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*

### **2014 Charter Township of Ypsilanti Park Commission**

Lonnie Scott, Chairperson   Keith P. Jason, Vice Chairperson  
Richard Roe, Treasurer   Debbie Swanson, Secretary

#### **Commissioners**

Gail Boyd-Palmer   Evan Hayes   Jasmine Mackey   Jimmie Maggard   Monica Ross-Williams

**Staff Support** – Angela Verges

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.**
- Worked with staff and consultant to complete and approve parks 5-year master plan
  - Used Parks 5-year master plan to guide parks discussions
- 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
  - The Park Commission has added a number of neighborhood park improvements to its 5-year master plan
  - Addressed large groups using neighborhood parks for events by setting precedent of required safeguards and items needed to carry out such events
  - Continued to work with staff to insure playground inspection process be started and that someone within Township Parks and Recreation staff learn how to do the inspections needed to continue with annual inspections
  - Continued to work with staff to address areas found to be in need of repair from playground inspections
- 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:**
- Continued support for advertising recreational uses of parks & non-motorized information by inclusion of parks information in Township mailings sent to residents
  - Continued use of parks slogan "*Come Visit – Get Active – Leave Happy – YT Parks!*"
  - Outlined a number of initiatives to enhance Township parks in the parks 5-year master plan
  - Researched options for spray pad components within current park system including hearing an overview presentation on spray pad parks
- 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
  - Requested involvement in decisions involving capital projects when money becomes available, including types and locations of projects
  - Recommended to the Township Board maintenance of minimum requirements for safety on our play structures
  - Continued to support Township partnership with EMU to complete the construction of the boathouse at Lakeside Park using Trust Fund grant monies for improvements to park
  - Worked with potential Eagle Scouts on service projects
  - Participation in Ypsi Pride 2014 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
  - Reviewed the Rule Waivers/Exemptions for park rentals
  - Began work on drafting a parks usage/rental policy

**Additional Accomplishments**

- Updated Park Commissioner bio information and pictures on new Township website
- Continued the placement of Park Commission minutes on the Township website
- Continued the placement of Park Commission packets on Township website
- Reviewed various documents and requests of residents
- Elected Park Commission officers (December 2014)