



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 9, 2022 @ 5:30 PM
South Greenville Recreation Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Gordon Darragh, Chair
- Darin White, Vice-Chair
- Byron Aynes
- Derrick Clark
- Kevon Gainer
- Mike Saad
- Najjiyah Lewis
- Deborah Sheppard
- Montez Bishop

STAFF:

- Don Octigan
- Mark Nottingham
- Heather White
- Council Member Monica Daniels
- Dennis Vestal
- Nicole Manigo
- Chasity McCurdy
- Intern Jackson Conner
- Brandon Reed
- Dontrell Jones
- Debra Vick

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

None.

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:37 PM and the following items were addressed:

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Director Octigan welcomed new Commissioner Kevon Gainer who was newly appointed to the Commission in February.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to amend and approve the 03.09.2022 agenda as presented.
Added to the agenda: PARTF Application/Wildwood Park.
Motion: Commissioner Gordon Darragh
Second: Commissioner Darin White
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the 01.12.2022 minutes as presented.
Motion: Commissioner Darin White
Second: Commissioner Byron Aynes
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VI. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

1. Welcomed newest member to the Commission, Commissioner Gainer's joins us tonight and was appointed in February. He recently served on the Police Community Relations Committee and decided to make the switch to the Recreation & Parks Commission. Look forward to working with him the next several years.

2. Wildwood Park Fundraising Update - Last Friday, Mark, Heather and I provided an update to the Wildwood Park Resource team which consists of members of the Greenville community who are committed to raising private funds for the development of Wildwood Park. During the meeting Mark provided an update on many of the development projects he is currently working on. Heather provided an overview of the great events that have been held at Wildwood and what is upcoming. You will also hear some of these updates tonight. Overall it was a great meeting and we plan to keep the group up to date on the progress at the park every other month. Our goal as a staff is to help them reach their fundraising goals for the park.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Heather White, Recreation and Parks Superintendent

1. Spring into Wildwood on Saturday, March 26th from 10AM – 2PM. This event will bring music, bounce houses, face painting, and kayaking.
2. Our first egg hunt out at Wildwood Park - Egg Rush will be held Sunday, April 10th at 1PM for ages 12 and under. Staff will have designated locations for specific ages to hunt for eggs and receive a goody bag with a chance to meet the Easter Bunny and take a picture in our photo booth.
3. River Park North staff have also assisted with park activation through program offerings. There are on average 3 programs a month held at WWP. These diverse programs include a homeschool adventure series, geocaching, trail walks and nature observation, clean and hike service days, bug hunts, and as the weather continues to warm, watersports will be incorporated. We are excited to announce that Riverside Recreation will be assisting with watersport opportunities at WWP beginning April 20th- this will yield opportunity for interested parties to participants in kayaking, Sup boards, and pedal boats.
4. Our July 4th event will be back this year without restrictions. Staff is in the process of preparing for a successful event - seeking sponsorships, working to secure food trucks, securing live entertainment and many other things that go into this large scale event. More info to present to the group at a later date.
5. Planning meetings have begun for the 2022 Little League Softball World Series to be held August 9th - August 15th at Elm Street Park. We are working with Little League International and Greenville Little Leagues to determine the direction for this year's series, but are excited about hosting this again this year.

B. Chasity McCurdy, Asst. Recreation & Parks Superintendent

1. 03.27.2022 - Pedal Pals at Greenfield Terrace. A free, family inclusive biking event hosted by ENC AMBUCS (National charity that works to provide adapted bikes for individuals with disabilities in order to help them gain independence).
2. I Need A Job Workshop Fair at South Greenville on 04.05.2022 – 04.07.2022 from 6:00-8:00PM.
3. 04.09.2022 - Badges for Baseball at Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams (10AM -12:30PM). Spring baseball clinic on our adaptive baseball field for individuals with disabilities helped put on the by the Greenville Police Department as volunteers.
4. Spring Egg-stravaganza at Greenfield Terrace on 04.16.2022. Free Health Screenings, bounce houses, food trucks, face painting, music an egg hunt and more.
5. 04.30.2022 - Badges for Baseball at Thomas Foreman Park (11:00AM – 2:00PM). Clinic put on by the Greenville Police Department as volunteers.
6. Juneteenth Celebration at Town Common (10:00AM – 2:00PM) First annual family oriented community event celebrating Juneteenth with fun, educational and uplifting entertainment.

- C. Nicole Manigo, Recreation Supervisor South Greenville Recreation Center
 - 1. Welcomed everyone to “The South Greenville” and introduced intern Jackson Conner.
 - 2. Spring upcoming programs: Spring Football Clinic, I Need A Job Workshop & Job Fair, Adult FIT Group – Power House Teen Fit, and Weightlifting.
 - 3. Summer upcoming programs: Are You Jr. NBA Ready?, Basketball Camp & Showcase, Camp Jamboree, Jr. NBA Youth Summer League, Ladies Nite Basketball, and Teacher Appreciation Event.
 - 4. South Greenville Recreation Athletic Club - This free membership gives participants the opportunity to pre-register for upcoming activities and receive exclusive invitations to special events and activities.

- D. Dennis Vestal, Recreation & Parks Superintendent
 - 1. Sports Connection - Landscaping improvements were completed this month to improve overall aesthetics to the facility.
 - 2. Ballfield Construction - Work is done to improve playing conditions prior to spring seasons. Fields completed to date are JH Rose High School, Guy Smith Park, Jackie Robinson Baseball Field, Perkins Complex, and work has begun at H. Boyd Lee Park.
 - 3. Graffiti Removal - Parks are inspected for damages, graffiti and other areas of concern. Pictured is a picnic table off the Greenway that was discovered by staff with various drawings. This one project took three staff hours to remove.
 - 4. Winterfest Support - Parks staff supported Winterfest through various tasks such as hanging lights in the shelter, hanging the projection screen, installing signs, providing tables and chairs, inspecting trails for the 5k run and providing support during the event.
 - 5. Other Projects - Parks staff installed a memorial bench for Jane & Terry Boardman at Wildwood Park and completed improvements to the dugouts at the Prep Field at Guy Smith Park.
 - 6. Greenville Aquatics & Fitness - Group Fitness Classes continue to be popular and staff has added Zumba Gold and Pumpit this past month. A Strength Conditioning program has also been added that meets two days per week and requires members to work out on their own an additional day. Lifeguard in Training program is still active to recruit new employees to work with the Department.
 - 7. Staff worked to get Bradford Creek Soccer Complex ready for the start of Future Stars Soccer that began on 03.05.2022.

- E. Mark Nottingham, Parks Planner
 - 1. Recreation and Parks staff, along with community stakeholders, have been collaborating with Nature Trails, LLC on the design of over 6 miles of mountain bike trails at Wildwood Park. This will be the City’s first mountain bike trails. The project also includes a Bicycle Skills Park and Pump Track. Construction to begin approximately June 2022. Project complete by June 2023.
 - 2. Based on the donations to be received and in coordination with the Smith family's wishes, staff proposes to name the park amenity the Chris Smith Mountain Bike Trails.
 - 3. The Greenville Aquatics Outdoor Facility is on schedule. The 16 foot tall slide was installed and staff is looking to also expand the parking lot.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2022 Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Grant Application
 - 1. Grants require a 50% local match.
 - 2. Proposed project budget \$700K (\$350K local match).
 - 3. First Application Review is on 03.15.2022.
 - 4. Request Council Support is on 04.11.2022.
 - 5. Final Application Deadline is on 05.02.2022.
 A motion was made for approval and recommendation to City Council for approval.
 Motion: Commissioner Darin White

Second: Commissioner Mike Saad
Motion carried unanimously among those present.



X. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Darin White – Staff is doing a great job.
- B. Najiyah Lewis – Staff great job.
- C. Derrick Clark – Great job by everyone. Thanks for all you do.
- D. Kevon Gainer – Glad to be here and part of this.
- E. Mike Saad – Staff is doing a great job. Nicole, love South Greenville. Mark, excited about Wildwood.
- F. Gordon Darragh – Welcome to Kevon Gainer. Nicole, would love to bottle your energy. Great job everyone.
- G. Byron Aynes – Great to be here.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM.
Motion: Commissioner Darin White
Second: Commissioner Mike Saad
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura J. Davenport

Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Parks Department