



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 13, 2019 @ 5:30 PM
City Hall – Council Chambers
200 West 5th Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Nikki Caswell, Chair
- Gordon Darragh, Vice-Chair
- Hasan Hilliard
- Byron Aynes
- Kristian Williams
- Jaimie Yahnker
- Mike Saad
- Sarojja Durant-Moore
- Carrie Watson

STAFF:

- Gary Fenton
- Don Octigan
- Councilmember Monica Daniels
- Terrance Demingo
- Laura J. Davenport
- Patricia Tyndall
- Chasity McCurdy
- Dontrell Jones
- Dean Foy
- Nicole Manigo
- Sara Carapreso

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

GRPD Staff presenting.

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:32 PM and the following items were addressed:

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

None.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the November 13, 2019 agenda as presented.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Hassan Hilliard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the October 9, 2019 minutes as presented.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Hassan Hilliard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VI. DIRECTOR’S MONTHLY REPORT

- A. Veteran’s Day Program at Town Common on Monday – an annual event hosted by the Pitt County Veteran’s Council in cooperation with our department with Patricia Earnhart-Tyndall and parks staff providing support for event.
- B. Hosting Greenville Gives on the first Friday of December, 12/6 at Five Points Plaza, beginning at 5:30PM. This event has become a tradition in the City and serves as the kickoff to the Holiday Season.

- C. The City and the Greenville Jaycees are hosting the first New Year's Eve Celebration at the Town Common on 12/31 beginning at 9:00PM. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the Third Street Education Center and the funding will be used to develop and implement new and improved curriculum at the Third Street Academy.
- D. Lakeland acquisitions continue on both sides of Hwy 264. Moving forward with land acquisition on the east side. Waiting to hear from state regarding a waiver for PARTF funding. In January hope to visit with potential partnerships for recreation pursuits. Director has submitted an article regarding this project for publication in the 2020 edition of Glimpse Magazine, an annual publication of the local Chamber of Commerce.
- E. Discussions continue regarding the need to replace the Community Pool at Guy Smith Park, a facility that is approaching 50 years old. Last spring the original dive tank was lost due to shifting and crumbling. Fortunately, the failure of the dive tank did not impact the main pool, despite its proximity to it, and the incident occurred early enough to remove the tank prior to the normal opening of the pool last June. The damage made it clear the current pool's days are numbered and staff needs to get serious about its replacement.
- F. Mark Nottingham will join GRPD staff on Monday, 11/25. The Commission will meet Mr. Nottingham at the January meeting.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Don Octigan, Assistant Director of Recreation and Parks
 - 1. Recreation Update
 - a. Recreation Supervisor – Specialized Recreation – Brent Harpe was promoted from Recreation Assistant.
 - b. Recreation Assistant – Specialized Recreation – Cam McFarland promoted from Designated Part-time Program Assistant.
 - c. Recreation and Parks Outreach Coordinator, Heather White, began on 11/11/2019. 18+ years of experience and has worked for two municipalities. Will present in January 2020.
 - d. Vacancies – Recreation Assistant in Athletics – estimated start date in early February. Designated Part-time Program Assistant – estimated start date in early March.
 - e. Programming & Facilities Staff Meeting

Team development meeting was held at River Park North on 11/6 for all programming and facility staff. Topics covered included departmental updates, FIP projects, review/discussion of policies and procedures, and budget review. Breakout sessions to engage staff included the following topics: Defining our Workplace Culture and Determining the Why and Tell It and Sell It – Budgeting Made Easy.
 - f. Greenville-Pitt County Sports Commission
 - i. Mission: To create a lasting positive impression of Greenville, NC by providing an environment conducive to superior tourism.
 - ii. Goals
 - a) Establish “Greenville, NC Sports” brand.
 - b) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of recruiting and retaining sports events.
 - c) Advocate and educate support for new facilities for sports tourism.
 - d) Identify and increase the numbers of sports tourism marketing opportunities.
 - e) Increase number of room nights for sports related travel.
 - f) Increase economic impact through sports related travel.
 - g. Winter Programming
 - i. Adult Winter Basketball League – registration deadline is 12/12. Contract for officials.
 - ii. Winter After School Tennis for ages 11-18, open for enrollment.
 - h. Shared Thanksgiving Holiday Facility Hours
 - 2. South Greenville Recreation Center, Recreation Supervisor Nicole Manigo Black
 - a. Recreation Manager Chasity McCurdy introduced Recreation Supervisor Nicole Manigo Black and Recreation Assistant Terrance Demingo.
 - b. Community Events (pictures shared)

- i. Community events include Jr. NBA Skills Challenge, Freedom Showcase, Valentine's Day Dance, Spring Baseball Clinic, I Need A Job, Back2School Bash, Harvest Night, The Give Back, and Ladies Pajama Party.
 - c. Programs (pictures shared)
 - i. Winter Youth Basketball, Adult Fitness Group, Teen Fitness, Photography 101, Summer Camp, Running Skills 101, Are You Jr.NBA Ready?, Ladies Night Basketball, Can I Kick It?, and Basketball Skills Academy.
 - ii. Teen Initiatives – Game room with gaming devices and a place to hang out. Revamped social media (Instagram account).
 - iii. I Need a Job Workshop & Job Fair - 33% left with a job.
 - iv. Jr.NBA Summer League – Hosted over 200 people on opening night. One participant has verbally committed to NC State.
- 3. Marketing and Special Events, Marketing and Events Coordinator Patricia Tyndall
 - a. Special Events
 - i. Special Events in the Fall included Paint in the Park (partnership with Emerge in Uptown Greenville), Cycle NC – Camp on the Common (1,500 cyclists and loved being at the Town Common), Freeboot Fridays, Carter Williams Arts Show Fundraiser (550 pieces of art in the show and over \$2,500 for breast cancer research), Youth Arts Festival (partnership with Emerge and ECU; about 40 vendors), and the Holiday Art Show (28 vendors with 22 vendors on the waiting list).
 - ii. Greenville Gives is on Friday 12/6 beginning at 5:00PM at Five Points Plaza at Uptown Greenville
 - iii. A new event – New Year's Celebration on 12/31 at the Town Common beginning at 9:00PM (fireworks and novelties of bringing in the New Year with an emerald drop).
- B. Dean Foy, Parks Superintendent
 - 1. Parks Update
 - a. Parks Planner Position Update – Hired Mark Nottingham from Pitt County Planning Department. Will make a great team member, bringing the skills and will teach him how to have fun!
 - b. FIP Project Update
 - i. Guy Smith Stadium – Shared before and after pictures.
 - ii. Evans Park Lights – LED lights, shared pictures. Project completed within 2 weeks. Can program lights for energy savings. Project cost for two fields was \$460,000. Future FIP plans will include transition to LED lights for all ball fields.
 - 2. Capital Projects
 - a. Sycamore Hill Gateway Project
 - i. Steel poles are being added (shared photos).
 - ii. Mike Watson and John Berry have this project on schedule.
 - iii. Estimated completion date is February 2020. Will be a huge event for ribbon cutting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Jaimie Yahnker – Welcome to new Commissioners. Staff does great work and the Holiday Art Show is my go to spot for hard to buy for family.
- B. Saroija Durant-Moore – Thanks for endless commitment and hard work. Enjoy the holidays.
- C. Nikki Caswell – Welcome to new Commissioners. Thanks for the hard work and happy holidays.
- D. Hassan Hilliard – Welcome to new Commissioners. Thanks to staff for their hard work.
- E. Carrie Watson – Excited to know the inner works of the City of Greenville.
- F. Kristian Williams – A pleasure to hear all of the things Greenville has going on. Look forward to being a part of the future.
- G. Mike Saad – Welcome to new Commissioners. Thanks to staff for all they do.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 PM.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Saroija Durant Moore

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Parks Department