



City of Greenville  
**Recreation and Parks Commission**  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 11, 2023 @ 5:30 PM  
Drew Steele Center

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gordon Darragh, Chair   | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevon Gainer            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darin White, Vice-Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Montez Bishop           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deborah Sheppard        | <input type="checkbox"/> Derrick Clark           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Najiyah Lewis                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joel Sweeney |

**STAFF:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Octigan, Director                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Vestal, Superintendent          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Nottingham, Parks Planner             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather White, Superintendent          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Courtnee McGrath, Administrative Assistant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Member Monica Daniels, Liaison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Member Marion Blackburn            |  |

**AUDIENCE PRESENT:**

Council Member Blackburn was present in the audience as well as staff from Kimley-Horn.

**MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:**

The meeting opened at 5:45 PM and the following items were addressed:

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the January 11, 2023 agenda as presented.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Joel Sweeney

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the November 9, 2022 minutes as presented.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Deborah Sheppard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

**V. STAFF MONTHLY REPORTS**

A) Director, Don Octigan

- 1) Director Octigan informed the Commission that Byron Aynes is stepping off the Commission. We are working with City Clerk's Office to get another person appointed.
- 2) There have been staff changes due to departures. Recreation Manager, Brandon Reed, and Assistant Superintendent, Chasity McCurdy, both have left the department. With this change, The Assistant Superintendent will be reclassified as Superintendent of Outreach and oversee grants. This will allow our department grow and expand services in areas that might not have a facility.

B) Superintendent, Heather White

- 1) South Greenville Recreation Center hosted their Christmas Giveback. Around 200 people attended, and 180 gifts were donated which included bikes, TVs, etc.
- 2) Youth Basketball games kickoff this month at H. Boyd Lee Park and Pickleball is now being offered at Sports Connection.

- 3) RPN and WWP led their First Day Hike and informed the public with social media videos called Wildwood Weekly.
  - 4) Winterfest will be February 25<sup>th</sup> at Wildwood Park. The event will be one day featuring an ice skating rink, snow machine, fire pits, smores, and more.
- C) Superintendent, Dennis Vestal
- 1) The Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center had 97 members complete the workout challenge.
  - 2) Staff is doing a big push for lifeguards with training classes Feb-May.
  - 3) The Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center is running their January special this month for the year.
  - 4) Parks staff have winterized the bathrooms and supported multiple events.
  - 5) Certain parks staff attended and passed a pesticide training.
  - 6) Improvements will be done at the Off Leash Dog Area with more information to come.
- D) Parks Planner, Mark Nottingham
- 1) Parking will be expanded at Eppes Recreation Center later this year. Staff is working with Community Partners and the Jackie Robinson Baseball League, so it does not interfere with the baseball season.
  - 2) The Green Mill Run Greenway is eroding and a grant will allow the department to stabilize it.
  - 3) The Welcome Center at Wildwood Park is scheduled to be completed in February. The Bicycle Skills Course and Pump Track is scheduled to be completed in March. The Mountain Bike Trails is scheduled to be completed in June.
  - 4) The Bride and Boardwalk contract was awarded to TA Loving by City Council.
  - 5) Staff is working with the design team for the Town Common Bulkhead.
  - 6) The Dream Park Community Building will be converted into a multi-purpose building for the community to use, similar to the Barnes-Ebron-Taft Community Building.
    - (a) Councilmember Daniels asked about the Greenfield Terrace ARPA project and Mark informed her that the design element will be first then the construction will follow.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Review
- 1) Kimley-Horn gave a presentation to the Commission.

## **VII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

- A) Commissioner Sheppard: Happy new year! Amazing meeting and looking forward to projects.
- B) Commissioner White: Great presentation and staff is doing an incredible job.
- C) Commissioner Darragh: Presentation was outstanding with the information shared.
- D) Commissioner Sweeney: Wonderful presentation and great to see the impact and what people want to see in the community.
- E) Councilmember Daniels: Great presentation and thank you to staff for all their work.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Deborah Sheppard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtnee McGrath  
Administrative Assistant  
Recreation and Parks Department