



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 14, 2021 @ 5:30 PM
ZOOM Meeting

This meeting was held electronically via ZOOM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Gordon Darragh, Chair
- Darin White, Vice-Chair
- Nikki Caswell
- Byron Aynes
- Derrick Clark
- Mike Saad
- Kristian Williams

STAFF:

- Don Octigan
- Mark Nottingham
- Council Member Monica Daniels
- Laura J. Davenport
- Heather White
- Dean Foy

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

None.

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:34 PM via ZOOM and the following items were addressed:

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

None.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the July 14, 2021 agenda as presented.

Motion: Nikki Caswell

Second: Darin White

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Vote: Commissioner Gordon Darragh | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Byron Aynes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Darin White | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Nikki Caswell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Derrick Clark | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the June 9, 2021 minutes as presented.

Motion: Nikki Caswell

Second: Darin White

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Vote: Commissioner Gordon Darragh | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Byron Aynes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Darin White | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Nikki Caswell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |
| Commissioner Derrick Clark | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay | <input type="checkbox"/> Nay |

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VI. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

A. Commission Meetings Update

This is hopefully our last meeting via zoom for the foreseeable future. In September we look forward to meeting in person. We are working on the details for that meeting and will provide an update with the August monthly report. We will have programming staff report at these meetings as well.

B. Recreation and Parks staff continue to plan for the 2021 Little League Softball World Series, to be held 8/11-18 at Elm Street Park. The planning for this tournament is a citywide effort and will impact each department within the City of Greenville. Recreation and Parks Department is responsible or partly responsible for several components of the tournament. Parks staff have been diligently working on various maintenance items that will support the tournament and Heather will provide an update as well on items she has been working on. The event will be great for our community and we are very excited to be a part of the planning process.

C. Greenville City Council approved the FY22 Budget in the 6/17 meeting. The budget, which included a .5 cent decrease in the property tax rate, funded two reclassifications and one new full-time position for Recreation and Parks. The two reclassifications created two full-time positions that were previously part-time. Those positions will now be a Parks Program Assistant for Wildwood Park, which will be posted for recruitment in August, and a Support Specialist III Membership Coordinator for the Greenville Aquatics & Fitness Center, which is currently held by Phyllis House. This is a well-deserved promotion for Ms. House as she is responsible for all the memberships at the Fitness Center. Heather will be providing some information about the new full-time position approved during this budget year. These three positions will make an immediate impact on the services our department provides to the community and we appreciate the continued support of the City Manager's Office and City Council.

D. Summer programs and services are in full swing and Recreation and Parks staff continue to keep the safety and well-being of participants a top priority. Staff have organized various summer day camps and all are at capacity with various safety measures and protocols in place. The Community Pool and Splashpointe are seeing high attendance numbers as well. Several of these activities are highlighted in this month's report.

E. Wildwood Park Update

Phase I construction continues. Sidewalks have been poured, working on electricity. Will have more info at next Commission meeting.

F. Lastly, I am looking forward to the one on one meetings with each of you. Most of them take place later this month or early August. I look forward to hearing about your vision for our department and how you would like to be involved.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Heather White, Recreation and Parks Superintendent

1. Fourth of July Celebration Overview

On Sunday July 4th, Greenville was excited to bring back our 4th of July Independence celebration at Town Common. Food trucks, vendor, inflatables, tethered balloon rides, a beer garden, and two great bands, and a firework finale made the evening perfect for many. Estimated attendance for this event was 8,500. A few pictures were shared that captured the festivities of the evening. These photos were taken by Aaron Hines who works in the City's PIO office.

2. Little League Softball World Series

Many of you have likely heard that the City of Greenville will host the 2021 Little League Softball World Series. The series will take place August 11-18 at Stallings Stadium at Elm Street Park. City wide resources are working together, alongside working with Little League International, to bring a successful series to our City. From food trucks, onsite sponsors, cooling tents, local media to ESPN being onsite - series

festivities will spread from the Drew Steele Center to the Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams. This event will bring 10 teams to our city for tournament play and create an enormous amount of positive exposure for our area as each game will be aired on ESPN platforms. Many city employees, Little League International, Greenville Little Leagues and volunteers will be what it takes to make this the most successful event possible. So, with that said, there is a need for volunteers, and if you are interested please contact me and I will be happy to add you to the volunteer list.

3. Assistant Recreation and Parks Superintendent Update –
We are happy to announce that we will offer the Assistant Recreation and Parks superintendent position to the chosen candidate this week. This position will work alongside the Director and two Superintendents to provide support for our department and help us continue to meet the goals and objectives set before us to continue to serve our citizens well.

B. Dean Foy, Recreation and Parks Superintendent

1. Landscaping Improvements
Updated at GAFC, TC, JCP, BLP, BMGP, DSC, SGRC, and entrance to the Sports Connection. Crews have shifted focus to Elm Street Park for the upcoming World Series.
2. Update on Eppes Recreation Center
Entrance underway, foundation has been done, waiting on steel; project is well within timeframe of 11/23. Pool construction is managed by Mark Nottingham. Tennis courts have been demoed, as well as back parking lot. Projects are active and moving forward.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None.

X. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Nikki Caswell – Thanks for your hard work behind the scenes.
- B. Byron Aynes – Echo Mr. Clark’s comments. Excited about possibilities at the Town Common.
- C. Darin White – Glad to see CC with the department approved the area for a restaurant or special space. Think it will do the area very well. Glad they see the vision. Looking forward to Little League Softball World Series and congratulations to Mark on the twins.
- D. Derrick Clark – Commend everyone on their projects, wish you well. Looking forward to the next meeting.
- E. Gordon Darragh – Congratulate Dean for 25 years of service and Mark on his twins. Appreciate everyone on the staff.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Nikki Caswell

Vote: Commissioner Gordon Darragh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Commissioner Byron Aynes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Commissioner Darin White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Commissioner Nikki Caswell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay
Commissioner Derrick Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yay	<input type="checkbox"/> Nay

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura J. Davenport

Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Parks Department