



City of Greenville  
Recreation and Parks Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 10, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m.  
City Hall – Council Chambers  
200 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- Nikki Caswell, Chair
- Gordon Darragh, Vice-Chair
- Hasan Hilliard
- Garrett Taylor
- Councilmember Kandie Smith
- Jaimie Yahnker
- Mike Saad
- Ebonee Downey
- Saroija Durant-Moore

**STAFF:**

- Gary Fenton
- Don Octigan
- Laura J. Davenport
- Lamarco Morrison
- Dean Foy
- Patricia Tyndall

**AUDIENCE PRESENT:**

None.

**MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:**

The meeting opened at 5:40 p.m. and the following items were addressed:

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

Dylan Delse and Alia Russell from ECU, and Mirella Saad.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the October 10, 2018 agenda as presented.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Saroija Durant-Moore

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the July 11, 2018 minutes as presented.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Saroija Durant-Moore

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**VI. DIRECTOR’S MONTHLY REPORT**

- A. Welcome to Commissioners Downey and Durant-Moore. Welcome back to Commissioner Saad. It is likely the vacant Commissioner seat will be filled at tomorrow night’s City Council meeting.
- B. The spring and summer flew by fast, with many rewards and support from the community. There are many services made possible by outside support and a few recent ones include Sunday in the Park, Greenville Grooves, three concerts at the Town Common, July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration, the Town Common’s Field of Honor, youth and adult athletic teams, and many special events at the Town Common.
- C. This weekend another example of community support will take place at the Town Common with the Jazz in the Park Concert, presented free to the community by Koinonia Christian Center. Koinonia invites all of Pitt County and surrounding communities to enjoy an afternoon of relaxing music. Food and merchandise vendors will also be on site.

- D. At City Council's workshop on Monday, Parks Planner Lamarco Morrison provided an update on the Sycamore Hill Gateway Project at the Town Common, as construction should begin in the not too distant future. This project will continue the transformation of Town Common into a centerpiece of the City's park system.
- E. Several members of staff will attend the NCRPA's Annual Conference later in the month in Winston-Salem. In 2012 the City hosted this annual conference in Greenville, which attracted about 700 parks and recreation professionals from across NC. Due to its economic value to the community, as well as the opportunity it provides to show off a changing Greenville to many visitors, we are hopeful the City will be given the privilege of hosting this conference again. It presents a tremendous amount of work the local planning committee, which is headed up by numerous members of recreation and parks staff, but its benefits to the community make it worth the effort.
- F. The Director has been working with the Town of Winterville regarding a greenway they are planning along the Fork Swamp Canal and around the east side of town. They are considering a link off the greenway at H. Boyd Lee Park and staff is supportive, as it could ultimately lead to a future connection to Paramore Park and many of Greenville's south side neighborhoods and eventually the City's overall greenway system.
- G. The "Good, Bad, and Ugly Tour" is a way for Commissioners to see and directly experience some of the city's parks and facilities. Since the Commission doesn't meet in August, this tour is usually scheduled during that meeting time. Due to vacancies, this year's tour is postponed. Staff suggests it be hosted a week or two following the June 2019 meeting.
- H. Three staff members and the Director attended the ECVC Anniversary Celebration at the Rock Springs Center. Staff heard Keynote Speaker Robert David Hall, a talented TV and movie actor and long time cast member of CSI, who suffered severe injuries in a car accident in 1978 and lost both legs.
- I. Today, the Director spent time with members of the Chamber Leadership Institute, sharing about the departments operations, programming, facilities and capital work.
- J. Staff is watching the path of Hurricane Michael and staff is on guard to quickly address any conditions in the park system or assist Public Works with cleanup.

## **VII. STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Don Octigan, Recreation Superintendent
  - 1. Recreation Update
    - a. Summer Camp Highlights – Summer Day camps were 96% full this summer, art camps were 98% full, served 3,000 youth with programming and clinics, only one employee injury related to summer camp, and Community Pool reported only one rescue this summer. Camp counselors completed 24 hours of training prior to summer camp.
    - b. Current fall programming includes Adult Flag Football, Youth Flag Football Future Stars Soccer, QuickStart Tennis, Exceptional Community Baseball League (47 participants), and various art programs.
    - c. Upcoming Programs
      - i. Sixth Annual Holiday Art Sale, Saturday, 11/10 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
      - ii. Youth Basketball League (ages 7-18) at South Greenville Recreation Center, beginning in November thru late February.
      - iii. Adult Basketball League at H. Boyd Lee Park (BLP), begins January 2019.
      - iv. Greenville Aquatics Fitness Center (GAFC) Open House, 10/18-20, varying hours.
    - d. Upcoming Dates
      - i. 10/19 Boo Bash Splash at GAFC, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.
      - ii. 10/24 Specialized Recreation Costume Party at the Drew Steele Center (DSC), 6:00 p.m.
      - iii. 10/27 Exceptional Community Football League Awards Day at DSC.
      - iv. 10/29 Future Stars Youth Soccer Tournament begins.
      - v. 10/29 Youth Basketball Registration deadline for multiple facilities.
      - vi. Discussion ensued regarding future programs that are diversified and how to reach different participants.

- B. Dean Foy, Parks Superintendent
  - 1. Jeff Strickland long time employee, ended his battle with cancer on 9/24. He is greatly missed. Mark Tysinger was promoted to Parks Coordinator at River Park North.
  - 2. Storm preparations for Hurricane Michael. Essential personnel have been identified if needed.
  - 3. FIP – Facility Improvement Plan
    - a. FY19 - \$824,000
    - b. FY20 – A little over one million.
  - 4. New gym floor at BLP (provided PPT pictures of new gym floor).
  - 5. ADA routes of travel at BLP, Perkins Complex, and Jaycee Park.
  - 6. Playground replacement at BLP.
  - 7. Roof replacement (standing metal seam) at Marvin’s Mini Mart at Elm Street Park.
  - 8. Community Pool – Roof replacement, paint (exterior and interior), and electrical repairs.
  - 9. Guy Smith Stadium – Painting exterior.
  - 10. Greenway repair – Public Works is responsible for greenway repairs.
  
- C. Lamarco Morrison, Parks Planner
  - 1. Greenway repairs – could do a culvert, or things similar to Town Common.
  - 2. Town Common Development
    - a. Floating Kayak Launch – Constant rain and storms have slowed down the progress. Plant materials were lost during Hurricane Florence, but dirt and burlap remained. Will start new planting next week. Once contractor is in, should only take 7 days. Should be completed by the end of the month. Will ultimately have a bid process for a kayak rental business. Potential opportunity to work with ECU Adventure program for kayaks.
    - b. Sycamore Hill Gateway Plaza – 90% construction documents (will be used to bid project). PPT presentation shared information about the Community Gallery, Faith Gallery, Remembrance Gallery, and Donor Wall; site plan; and wall design. Tentative project schedule shared; advertisement for bids on 10/29, pre-bid conference on 11/15, sealed bids received on 11/29, City Council approval on 12/13, contract negotiations (20 days), and construction begin mid-January 2019 for a 10-12 month duration. All documents are on the Recreation and Parks website.
  - 3. Westpointe Park
    - a. Just about ready for patron usage. Challenges with weather and contractor. Waiting on final inspection on electrical and electrical meter box. Will schedule a date for ribbon cutting. Hope to add wireless cameras to minimize vandalism and crime.
  - 4. 2018-19 CIP Projects
    - a. Town Common Parking Lot & Boat Dock Design (parking lot limits shared).
    - b. Town Common Private Development RFP (parking lot limits shared).
    - c. Action Sports Park Design (Feasibility Report Complete – Sites include warehouse on Greene St, Mumford Road Site, Phil Carroll property, landfill site and Jaycee Park).
    - d. Total Projects - \$1,130,248
  
- D. Patricia Tyndall, Marketing and Events Coordinator
  - 1. Events at the Town Common
    - a. Movie in the Park Series – next movie is on Friday, 10/26 at 6:45 p.m.
    - b. Exercise in the Park continues through October, beginning at 6:00 p.m.
    - c. Dirt Day at River Park North on Saturday, 10/13.
    - d. Latino Festival at Town Common on Saturday, 10/13.
    - e. Jazz in the Park on Sunday, 10/14 from 3:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Town Common, presented by Koinonia Christian Center.
  - 2. Community Events at Town Common
    - a. The Ghoulish Gallop presented by Rocking Horse Ranch Therapeutic Riding Program, on Sunday, 10/21 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.
    - b. Vote Together Greenville Concert and Community Party presented by Civic Nation on Wednesday, 10/24.
    - c. Making Strides against Breast Cancer presented by the American Cancer Society on Saturday, 10/27.

3. Upcoming Events
  - a. Creepy-Crawly Fall Fest at RPN on Thursday, 10/25 beginning at 6:00 p.m.
  - b. Movie in the Park – voting taking place now on Facebook (Halloween theme), for 10/26.
  - c. Costumes for a Cure 5K and Fall Festival presented by Rally for Ally on Sunday, 10/28.
  - d. Westpointe Park Ribbon Cutting on Tuesday, 10/30 beginning at 4:00 p.m.
4. GRPD Staff Newsletter

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Grant Application for Beach Volleyball Facility
  - a. February 2018 – Staff met with local residents to discuss the need for a four court beach volleyball facility.
    - i. Beach volleyball has seen over a 50% increase in participation since 2017. Currently have 62 registered youth members in the Carolina East Beach Volleyball Club.
    - ii. Only one tournament ready court in Greenville-Pitt County area.
    - iii. Sport is also seeing an increase in adult participants, resulting in a demand for more courts.
  - b. April 2018 – Staff narrowed down the location for the courts and selected H. Boyd Lee Park.
  - c. August 2018 – City contracted with ARK Consulting Group to work on a design for the facility, as well as gain preliminary construction costs.
  - d. September 2018 – Grant writing process began.
    - i. James J. and Mamie Richardson Perkins Trust Fund
    - ii. The Mildred Sheffield Wells Charitable Trust
    - iii. West Memorial Fund
  - e. October 2018 – Grant application due. Grant application review is in November.
  - f. Shared documents showing location of courts at BLP and examples of other volleyball facilities.
  - g. Benefits to the Community
    - i. Address a need for additional beach volleyball courts due to the increase in participation and anticipated growth in the Greenville-Pitt County Area.
    - ii. Allows staff to provide new youth and adult program opportunities.
    - iii. Provides opportunity for Greenville to host regional level tournaments, which will have a positive impact on local economy.
    - iv. Allows Recreation and Parks staff to work with club beach volleyball teams from area high schools.
  - h. Financial Estimates
    - i. Funding Sources
      - \$24,088                      Donations already received
      - \$30,000+                      Fundraising efforts
      - \$100,000                      Potential Grant Funding
    - ii. Estimated Costs
      - \$150,000 – \$180,000

A motion was made to recommend City Council vote to allow staff to proceed with the application process for three different grants.

Motion:            Jaimie Yahnker  
 Second:            Saroija Durant-Moore  
 Unanimously passed.

## IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Mike Saad – Thanks for all your hard work and “keeping” Greenville growing. Welcomed new Commissioner.
- B. Jaimie Yahnker – 1- GRPD hosting NCRPA Conference would be great, 2- Welcome Commissioner Durant-Moore, GRPD partnership with Support Team for Active Recreation (STAR), and 10/27 at 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at RPN Annual Adaptive Sports Day (will have paramobiles for adaptive fishing, corn hole and horseshoes).
- C. Hassan Hilliard – Welcome Commissioner Durant-Moore, thanks to staff and the hard work they have completed.

- D. Saroija Durant-Moore – Thanks to the welcome. Being originally from NY City and seeing the constant change in Greenville overtime is phenomenal.
- E. Gordon Darragh – Echo Commissioners thoughts, welcome to Commissioner Durant-Moore. Work and time is very much appreciated.

**XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Motion: Jaimie Yahnker

Second: Saroija Durant-Moore

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura J. Davenport  
Administrative Assistant  
Recreation and Parks Department