



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 9, 2014 @ 5:30 PM
City Hall - City Council Chambers
200 West 5th Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Fenton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Gillespie | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura J. Davenport |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Kriewall | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Priest McNair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Riddick |

OTHER

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Member Marion Blackburn | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Katrina DuBose | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Pineda |
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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

Dr. Katrina Dubose and Emily Pineda, both of ECU, and new Commissioner Jaimie Yahnker

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion: Donald Williams

Second: Audrey G. Nealy

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made to approve the June 11, 2014 minutes as presented.

Motion: Robert Jones

Second: Audrey G. Nealy

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Garrett Taylor arrived at 5:32 PM.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

VI. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT (Gary Fenton)

- A. Fourth of July – Thanked the Greenville Jaycee's for a great July 4th Celebration with the expansion of their program, including entertainment beginning early and a car/truck/motorcycle show. *Hastings Ford* sponsored a great fireworks display and other event sponsors included *Bojangles*, *The Daily Reflector*, *MIXER*, *Viamark Advertising* and the City of Greenville. Thanked other departments within the City for their support and thanks to staff in the department with their preparation for the event, working the event, and clean up.

Darin White arrived at 5:34 PM.

- B. Bond Referendum – The possibility of a bond referendum for the fall of 2015 has been discussed and would likely include funds for capital improvements to parks and facilities. The “Bond Advisory Committee” has been established and will host an initial meeting on 7/16 and Recreation and Parks staff could be invited. The Mayor and each member of City Council has appointed two residents to this committee and the committee will be considering what City needs should be included for possible bond funding.

A preliminary list of about \$10M in projects that might be proposed for inclusion in such a referendum was developed by staff, at the request of the City Manager. Projects included were considered as having high importance and the potential for wide community appeal.

- C. The City has created a Facility Improvement Plan that will systematically allow us to address many of the conditions that develop as the facilities age. Mr. Gillespie will expand on this initiative during his report.
- D. Community Development Department is developing a neighborhood plan for the South Greenville school area. Director attended a meeting in the South Greenville area to discuss visions and hopes for South Greenville Park and its recreation center. Still hoping the Pitt County School system will partner with planning and funding of the recreation center renovation/replacement, so the final design works well for both Recreation and Parks and South Greenville Elementary. The school utilizes the center’s gym daily during the school year.
- E. Bob Thompson with *Support Team for Active Recreation (STAR)* and close friend of Commissioner Yahnker, passed away recently. He was a pleasant, friendly, courageous man who, despite being confined to a wheelchair, was always optimistic, upbeat and positive. His assistance in identifying and addressing accessibility issues in our facilities was extremely valuable. He will be missed.

VII. STAFF REPORT

- A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent
 - 1. Recreation Update
 - a. ECU Grad Student, Emily Pineda shared the results of her research project “Building a Healthier City: Bringing the People to the Parks.” 59% of those surveyed reported engaging in physical activity at a park. The most commonly visited parks were Town Common, Elm Street Park, and River Park North. Areas of success are the department’s visible presence in the community, its level of community support, that it’s “a leader in the community,” and that there is “park equity” within the park system. Areas for potential growth include unfamiliarity with and underutilization of some parks, increasing awareness of and visitation to other community parks, a need for more spaces for walking (sidewalks, connecting paths, and/or trails within parks), and educating park users (perhaps through park signage) regarding walking distances and encouraging them to walk within the park.
 - b. Priest McNair, Recreation Supervisor at Eppes Recreation Center provided a PowerPoint Presentation of programs at Eppes.
 - c. Greenfield Terrace, Summer Playground Garden – Children registered for Summer Playground are actively working the garden, harvesting, and preparing their own meals. Shared pictures. NC Cooperative Extension provides a nutritionist.

- d. ECU Department of Public Health – This year the Jaycee Jamboree Camp includes a *Food Literacy Program*, with cooking of healthy lunches and snacks provides twice weekly, and participants being provided a cook book, bag, water bottle and proportion plate.
 - e. Sunday in the Park continues through August. Great article in *Mixer* magazine and mention of the series in *Our State* magazine.
 - f. Saturday, 7/12, will host the “*Out is In*” event at River Park North in celebration of Parks and Recreation Month, 5:30-7:30pm.
 - g. The Fall/Winter Program brochure is being printed; should be available next week.
 - h. Upcoming events: Greenie League Classic, 7/10, games at Elm Street Park
 - i. 8/2 Greenville Area Summer Swim League championship, Community Pool
 - j. 8/16 Annual Doggie Pool Party at the Community Pool
 - k. Vandalism – Garden at Greenfield Terrace was vandalized, although some plants are still viable.
- B. Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent
- 1. Golf/Parks Update
 - a. Bradford Creek – newsletter of upcoming events, 60 participants in the junior league with over 21 teams in the region.
 - b. Dean Foy coordinated activities with the Jaycee’s for the 4th of July. Steve Warner and Maintenance assisted with set up, clean up, and break down.
 - c. River Park North – hired a part-time employee with a Master’s Degree to complete a Biological Assessment of the park and create a Management Plan which will coordinate with the Tar River Legacy Plan.
 - d. Facility Improvement Plan (FIP) - \$630,000 this fiscal year in Capital Improvement Projects in city parks.
 - 2. Tar River Legacy Plan

Third public input meeting will be on 7/24 at the Third Street Community Center, beginning at 5:00 PM. Chairman Garfi requested an email to Commissioners on that day as a reminder. Shared a video promoting public involvement in the development of the plan.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Recommendation to City Council regarding Alcohol in Parks Policy
- Commission received a draft a week ago, received another update today. Most recent version is provided tonight, which includes one update regarding the Eppes Recreation Center and Eppes Alumni.

The City of Greenville continues to have a prohibition against alcohol in the parks, but could clearly define a few exceptions when sales and consumption might be allowable in a specified area of a specific park, in a specific building, at specified but limited times, and for a specific alcoholic beverages.

Sites designated for conditional service and consumption of alcoholic beverages include:

- 1. Bradford Creek Golf Course – where beer and wine sales are already permissible,
- 2. The Magnolia Arts Center, the leased building at Perkins Complex, for beer and wine service during theater productions and similar events hosted within the building by the lessee,
- 3. The Science and Nature Center at River Park North – after public hours only, when the center is rented for a private event,
- 4. At the Town Common in a designated, confined location for a specific period of time, when a special event is sponsored by a non-profit organization or by the City of Greenville is scheduled, and

5. The portion of the Eppes Recreation Center leased by the Eppes Alumni, and only in conjunction with events associated with their annual reunion in early July of each year.

In all cases, there are sponsor requirements such as insurance coverage, covering the expense of the special duty officers, covering the expense of temporary fencing and obtaining any required permits.

A motion was made to recommend City Council adopt this draft policy.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Garrett Taylor

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

B. Discussion regarding Commission Retreat

Commission Retreat scheduled for 7/19 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM at Bradford Creek Club House. Commissioner Garfi – need feedback on what needs to be discussed so an agenda can be posted. Asked Commissioners to respond via email tomorrow.

IX. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Donald Williams – Sunday In the Park – Director and Shana always there. Feel like the Commission and the department are working well together. Umbrella Market around the corner.
- B. Audrey Nealy – Welcomed Commissioner Yahnker. Thanked Dean Foy and the Jaycee's for their job well done on the 4th of July.
- C. Robert Jones – Welcomed Commissioner Yahnker.
- D. Deb Garfi – No comment.
- E. Darin White – Welcomed Commissioner Yahnker and welcomes any comments regarding his insight and perspective.
- F. Garrett Taylor – Welcomed Commissioner Yahnker and thanked members for their confidence in his position as a Vice-Chair.
- G. Jaimie Yahnker – Commissioners will perhaps see a different perspective coming from him since he utilizes a wheelchair, and that's one reason he looks forward to serving on the Commission.

X. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Audrey Nealy

Second: Darin White

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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