

**Park Commission**

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David Streeter, Chair  
Edward Burnett, Vice Chair  
Sage Pazyamor, Secretary  
Elizabeth Corder, Treasurer

Commissioners:  
Brad Cannon  
Gloria Peterson  
Debbie Swanson

**2019 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*

**2019 Charter Township of Ypsilanti Park Commission**

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Elizabeth Corder, Treasurer   Sage Pazyamor, Secretary

**Commissioners**

Gloria Peterson   Debbie Swanson   Brad Cannon

**Staff Liason** – 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.**
- Adopted Ypsilanti Township 2019-2023 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
  - Used Parks 5-year master plan to guide discussion of parks
- 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 address large groups using neighborhood parks for events regarding requiring safeguards and items needed to carry out such events
  - Supported Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant application for Loonfeather Park
  - Supported adoption of Non-Motorized Transportation Plan by Township Board
- 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!*"
  - Continued support of Township partnership with EMU for of the use of the boathouse at Lakeside Park.
  - Commissioner Swanson worked with Director Verges on forming a committee to explore Art in the Park opportunities
  - Park Commission accepted recommendation of Mike Hoffmeister to move the front entrance area to the end of the drive to allow easier access to playground and trails during the winter
- 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, and neighborhood watch meetings
  - Assisted and collaborated with Township board members and residents in developing YTown 2040 Master Plan
  - Requested involvement in decisions involving capital projects when money becomes available, including types and locations of projects
  - Supported the Township Board and staff in maintenance of minimum requirements for safety on our play structures and supported schedule of playground inspections
  - Participation in Ypsi Proud 2019 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
  - Explored ways to work with community organizations
  - Recommended to the township explore the viability of creating a dog park within the township park system and requested information on potential sites

- Formed Dog Park Committee with members of Park Commission and Trustees to explore viable locations
- Communicated with Washtenaw County Sheriff Office regarding incidents and public safety concerns
- Participated with and supported skate park commission regarding design and installation

#### **Additional Accomplishments**

- 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

#### **Next Steps**

- Implement and support the 5 Year Parks Master Planning Process in cooperation with the Township Board of Trustees
- Continue to explore hosting events within the township park system