



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 @ 5:30 PM
Drew Steele Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gordon Darragh, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevon Gainer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darin White, Vice-Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montez Bishop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Byron Aynes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deborah Sheppard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Derrick Clark | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Najiyah Lewis |

STAFF:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Octigan, Director | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Vestal, Superintendent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Nottingham, Parks Planner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather White, Superintendent |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Courtnee McGrath, Administrative Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Council Member Monica Daniels, Liaison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Member Marion Blackburn | |

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

Council Member Blackburn was the one individual present in the audience.

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

The meeting opened at 5:36PM and the following items were addressed:

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to amend the October 12, 2022 agenda with two edits, the removal of the athletics staff report and the removal of Mark Nottingham.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Montez Bishop

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the September 14, 2022 minutes as presented.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Deborah Sheppard

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VI. STAFF MONTHLY REPORTS

A) Director, Don Octigan

1) The Little League Softball World Series economic impact generated approximately 1.1 million dollars according to Andrew Schmidt with Visit Greenville, NC. The tournament also supported 205 jobs and generated \$32,000 in local taxes.

2) NCRPA Conference is October 17-19th at the Greenville Convention Center and has over 560 attendees registered from across the state.

3) We have begun the City's budget process for FY24 and will have more updates to come.

B) Superintendent, Heather White

- 1) Sara has increased her marketing efforts, which has shown an increase in revenue and class registrations for art classes and programs.
 - 2) Eppes and South Greenville are hosting Youth Basketball and staff are excited to kick off the season.
 - 3) Adult Pickleball has taken off and Adult Softball has 11 teams registered.
 - 4) Over 200 participants have registered for Youth Flag Football and staff has stepped up in officiating when needed.
 - 5) Lakeside Live was one of many concerts we plan to have at Wildwood Park. The music featured was from a Sunday in the Park that was rained out.
 - 6) Festival of Fright will be October 28th and 29th at Wildwood Park. It will kick off with a movie Friday night and a mummy contest, duck race, craft activity, and haunted trails on Saturday.
 - (a) Commissioner Sheppard asked about the trail length and Dennis explained it will be around 10 minutes long.
 - 7) The Youth Arts Festival will be the same day as Festival of Fright at the Town Common. Staff is working with Emerge and Pitt County Schools to have various different programming.
 - 8) Greenville Gives will be Friday, December 2nd at Five Points Plaza. Staff is working alongside Public Works and Uptown Greenville to host various nonprofits, marshmallow roasting, the tree lighting, and more.
 - (a) Commissioner White asked if there was a presenting sponsor and Heather confirmed that Optimum is the presenting sponsor.
 - 9) Trunk or Treat will be held at Greenfield Terrace on October 21st from 5:30pm-7:30pm.
- C) Superintendent, Dennis Vestal
- 1) The improvements for the Extreme Park at Jaycee Park have occurred and are still ongoing.
 - 2) Installation projects occur on a monthly basis and most recently a pet way station was installed on the Greenmill Run Greenway.
 - 3) Parks staff have continued ongoing maintenance to all of the fields with athletic leagues going strong.
 - 4) Zumba in the Park occurs every Thursday night in October and is free for the community.
 - 5) Greenville Aquatic and Fitness Center is running their membership special this month. November will feature membership appreciation days.
 - 6) Lifeguard Certification Classes are scheduled for December 27th-29th with participants already enrolled.
 - (a) Commissioner Sheppard asked about the marketing of the flyer and Courtnee explained she will share it on social media.
 - 7) Lifeguard in Training program is the Recreation and Parks program for people who complete the certification and then become a lifeguard with the Department.
 - 8) Parents Night Out, a program that was done before COVID-19, is returning for member appreciation month.
 - 9) A new program that was created by staff is Laughter Yoga. Laughter helps with anxiety and depression and this program can potentially occur again if it is well attended.

Commissioner Darragh explained Pickleball is a great example for programs sticking.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Capital Update, Don Octigan
 - a. The press release for the Wildwood Park PARTF award went out today. The amenities will go north of the lake and outside the flood plain.
 - b. The Welcome Center and Playground at Wildwood is moving on schedule.
 - c. Town Common Bulkhead Project will look at replacement options. FY24 will be the year of the anticipated construction and staff is thinking of ways to still activate it.
 - d. The Community Input meeting at Greenfield Terrace for the ARPA project will take place later this month.

- e. The Comprehensive Master Plan has the second public input session on October 27th at Jaycee Park. There is also an online survey for the public to fill out with their feedback.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A) Commissioner Gainer: it is great to be back. Great information was shared tonight and Recreation and Parks has a great quality of life in Greenville helps keep people coming.
- B) Commissioner Sheppard: Thank you staff for presentation and looking forward to events and the type of feedback we get back from the Comprehensive Master Plan to see how we can serve the community better.
- C) Commissioner Bishop: Glad to be back and excited to hear about the Comprehensive Master Plan to cater to all ages.
- D) Commissioner White: Glad to see the public-private partnership is working. Staff is doing a great job.
- E) Commissioner Lewis: Excited about all the October events, and awesome job for Parks.
- F) Commissioner Darragh: Happy to be here and everything staff is doing is fantastic. Thank you to councilmember Blackburn for being here and for your support.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 PM.

Motion: Darin White

Second: Najiyah Lewis

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtnee McGrath
Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Parks Department