



**NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD
SUMMARY NOTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2011 @ 6:30 PM
CITY HALL, 3rd FLOOR GALLERY
200 WEST FIFTH STREET**

BOARD MEMBERS/LIAISONS PRESENT:

Williams Gibbs (District 1)
Ann Maxwell, Chair (District 3)
Laura McKenna (District 3)
Melissa Tilley (District 4)
Scott Hucks (District 4)
Brenda Diggs (District 5)

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

David Holec, City Attorney; Corporal Chris Viverette, Code Enforcement Division, GPD; Gary Fenton, Director, Recreation and Parks Department; Carl Rees, Senior Planner; Laura Searfoss, Neighborhood Liaison/Ombudsman; and Gwen Turnage, Administrative Assistant, all Community Development Department

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Code enforcement moderated discussion

- David Holec, City Attorney, City of Greenville
- Corporal Chris Viverette, Code Enforcement Division, GPD
- Moderator: Carl Rees, Community Development Department

According to City Attorney Dave Holec, Greenville's code enforcement process is as streamlined as possible. Corporal Viverette added that code enforcement officers work to ensure voluntary compliance—remediating the code violation to meet legal requirements—in a number of ways, including making property owners aware of violations and using various notification methods (e.g., certified mail and “knock and talk”).

While these legal requirements may differ from neighbors' ideas about “good” property standards, Corporal Viverette stressed the importance of due process as way to ensure fairness when enforcing violations.

Park Trust Fund update

- Gary Fenton, Director, Recreation and Parks Department

Recreation and Parks Director Gary Fenton presented an energetic update on the city's Dream Park plan—the result of residents' creativity at several well-attended public meetings. Proposed features of Dream Park include a sprayground, walking trails, and space for community gardening—elements that appeal to both youth and senior citizens. Greenville's Recreation and Parks Department staff is working with the Greenville Community Shelter to accommodate its residents' needs as well.

Mr. Fenton hopes to raise the profile of Dream Park, as his staff prepares to raise \$355,000 in state grants and private donations (with an estimated city match of \$328,000).

Mr. Fenton also described the delicate balance between creating new parks in growing areas of Greenville and improving older parks (like Dream Park) in established neighborhoods. However, whether creating a new park or improving an existing one, Mr. Fenton stressed the cost of *not* investing in recreation and park facilities, which provide numerous social and health benefits to residents of all ages.

William Gibbs of Greenfield Terrace Neighborhood Association asked where the closest park was to this site and its neighborhood now. Mr. Fenton said the nearest park is Eppes Recreation Center, which is a long walk, especially without an integrated trail system.

Lisa Wilbourne of Eastwood Neighborhood Association commented that she would love a sprayground in Greenville, as she currently drives to New Bern to access one.

Neighborhood Liaison report

- Progress on media outreach
 1. *Daily Reflector* approved op-ed for March.
 2. Send agendas to *Daily Reflector* news staff monthly.
 3. Working with Public Information Officer to feature February district meeting on GTV-9.
- Recruitment—Goal members for 2012/Neighborhood Watch
- Proposed schedule (see back)

NAB comment

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:59PM.

Notes prepared by

Laura Searfoss
Neighborhood
Liaison/Ombudsman