

GREENVILLE RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
February 10, 2010

The Greenville Recreation and Parks Commission met on the above date at City Hall, Council Chambers. Chairman Steele officially called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The following members were present:

Mrs. Sandy Steele, Chair
Mrs. Marion Blackburn
Mrs. Sue Aldridge
Mr. Jimmy Bond

Mr. Jerry Clark
Mr. Bill All
Mr. Freddie Outterbridge

Others in attendance included city staff members Gary Fenton, Director of Recreation and Parks; Lamarco Morrison, Parks Planner; Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent; Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent; and Laura Davenport, Administrative Secretary.

The January minutes were reviewed and no changes were proposed. A motion was made by Jimmy Bond and seconded by Bill All for the approval of the January minutes. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Fran Mainella, who was Director of the National Parks Services under President George Bush, visited Greenville recently as part of the Ralph Steele Lecture Series hosted by ECU's Recreation and Leisure Studies Department. While she was here she visited River Park North and toured the park with Parks Supervisor, Howard Vainright. Fran was very complimentary about the park, the Stasavich Science and Nature Center and Howard.
- *North of the River Focus Group* met on 2/9 to address various concerns of the Greenville residents who live who live north of the river. The group feels that other areas have more parks than this area does, however there are numerous parks/facilities north of the Tar River (Bradford Creek Golf Course, River Park North, Greenfield Terrace Park, Bradford Creek Soccer Complex, West Meadowbrook Park, and GAFC). But because of the geographical size of the area, there are some north of the river residents for whom a city park is quite distant. The group has asked for a walking trail in Greenfield Terrace Park, and the City Manager has recommended funds in the Capital Budget for this and other improvements to Greenfield Terrace. If approved, this will allow the ability to add a trail, expand the playground, and do some parking control. Cliff Hickman also attended the *North of the River* meeting and asked the City to consider a bond referendum for major renovations at the South Greenville Recreation Center.
- Commission will receive a monthly revenue report within the agenda packet.

Parks Superintendent's Report, Mark Gillespie

- West Meadowbrook Park – There is money in the budget for a new playground unit at West Meadowbrook and we hope to be moving forward with this by April.
- Master Planning - Will continue park master planning efforts, next: Greenfield Terrace.
- Extreme Park– A particular park element representing about 20% of the park has been removed because of deterioration and safety concerns. Repairs will cost \$41,900. A public meeting was held with park users to brief them on this issue.

- **Lamarco Morrison, Parks Planner**
 - Eppes Recreation Center HVAC project – A project schedule was presented; currently on schedule and on budget. Project is out to bid; bidders have 30 days to respond (by 3/3). The phasing plan was presented which indicated areas that would have to be closed to the public and for what time period. A pre-qualification bid meeting will be held 2/18. Council Member Blackburn complimented Lamarco for his tight time line and clarification of the project. Completion date is 9/2, though phasing will allow for the gym to be used for the Eppes Alumni reunion 7/3/10.
 - GAFC Gym Air Conditioning – Stanford White drawings are complete. If funds are approved for this project in the FY11 budget, this HVAC improvement can move forward.
 - Town Common Master Plan – Met with Redevelopment Commission. Contractor has been given the approval to move forward with schematics and a phasing plan. A time schedule was shared, and project is moving forward as planned. A conference call was held on 2/9 to discuss concepts. Phil Carroll Nature Preserve – A master plan will be designed by 7 NC A&T students. There will be 7 master plan concepts presented and staff will likely take portions of each to create the final plan. Lamarco pinpointed the location of the park and noted that the Boy Scouts is the only group that currently utilizes the property.

Recreation Superintendent’s Report, Shana Kriewall

- Shana shared a PowerPoint presentation on recreation services scheduled over the next 6 months including summer camps, sport camps, and events.
- This year, Shana is co-chairing the International Festival portion of Pirate Fest (now called “Ports o’ Call”) with City PIO Steve Hawley. Next year, Ports o’ Call will completely be the responsibility of the GRPD.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Mark continued a previous report regarding Bradford Creek Golf Course (BCGC). He will have enterprise fund comparisons at the Commission meeting on 3/10. He stated that the ECU Women’s Golf Team plays at Ironwood Country Club, however they occasionally practice at Bradford Creek. Starting next month, a revenue report showing 5 year comparisons will be provided monthly. He noted that the most recent edition of Parks & Recreation magazine featured an article on public golf operations. Mark will consider implementing various ideas from the article to market the BCGC.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Director noted that Extreme Park is one of several unique recreation facilities in the City. He mentioned that the Parks staff had anticipated repairs would be needed for the “double half-pipe with spine,” and proposed funds be included within the upcoming capital budget for this repair. However, recent inspections determined that the potential for the failure of this element and injuries to users required its immediate removal. Bill All moved to recommend to the Greenville City Council that they approve the appropriation of \$41,900 from the General Fund Contingency account for the

replacement of the double half-pipe at the Extreme Park. The motion was seconded by Sue Aldridge. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Budget Process – For months GRPD has been working on various aspects of the biennial budget. Most recently staff had been working on expenditures, and the department proposal was submitted to Finance this past Monday, 2/8. Departments work with a budget figure called a “target,” which in the GRPD’s case represents the total amount of money permitted for Recreation, Parks, and GAFC budgets combined. A handout of FY 11 & 12 revenue projections was provided to Commissioners. A handout of department goals, objectives, and action items were also provided. Discussion also included increments and decrements.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Jerry Clark asked for an update on the PARTF Grant. Mr. Fenton explained that the application had been submitted and that we are currently in the waiting phase. Initial grant announcements will be made in May.
- Freddie Outterbridge asked for an update on the BCGC Advisory Committee. Mr. Gillespie explained that he would wait for an increase in golfers in March/April, and advertise at the course for people interested in being considered to serving on this committee.
- Bill All asked if we had received any feedback on the airing of our Commission meetings. Mr. Fenton answered that there had been some positive feedback.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Sue Aldridge and seconded by Mr. Jerry Clark. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Secretary