



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 14, 2014 @ 5:30 PM
City Hall - City Council Chambers
200 West 5th Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darin White, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debra Jo Garfi, Chair-Elect |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audrey G. Nealy | <input type="checkbox"/> Deb Jordan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tyler Clark | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kandie Smith, City Council Liaison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Jones | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garrett Taylor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Williams | <input type="checkbox"/> Thor Gylfason |

STAFF

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Fenton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Gillespie | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Hinson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christopher Horrigan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura J. Davenport | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Kriewall |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Riddick | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John A. Lee | |

OTHER

- Council Member Marion Blackburn

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:30 PM and the following items were addressed:

Agenda items are in bold print and the highlights of the discussion and actions are below the agenda item.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

None

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to move the agenda item Request for Consideration: Tobacco Free Parks to the beginning of the meeting for the May 14, 2014 agenda.

Motion: Robert Jones

Second: Donald Williams

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made to approve the March 12, 2014 minutes as presented.

Motion: Donald Williams

Second: Garrett Taylor

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Request for Consideration: Tobacco Free Parks

At the March Recreation and Parks Commission meeting the Tobacco Free Parks Resolution was presented for review. The Pitt County Health Department is asking for the Commission's opinion regarding the County instituting an ordinance that would stipulate all parks within Pitt County be tobacco free. The proposed ban includes e-cigarettes and all tobacco products, not just those that are smoked.

A motion was made to recommend to City Council to adopt the Resolution of Support for Tobacco-Free Parks in Pitt County.

Motion: Debra Jo Garfi

Second: Donald Williams

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

VII. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT (Gary Fenton)

- A. The Magnolia Arts Center recently presented "Steel Magnolias," their first play in their renovated facility last month. The community response was very supportive and the transformation of the facility is remarkable. A great partnership that will positively impact the community for decades to come. Their next production is "Picnic," which will be presented the weekends between 6/13-21; and "The Nerd," on the weekends between 8/8-16.
- B. FROGGS hosted their annual "Friend Raiser" at the Bradford Creek Public Golf Course on Saturday, 4/5. Event members recognized Parks Superintendent Mark Gillespie for his continuous support of their greenway initiatives.
- C. Continue to serve on the West Greenville Community Garden Network Advisory Board, which is working to establish community gardens in various West Greenville neighborhoods, in an effort to bring fresh, nutritious produce to areas of the City where it may not be easily accessible. There are now seven garden sites, and two of them are in City Parks; Dream Park and Thomas Foreman Park. Area residents are welcome to take mature products for their families, but are asked to take only what they need so that numerous families can benefit as well.
- D. At last Thursday's City Council meeting, Mr. Barney Kane from the *Cypress Group of the NC Chapter of the Sierra Club*, presented the City with a cross-section of an "old field pine tree" that was cut down in 1992 from the grounds of the Greenville Mall. The cross-section has been polished and coated with urethane, and the tree rings will be labeled with significant events that took place in Greenville during the tree's lifetime. It will be permanently housed at River Park North, but hope to occasionally display it at other sites across the City.
- E. Recently appointed to the Pitt County Arts Council and will be able to coordinate art initiatives with those taking place in other sectors of the City and County. There are lots of art opportunities in Pitt County and the City of Greenville; such as camps, instructional programs, exhibits, events and plays, concerts and performances.
- F. The department was represented at the Chambers Business Expo with Bradford Creek Marketing and Business Manager John Lee and Athletics Manager Dennis Vestal. This event gives the opportunity to meet people, spread the word about our services, build new relationships and generate new business contacts.
- G. On Saturday, 5/3 GRPD partnered with ECU's Pediatrics Department, Vidant Medical Center, the Pitt County Health Department, the Greenville Police Department and others on a *Hoops for Health* event for middle school youth, which took place from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at the Drew Steele Center.
- H. Discussion of a possible bond this fall to include monies for capital improvements within the park system. Over the last few years GRPD has identified a variety of capital needs within the park system and have been asked to provide a list of projects that we propose for inclusion in the referendum. Will consider needed projects with high importance and high community appeal. South Greenville Recreation Center is a pressing need and we continue

to hope Pitt County Schools may partner in the planning and funding of this project. May also consider projects that could receive a match from the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. Staff is meeting with the City Manager and Assistant City Manager on Friday to initially propose specific projects for inclusion and will share recommendations with the Commission.

- I. Recently, Phil Carroll passed away, a Greenville businessman whom the Phil Carroll Nature Preserve was named. As funds become available, hope to make this beautiful piece of land more accessible to the public, with a concentration on the environmental aspects of this natural area.

VIII. STAFF REPORT

A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent

1. Recreation Update

- a. The Rec Run 5K and Kids Dash had over 200 participants.
- b. Support Team for Active Recreation (STAR) beach trip is scheduled for this Saturday, 5/17.
- c. Hershey's Track & Field begins on 5/20.
- d. Late Night Hoops begin next week.
- e. Beginning on 5/31, the Community Pool and Splashpoint will be open on the weekends.
- f. Received a \$2,000 Healthy Eating Equipment Grant from the BC/BS Foundation of NC and NCRPA that will be used for a children's garden for the Playground Program at Greenfield Terrace.
- g. Breshuan Thompson has been hired for Recreation Supervisor position at South Greenville Recreation Center. He will begin work in early-June.
- h. The gym carpet will be replaced next week at South Greenville Recreation Center.
- i. Jackie Robinson Baseball League Opening Ceremonies is currently scheduled for 6/7 at 6:00 PM.
- j. GRPD will be operating on reduced hours on 5/26 due to Memorial Day.
- k. The first Sunday In The Park is on 6/1 at 7:00 PM with TrainWreck performing. Channel12 is one of the sponsors this year.
5:56 PM Audrey Nealy arrived.
6:02 PM Councilmember Kandie Smith arrived.
6:09 PM Chairman Darin White left the meeting.

2. Chris Hinson, Recreation Supervisor, River Birch Tennis Center

Mr. Hinson provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the programs at the River Birch Tennis Center.

B. Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent

1. Golf/Parks Update

- a. South Tar Greenway is flooded due to all of the rain. New concrete section held up well. Parks staff provided clean up.
- b. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission completed a bicycle/pedestrian count on the greenway near the Off-Leash Dog Park Area for a 2 hour period, with over 160 users.
- c. GAFC will have gym side locker rooms painted in June with capital money.
- d. Tar River Legacy Plan had its second of three Public Input meetings on 4/26. Third meeting is tentatively scheduled for 7/17 at the Third Street Community Center.
- e. Some capital monies at Bradford Creek Golf Course are being used for bunker reconstruction and reducing the size of mowing acres.
- f. Golf course revenue has been affected by weather. Out of the last 120 days, 67 days were closed due to weather conditions. 13,983 rounds played to date.
- g. Having a First Tee meeting in a few weeks with Macon Moyer. Golf Pro Mike Cato has attended training sessions. The focus is on character building, life skills and

the game. A lot of fundraising will need to take place, and a Board needs to be established.

2. John Lee, Business and Marketing Manager, Bradford Creek Public Golf Course
Mr. Lee provided a PowerPoint Presentation on the marketing plan and progress at Bradford Creek Public Golf Course.
3. Bradford Creek Golf Course Advisory Committee – Nomination
A motion was made to nominate Craig Stanley for the Bradford Creek Golf Course Advisory Committee.
Motion: Audrey Nealy
Second: Garrett Taylor
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Nominating Committee Present Slate of Officers
A motion was made to appoint Chairman Darin White, Commissioner Don Williams and Commissioner Audrey Nealy to the Nominating Committee.
Motion: Garrett Taylor
Second: Audrey Nealy
Motion carried unanimously among those present.
- B. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
A motion was made to table the Election of Chair and Vice-Chair to the June meeting.
Motion: Audrey Nealy
Second: Garrett Taylor
Motion carried unanimously among those present.
- C. Discussion – Alcohol in Parks Policy
In response to City Council's request, the Director has been gathering information from various communities regarding alcohol service and consumption in parks and on public land. This includes sales and consumption, by adults, of certain alcoholic beverages in certain areas, at certain times, in certain parks, under certain conditions. Discussion ensued regarding implications and issues associated with alcohol in the parks. More materials will be brought back at future meetings.
- D. Discussion – Vending Agreements for Parks
Director asked for comments regarding vendors in the parks possibly providing ice cream, water and soft drinks. In the past there has been a bidding process for vendors at certain events. Discussion ensued and the Commission would like to see GRPD get a percentage of any revenues received by the vendor.
- E. ECBL Request for a Portion of Parking Concession
Currently, Greenville Little League (GLL) and GRPD has an agreement to operate a parking concession on paved, designated parking areas within the portion of Elm Street Park east of Elm Street, for individuals attending ECU football games. The Exceptional Community Baseball League (ECBL) has expressed a desire to collect proceeds from the 17 spaces that are adjacent to the Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams at Elm Street Park. They are willing to provide staff and clean-up of the area following games. The current agreement does have an escape clause. Staff will be discussing this issue with GLL. Discussion ensued.

X. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Donald Williams – Amazed at metal sculptures on Dickinson Avenue and would like to have some art displayed in our parks. Suggested mountain bike trails for Eastside

Park and Director Fenton mentioned that old landfill off of 5th Street would be a great location as well.

- B. Audrey Nealy – At the last South Greenville Elementary School PTA several parents brought up concerns regarding the unsafe carpet at South Greenville Recreation Center. She encouraged Pitt County staff to work with the City of Greenville regarding this issue.
- C. Garrett Taylor – Excited about the summer and is seeing new sides of Recreation and Parks because of his small children (camps and programs).
- D. Tyler Clark – Looking forward to where our facilities are going.
- E. Councilmember Kandie Smith – Mentioned Late Night Hoops will begin at the Drew Steele Center and Eppes Recreation Center next week. Asked to have flyers sent to her. Splashpoint will open on 5/31 for the weekends.
- F. Robert Jones – No comment.
- G. Deb Garfi – Would like to add the Commission Retreat to the agenda for next month to briefly discuss if it is something the Commission wants to do and would like to expand the advisory role of the board.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Don Williams

Second: Audrey Nealy

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura J. Davenport, Administrative Asst.
Recreation and Parks Department