



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 13, 2016 @ 5:30 PM
City Hall – Conference Room 337
200 West 5th Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garrett Taylor, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gordon Darragh |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jaimie Yahnker, Vice-Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hasan Hilliard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Darin White | <input type="checkbox"/> McLean Godley, City Council Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audrey G. Nealy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Saad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nikki Caswell | |

STAFF:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Fenton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura J. Davenport |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Kriewall | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lamarco Morrison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Hinson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Vestal |

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:35 PM and the following items were addressed:

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Shannon Keith from The Daily Reflector was introduced to the Commission.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to amend and approve the July 13, 2016 agenda; removing the presentation by Lukas Zonata under Capital Project Updates.

Motion: Garrett Taylor

Second: Gordon Darragh

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the June 8, 2016 minutes as presented.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Hassan Hilliard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VII. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

A. Newest Commissioner Mr. Mike Saad was introduced to the Commission. Commissioner Saad will be traveling next month and will be unable to join the annual parks tour. Commissioner Saad did visit a few sites with Mr. Fenton a little over a week ago and impressed with his grasp of the profession and understanding of its economic impact.

B. Parks Superintendent Dean Foy had to attend an out of town funeral today. Mr. Fenton will provide Mr. Foy's comments during the Parks portion of the agenda.

- C. Parks Planner Lamarco Morrison and Director Gary Fenton are both working on the Trillium Playground Project at the Town Common. This project will be a game-changer for the quality of Greenville's playgrounds and it has also been an extremely complex initiative. The Town Common, which is clearly the right place for a project of this quality, has presented a few problems because of its sloping topography. However, the topography in itself will ultimately make for a more interesting and dynamic final product. The design team has worked diligently to save as many of the existing trees as possible, however a few will have to be removed. The local non-profit, Re-Leaf, will assist in providing three or four trees for every tree that has to be removed. This will allow funds that should allow the purchase of some larger caliper, more mature trees, so there will be an instant impact. Targeting completion date of September 30 and ribbon cutting a few weeks afterwards.
- D. Last month Mr. Fenton shared information on an Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership grant for a 50/50 funding for park improvements in the Greenfield Terrace Park. GRPD was one of two grant applications the state recommended for funding to the National Park Service. If GRPD remains qualified in late September, the National Park Service will request that a final application be completed. Unless some surprises come out of that process, the City will probably receive \$488,000 in funding for the project. This will require an equivalent match from the City of Greenville and City Council has approved matching the funding should the City receive the grant. This would be a 2017 project and hopefully some of Mr. Morrison's current projects will be completed before this one begins. All master plans are posted on GRPD's website.
- E. The City also has the opportunity to apply for a special grant at a four to one (grant to local share) ratio that targets accessibility projects; building an accessible facility or taking an existing non-accessible facility and making it accessible. The Connect NC Bond package, includes one-time funding of \$3 million for parks and recreation grants to benefit children and/or veterans with disabilities. Applications are due December 1, 2016. One initiative that's been on the back burner might be ideal for the Connect NC Bond grant is turning the pedal boat concession at River Park North into an accessible facility. The estimated cost of this improvement is \$125-150,000, so the local share for this grant would be \$25-30,000.
- F. The Convention Center and Convention and Visitors Bureau continue to work towards bringing the North Carolina Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference to Greenville in 2018. GRPD certainly supports the idea and it will mean a great deal of work for staff, but also a great deal of economic impact to the City.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

- A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent
 - 1. Recreation Update
 - a. Ms. Kriewall provided a PowerPoint with pictures of the following: Princess Dance Camp, Baseball Camp, Splashpoint Sprayground and Community Pool (busy with camp), YellowFins swim team, Famous Artist Camp, Camp Escape visiting Cherry Point Air Force Base, Opening of NC State 9-10 year old Little League Tournament, and Upcoming Events (Little League Baseball: 9-11 State Tournament, 7/13-19; 8-10 Tournament of State Champions, 7/22-27; 9-11 Tournament of State Champions, 7/29-8/3; Babe Ruth Tournament at Guy Smith Stadium, 7/15-19; and GASSL Championship at the Community Pool on 7/30).

Conversation ensued about the Splashpoint location related to the Community Pool. The sprayground costs less to operate than the Community Pool.

2. Chris Hinson, Recreation Supervisor, PPT Presentation
Mr. Hinson shared a PPT presentation explaining the programs and services offered by River Birch Tennis Center.
- B. Dean Foy, Parks Superintendent (given by Director Gary Fenton)
1. Parks Updates
 - a. Impact of Pokémon Go, which is a game where you search for virtual characters, similar to a treasure hunt. There have not been any negative impacts, although lots of people are in the park system after curfew. Park Rangers are monitoring the parks.
 2. Facility Improvement Plan Update
 - a. Completed FIP projects include roof work at Eppes Recreation Center and H. Boyd Lee Park, as well as improvements to the Green Mill Run Greenway Bridge.
 - b. Projects taking place at GAFC include carpeting in locker rooms, pool resurfacing and roof replacement.

C. Lamarco Morrison, Parks Planner

1. Capital Project Updates
 - a. South Greenville Recreation Center
Mr. Morrison shared current pictures of the project. Extremely pleased with the Contractor who is on schedule and budget. This is a LEED Silver project which is expensive and an ongoing process. The HVAC will be a LEED product. The windows, drywall, and interior work will be completed next month. There is concern regarding vandalism; the Contractor has had windows broken in the project trailer. There will be security cameras. Fields have been graded, sprigging fields with Bermuda grass and irrigation (LEED product – which will lead to a 60% savings). Anticipate the opening date on November 4 or 16.
 - b. Town Common Schematic Plan Update
Mr. Morrison shared schematic design for Phase I. Also shared Schematic Plan Focus Group meetings to be held on Monday, August 29 at City Hall – 3rd Floor Gallery. Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Hilliard chose the meeting at 1:00 PM. The Open House is scheduled the same day from 6:00-8:00 PM. A Sycamore Baptist Church memorial will be the first project with three alternatives for the tower.

Public Works will be working on the Town Creek Culvert Project that will affect the parking lot at the Town Common. Mr. Morrison has spoken with the project coordinator and they will work together to achieve the parking lot improvements planned for the Town Common Schematic Plan.

Plan to complete the boat ramp with Phase I and may go ahead with fishing pier. Kayak launch is delayed due to No-Rise Certification.

- c. Mr. Morrison shared Capital Projects and their approved amounts including:

GRPD Capital Improvements FY17

Town Common Renovation	\$851,663
South Greenville Field Renovation	\$365,000
Westside Land Acquisition	\$271,153
Westside Park Development	\$ 28,847
Eastside Park	\$150,000
Tar River Legacy Plan Implementation	<u>\$200,000</u>
TOTAL FY17	\$1,866,663

GRPD Capital Improvements FY18

Town Common Renovation	\$461,033
Westside Park Development	\$200,000
Eastside Park	\$150,000
Tar River Legacy Plan Implementation	<u>\$319,000</u>
TOTAL FY18	\$1,130,033

Commissioner Saad recommended a placard placement to show schematic plan. The antenna at the Town Common is rented by WOWO Radio Station – Assistant City Manager Merrill Flood is working on a feasibility study, the estimated cost is \$60,000.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Sarah Vaughn Recognition at the Field of Dreams
Commissioner Darragh shared that the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, who has been helpful with grants for the Exceptional Community Baseball League; has offered to place a permanent plaque to share Sarah Vaughn’s story. A motion was made to approve a plaque at the Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams by the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation.
Motion: Gordon Darragh
Second: Jaimie Yahnker
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

X. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Yard Sale Requests at Westhaven Park
Group who was scheduled to present did not come. A motion was made to table this item until the September 14, 2016 meeting.
Motion: Gordon Darragh
Second: Hassan Hilliard
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

- B. GAFC Family Memberships
Commissioners chose to remove “students” and “permanent” from GAFC’s Family Membership description, to read:

“Two or more people and/or their legal dependents up to age 25. Must provide evidence that family members live in same household. Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center reserves the right to request documentation to support residency, age, or dependent status. Membership must be billed to one account.”

A motion was made to adopt the GAFC family membership definition as amended.
Motion: Jaimie Yahnker
Second: Hassan Hilliard
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Mr. Fenton reminded Commissioners of the ReCognize the Parks newsletter at their seat. Also shared that Nelson Cooper, a professor at ECU in Leisure Systems Studies has recently been diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.

XI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Gordon Darragh – Welcomed Commissioner Saad.
- B. Jaimie Yahnker – STAR Splash Bash Adaptive Water Skiing invite at your seats for August 27. Also working on an Adaptive Sports day for basketball.
- C. Hasan Hilliard – Welcomed Commissioner Saad.

- D. Garrett Taylor – Thanked everyone for their work and welcomed Commissioner Saad.
- E. Mike Saad – Appreciative of opportunity to work on the Commission. Really interested in getting more funds for capital improvements, maintenance, and green space. Interested in working with City Council for funds.

XII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Hassan Hilliard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Parks Department