



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 12, 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 type="checkbox"/> Garrett Taylor, Chair-Elect |
| <input 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 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"/> Todd Riddick | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bershuan Thompson |

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

Mary Clark, an ECU student in Journalism attended the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the November 12, 2014 agenda as presented.

Motion: Don Williams

Second: Jaimie Yahnker

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made to approve the October 8, 2014 minutes as presented.

Motion: Don Williams

Second: Darin White

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

VI. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT (Gary Fenton)

- A. The department was recently awarded the Outstanding Display of Beauty Award for Dream Park by the Community Appearance Commission. This award recognizes "superior effort to help improve the charm and atmosphere of the city." Both the Town Common and the Drew Steele have received this recognition previously.

In addition, the Community Appearance Commission selected the Drew Steele Center as one of the Commission's Biennial Awards winner, which is presented to the top eight recipients of the previous 24 monthly Community Appearance Awards.

- B. City Council approved the \$150,000 appropriation for specific Town Common improvements.
- C. Staff has been in touch with Levi Garner and Will Preslar of Greenville Advocates for Public Skateparks (GAPS) about the possibility of utilizing the old tennis courts at Jaycee Park as a surface skate park, a facility designed primarily, but not exclusively for skateboarders. Staff hopes that in the future a state-of-the-art-skate park can be developed.
- D. Shared photos of the West Greenville Garden Network community gardens. These gardens have become more successful due to volunteer “garden guardians.” Assistance has been provided by the City and PAL.

VII. STAFF REPORT

A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent

- 1. Recreation Update
 - a. Adult softball ends tonight, youth basketball begins next week, summer camp planning is taking place with registration opening on 2/2/15, Boyd Lee Park will host Relay for Life in 2015 on 5/15-16, Craft Fair at Jaycee Park on 11/22 from 10AM – 4PM, and Todd Riddick’s last day with GRPD is Friday – there will be an internal hire to fill this vacancy.
 - b. Stuart Anderson, Founder and Director of Sunday in the Park passed away on 10/31. He will be missed.
 - c. Shared a PowerPoint presentation on some statistics of Greenville regarding poverty and crime rates. Believe programming has an impact on these statistics. Concerned with future budget cuts and GRPD does offer good programs with diversity.
 - d. Greenville Gives will take place on 12/5 at Five Points Plaza beginning at 5:30PM to kick off the Holiday Season.
- 2. Bershuan Thompson, Recreation Supervisor – South Greenville Recreation Center
Mr. Thompson shared a PowerPoint presentation of the programs at South Greenville Recreation Center.

B. Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent

- 1. Golf/Parks Update
 - a. First Tee instructional program has two sessions remaining for the season.
- 2. Facility Improvement Program Update
 - a. Nine (9) HVAC units have been installed at five (5) locations.
 - b. New doors have been installed at Boyd Lee Park and River Birch Tennis Center.
 - c. Tennis courts have been resurfaced at Elm Street Park and Thomas Foreman Park.
 - d. Pitching machines at Sports Connection have been repaired.
 - e. ADA evaluation of the parks began today.
 - f. Bids have been received for the waterline replacement at the Community Pool.
 - g. Elm Street Center restroom renovations are well underway.
 - h. Eppes Recreation Center parapet wall is completed.
 - i. Currently accepting bids for the Jaycee Park roof replacement
 - j. Standardized key system project is well underway.
 - k. Projects to complete: Road improvements at River Park North and Thomas Foreman Park (finalizing bid specifications), plumbing at GAFC, and paddle boat relocation at River Park North.
- 3. Shared pictures of the new ADA accessible nature garden area off of the greenway.
- 4. Tar River Legacy Plan, Gary Fenton
Monday night’s City Council meeting included a presentation by Rhodeside and Harwell on the final draft of the Tar River Legacy Plan, and City Council adopted that plan. The plan is referred to as the “Legacy” because it’s a long term plan that will be accomplished over many years and be positively impacting the City well beyond that.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Golf Course Advisory Appointments
Ken Langley and Leavy Brock, Jr. were appointed to the Golf Course Advisory Committee, pending their acceptance.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Tee meeting is scheduled for 12/12-13. Will bring back information in January.
B. Hoping Pitt County School will provide monies toward South Greenville Recreation Center renovations, Superintendent of Schools will address Council on this matter tomorrow evening. Hoping the project will be included in the bond package.

X. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Tyler Clark – Thanked speakers and looking forward to future programs.
B. Don Williams – Took part in the ReLeaf program this past weekend. Saw signs on the greenway from apartment complexes promoting their apartments because they are on the greenway.
C. Deb Garfi – ECU was just awarded a Silver Level Award for a “bicycle friendly” campus by the League of American Cyclists. This was achieved by having dedicated bike paths on campus, core campus is a pedestrian friendly zone, adding more bike paths, holding bike classes, and bike rental program. Look forward to the attaching City greenways to the ECU campus.
D. Darin White – Thanked the Commission and staff for their hard work. Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Congratulated recently elected candidates.
F. Jaimie Yahnker – Good meeting tonight, excited about the Tar River Legacy Plan.
G. Councilmember Kandie Smith – Thanked Commission for their hard work, feedback, and recommendations.

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Darin White
Second: Don Williams
Motion carried unanimously among those present.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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