



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 13, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m.
City Hall – Council Chambers
200 West 5th Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Nikki Caswell, Chair
- Gordon Darragh, Vice-Chair
- Hasan Hilliard
- JuQuon Whitaker
- Garrett Taylor
- Jaimie Yahnker
- Mike Saad
- Elizabeth Seda
- Kandie Smith, City Council Liaison

STAFF:

- Gary Fenton
- Don Octigan
- Laura J. Davenport
- Lamarco Morrison
- Dean Foy
- Patricia Tyndall

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

Margaret Hrushesky to speak on the Naming of Park Land at Westpointe Village Subdivision.

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:36 p.m. and the following items were addressed:

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- A. A motion was made to move the New Business Item - Proposed Naming of Park Land in Westpointe Village Subdivision after the Public Hearing. The June 13, 2018 agenda was approved as amended.
Motion: Jaimie Yahnker
Second: Gordon Darragh
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A motion was made to approve the April 30, 2018 minutes as presented.
Motion: Jaimie Yahnker
Second: Gordon Darragh
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

- A motion was made to approve the May 9, 2018 minutes as presented.
Motion: Elizabeth Seda
Second: Jaimie Yahnker
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VI. PUBLIC HEARING – NAMING OF PARK LAND AT WESTPOINTE VILLAGE SUBDIVISION

- A. Director Fenton briefly reviewed the Policy & Guidelines for Naming or Renaming City of Greenville’s Parks, Recreation Facilities and Geographic Features within Parks. This policy sets the procedures and guidelines for naming lands and facilities, in order that the city have a systematic and consistent approach to naming. The policy includes a statement that states, “Priority in naming shall be given to geographical locations, historic significance, or geologic features.”

For this reason, staff feels that “Westpointe Village” would be a good name for the park we are developing in and adjacent to that particular neighborhood, and it is staff’s current recommendation.

- B. Margaret Hrushesky – Love the parks here in the town. On the Neighborhood Advisory Committee. President of the neighborhood association. Found an ally in Council Member Kandie Smith. Most people would say that Westpointe Village would be a logical name, however due to the crime history in the neighborhood, residents of the neighborhood would like for it to be named something different. Ms. Hrushesky recommended New Horizons Park or Pine Ridge Park as the park name. No consensus on a name from the neighborhood association.

Mike Saad arrived at 5:50 p.m.

Kandie Smith arrived at 5:52 p.m.

Mr. Fenton commended the names presented. Staff will consider both names. Commissioner Darragh had hoped for more consensus from the neighborhood on a name. There is another public hearing on June 25, 2018. Ms. Hrushesky would be okay with removing “Village” from the name. Councilmember Smith shared the following recommended names: The Emerald Green and West Point Park (3 votes).

Major thing about the name Westpointe Village is it limits it to one area. Most recommendations had West in them. Commissioner Caswell thought there might be a conflict with New Horizons due to the re-branding at ECU.

Commissioner Seda likes Emerald Green. Commissioner Darragh likes Pine Ridge Park. Commissioner Hilliard likes New Horizon. Director Fenton does not want to have a grand opening with no park name. Commissioner Saad would like to see more consensus among the residents in the neighborhood. Westpointe Park received the most votes for naming, per Councilmember Kandie Smith (only 5-6 residents responded).

Councilmember Smith is willing to send an email with the naming options to the neighborhood to get vote.

A motion was made to recommend City Council name the parkland at Westpointe Village Subdivision, “Pine Ridge Park” or “Westpointe Park.”

Motion: Elizabeth Seda

Second: Jaimie Yahnker

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

VII. DIRECTOR’S MONTHLY REPORT

- A. At the current moment a concert is taking place at Town Common, Concert on the Common with *On the Border* (Eagles Tribute Band). The Embers had a great crowd last month. Next month on the second Wednesday Band of Oz will be performing. These concerts are sponsored by IBX Media, 107.9 WNCT, Uptown Greenville and the City of Greenville.
- B. City leaders, approximately a year ago, talked about “activating” Town Common. A list of events scheduled include Zumba in the Park, Yoga In the Park, Worship Services, a BBQ Festival, PirateFest, Concert on the Commons, 5k Runs, Field of Flags project, 4th of July Celebration, and 12 concerts associated with the 45th season of Sunday in the Park.

Recreation Supervisor Ron Harris has a great season lined up for residents and visitors. This Greenville tradition is possible due to support of the City of Greenville and additional assistance from sponsors. Thank you to this year’s sponsors including Barbour Hendrick Honda, First National Bank, U.S. Cellular, FOX Eastern Carolina, Pirate Radio 1250, 107.9 WNCT, Physicians East, the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge, East Carolina Veterinary Service, A.J. McMurphy’s, and News Channel 12, who provides a member of the WCTI Team to introduce each week’s performer(s).

News Channel 12’s Greenville Bureau personalities for concerts include:

6/10	Stephanie Brown for The Wannabees (last weekend),
6/17	Greg Payne for the Brad Hudson Band,
6/24	Nate Belt for the Gen X,
7/1	Valentina Wilson for Lydia Salett Dudley & Jazz Expressions
7/8	Ashley Boles for the Kaylin Roberson Band,
7/15	Donnie Cox for The Monitors,
7/22	Brian North for Built for Comfort,
7/29	Wes Goforth for Song from the Road Band,
8/5	Nate Belt for the Brice Street Band,
8/12	Valentine Wilson for the Castaways Band, and
8/19	Brian North for the Heartbreakers.

- C. Grateful to the Noon Rotary for the leadership in the Field of Honor at the Town Common. Confident this will become an annual tradition in Greenville. Marketing and Events Coordinator Patricia Tyndall was an essential player in the planning for the event.
- D. Several projects happening at the Town Common include an accessible restroom building, picnic shelter at the playground, canoe/kayak launch, Sycamore Hill Gateway Plaza and the Town Creek Culvert project.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

- A. Don Octigan, Recreation Superintendent
 - 1. Recreation Update
 - a. Summer Camp Update

Summer camps began on 6/11; camps being held at Eppes Recreation Center, South Greenville Recreation Center, Boyd Lee Park, Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center, Greenfield Terrace, the Center for Arts and Crafts and the Drew Steele Center. Camps ages 5-12 are 86% full (1,655 total spots available). Sports specific camps being offered include baseball, basketball, and soccer. Art camps include Famous Artist Camp and Princess Dance Camp. Working on Fall/Winter Brochure and hope it will be ready for distribution by the next meeting.
 - b. Community Pool Update
 - i. The Community Pool is currently under repair for multiple leaks believed to be caused by the harsh winter. The leaks are currently in the skimmer lines, which is part of the pools filter system and helps keep debris out of the pool.
 - ii. Greenville Pool is currently working with staff to complete a full assessment of the system after the 2018 season is concluded.
 - iii. Staff have extended the hours of operation at the Splashpoint Sprayground at the Dream Park to accommodate the groups who were scheduled to use the Community Pool; this includes several of the department's camps previously mentioned.
 - c. The 27th Opening Day Ceremony of the Jackie Robinson Baseball League was held this past Sunday at Thomas Foreman Park. Former JH Rose standout Derrick Clark was the guest speaker. The first games will be held on Monday, 6/18. Have partnered with the Boys and Girls Club for an initiative called "Play Ball."
 - d. Mr. Octigan mentioned Ron Harris and provided the schedule for Sunday in the Park. Ron has done a great job organizing this event with bands, vendors, contracts, and more while working at the Sports Connection.
- B. Dean Foy, Parks Superintendent
 - 1. Town Common Restroom – Added roof today and will start pouring concrete soon, projected completion date is the end of July.
 - 2. Personnel Update – Jeff Strickland went out on medical disability, battling with cancer; Eddie Summers was promoted to the Facility Supervisor position. Crew Leader position is posted, and Dominique Crandol's position. RPN position, closes on 6/16, Mark Tysinger is interim. Parks crews summer work schedule changed to 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Next month will provide information from last month's safety meeting. Discussion ensued.

- C. Lamarco Morrison, Parks Planner
 - 1. Town Common Development
 - a. Sycamore Hill Gateway Plaza – Just finished 60% construction documents package. The design team is moving forward with 90% construction documents which will include the interpretive design of the wall panels in the plaza gallery. The documents are scheduled to be submitted to GRPD in the late summer.
 - b. Canoe & Kayak Launch – Contractor has mobilized, will start grading slope on Monday and remove current plant material and stabilize the bank. It will take four weeks to receive the dock. Estimated completion time by the end of July.
 - c. Since the radio tower has been removed, a private/public partnership project for that area can be considered, (1.4 acres of land).
 - 2. Westpointe Village Phase I
 - a. Have had challenges due to low water table. Contractor has completed grading (raised 3 feet).
 - b. Playground installer will be there on Wednesday. Installer has had some employee challenges with low employment. Installation will take about 10 days. Will be early August for a ribbon cutting.
 - 3. Tar River Legacy Plan
 - a. Action Sports Park Phase I – Should receive analysis of possible sites for this project in the next few weeks. Will report to City Council in August.
 - b. Town Common Boat Dock Schematic Plan and No-Rise
Go ahead for a schematic design and no-rise for a boat dock. Ward Consulting Engineers will be the contractor. Only a few companies can do no-rise certifications, only 2-3 in Raleigh area, there are none locally.

- D. Patricia Tyndall, Marketing and Events Coordinator
 - 1. Events
 - a. Field of Honor – Heroes in Our Lives continues to be at the Town Common through Saturday, 7/7. Please visit Field of Honor, it's a great event. There is a flag for ex-GRPD employee Jeff Strickland and others. Each flag has a tag indicated who it was dedicated to. Only 82 flags left to dedicate. 499 flags, plus 20 sponsorship flags on the Town Common.
 - b. This week at the Town Common includes:
 - i. Concert on the Common at 5:30 p.m. with On the Border,
 - ii. Zumba in the Park on Thursday at 6 p.m.,
 - iii. First Free Movie in the Park on Friday, 6/15 beginning at 8:30 p.m. (showing the movie "Wonder"), and
 - iv. Flag Day at Field of Honor on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Town Common.
 - c. The weekend at the Town Common includes:
 - i. Splash for Trash River Clean Up on Saturday from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 - ii. Carolina Barbecue Festival on Saturday from 12 – 9 p.m., and
 - iii. Sunday in the Park on Sunday beginning at 7 p.m.
 - d. Independence Day Celebration will begin on 7/4 at 3 p.m. at the Town Common with live music, Field of Honor, bounce houses, fireworks, and more. No longer sponsored by the Jaycees, has returned to the City of Greenville.
 - 2. Marketing
 - a. Numerous newspaper and media articles of things happening with the GRPD.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Renewal of Magnolia Arts Center Lease Agreement
The Magnolia Arts Center (MAC) has requested to renew their lease for the old Teen Center for an additional seven years. MAC has complied with all requirements concerning renovations and ADA requirements. Have put \$75,000 worth of renovations into the building. They continue to make improvements to it. Offer a lot of theater opportunities. The MAC has been a great tenant.

Councilmember Smith's concerns regarding not allowing other groups to use the facility, as they had stated during the RPF process. She would like to see the original suggestion be honored.

Director Fenton will have a representative from the MAC at the 6/25 City Council meeting.

A motion was made to recommend City Council approve a seven-year extension for the lease agreement with the Magnolia Arts Center.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Elizabeth Seda

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

X. OLD BUSINESS

None.

XI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Mike Saad – Thanks for the great information and appreciate what the staff is doing for the parks. Excited about things happening at the river.
- B. Jaimie Yahnker – Congrats to Nikki making it through her first meeting.
- C. Hassan Hilliard – Thanks to Dean, Don, Lamarco and Patricia for their hard work.
- D. Gordon Darragh – Thanks to staff for their hard work. Thanks to new Chair Nikki Caswell for a good meeting. So long to Elizabeth and thanks for all you have done.
- E. Hassan Hilliard – Thanks to Dean, Don, Lamarco and Patricia for their hard work.
- F. Elizabeth Seda – Good-bye, has been very impressed by the staff and the good job you do.
- G. Nikki Caswell – Thanks for your confidence in me. Thank you to all staff.
- H. Councilmember Kandie Smith - Actively looking for new candidates to fill vacant Commission seats. Appreciate all the work the Commission does.

XII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Gordon Darragh

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Parks Department