



City of Greenville  
**Recreation and Parks Commission**  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 @ 5:30 PM  
Drew Steele Center

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**STAFF:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don Octigan, Director                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Vestal, Superintendent |
| <input checked="" 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   |

**AUDIENCE PRESENT:**

Council Member Blackburn was present in the audience as well as three members of the public.

**MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:**

The meeting opened at 5:35 PM and the following items were addressed:

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the February 8, 2023 agenda as presented.

Motion: Joel Sweeney

Second: Najiyah Lewis

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the January 11, 2023 minutes as presented.

Motion: Joel Sweeney

Second: Derrick Clark

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

**V. STAFF MONTHLY REPORTS**

A) Parks Planner, Mark Nottingham

- 1) A handout was provided to the commissioners as well as the public regarding Wildwood Parks. Mark explained that there are multiple ongoing projects.
  - (a) The Welcome Center is on scheduled to be complete by the first week of March.
  - (b) The Playground will begin being installed next week with landscape going in the end of the month.
  - (c) The Chris Smith Mountain Trails will be complete in June.
  - (d) The Pump Track and Bicycle Skills Course will be complete in March.
- 2) Pre-construction meetings for the Bride and Boardwalk for the complete trail loop has begun. The contractors are looking to begin construction later this month.
- 3) The next project will be adding a parking lot, playground, and restroom by the Pump Track and Bicycle Skills Course with funds from the PARTF Grant.

- 4) Kimley-Horn will be back next month to present the Comprehensive Master Plan for the commission to recommend for City Council adoption. It will be presented to City Council in April.
  - (a) Commissioner White asked if the land ever was donated on Evans. Mark informed him that City Council approved it last night.
- B) Superintendent, Heather White
  - 1) Summer Camp registration began this past Monday with camps ranging from sports, nature, arts, as well as traditional programs.
  - 2) The Spring and Summer Brochure went live last Friday and can be found on the website as well as social media platforms. It is not being printed anymore, but every facility will have copies for the public to view.
  - 3) The Specialized Recreation Valentine's Day Dance will begin at 6pm tonight.
  - 4) Winterfest will take place on February 25<sup>th</sup> and will feature ice skating, food trucks, the run, plunge, and splash that will benefit the Pitt County Special Olympics.
    - (a) Commissioner Sweeney asked if the Young Professionals have been asked to volunteer or not and he said he will bring it up at the meeting tomorrow.
- C) Superintendent, Dennis Vestal
  - 1) The Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center received 158 new memberships in January.
  - 2) Pool parties are returning to the Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center for the first time since Covid-19.
  - 3) The first lifeguard class will take place at the end of the month.
  - 4) The Aquatics and Fitness Center has 94 participants registered for their swim lessons.
  - 5) Parks have been taking care of ball field construction for the upcoming Spring Season.
  - 6) Parks also supported the Beast of the East soccer tournament this past month.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**VII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

- A) Commissioner Lewis: Thank you for everything and excited for all the upcoming events.
- B) Commissioner Clark: Glad to be back and be back with the team.
- C) Commissioner White: Thank you to fellow commissioners for being engaged and listening to the public. Thank you to staff for all the great programs.
- D) Commissioner Sweeney: Excited for Wildwood Park and the bridge to connect the parcels. It is great that the programs and events are doing well with participation.
- E) Commissioner Bishop: Glad to be back and continue to do all the great things.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 PM.

Motion: Derrick Clark

Second: Najiyah Lewis

Motion carried unanimously among those present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtnee McGrath  
 Administrative Assistant  
 Recreation and Parks Department