



City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 13, 2013 @ 5:30 PM
City Hall - City Council Chambers
200 West 5th Street

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> H. Robert Jones, Jr., Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darin White, Chair-Elect |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brian Jacobs | <input type="checkbox"/> Matt Smith |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Boardman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audrey G. Nealy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debra Jo Garfi | <input type="checkbox"/> Kandie Smith, City Council Liaison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Williams | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Freddie Outterbridge |

STAFF

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Fenton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Gillespie | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Kriewall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christopher Horrigan | <input type="checkbox"/> Laura J. Davenport | <input type="checkbox"/> Todd Riddick |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lamarco Morrison | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debra Vick | |

OTHER

Councilmember Marion Blackburn, Chip Pennington, Wesley Brown of The Daily Reflector, Colice Moore Jr. and Allisia Stewart of the Magnolia Arts Center

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 below the agenda item.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Allisia Stewart and Colice Moore Jr. of the Magnolia Arts Center, and Chip Pennington,

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made to approve the February 13, 2013 agenda as presented.

Motion: Freddie Outterbridge

Second: Debra Jo Garfi

Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the January 9, 2013 minutes:

Motion: Terry Boardman

Second: Don Williams

Motion carried.

Mr. Fenton mentioned that Laura Davenport is out with strep throat and will be having surgery on her shoulder soon and will be out a week. Chairman Robert Jones had a heart attack in January and is recuperating at home, and hopes to return soon.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- A. Colice Moore Jr. and Allisia Stewart (Building Committee) of the Magnolia Arts Center (founded in 2005) presented to the Commission regarding the possible lease of the Teen Center. The Magnolia Arts Center has an 11 member board and 1,500 members in its database.
- B. Chip Pennington addressed the Commission regarding Bradford Creek Golf Course. In the process of setting up a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 for children to learn how to play golf. Currently working with the Police Department, Gary Fenton and Mike Cato to get these children interested in golf.

VI. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

- A. Teen Center Lease - Working on this for some time and how it can be successful for a non-profit and the City. There may be some legal issues on how we go about and choose what group might be the best fit and be most likely to succeed. There will be a committee made up of a member of City Council, a member of the Recreation and Parks Commission, and some staff to consider the applicants. A letter was sent yesterday to 25 non-profits. A Statement of Interest form was sent to them that they have to fill out and it will tell us about each organization, such as mission, vision, and they are truly a 501c(3). An open house will be held on 2/26 at 5:45pm in the Teen Center so interested parties can become aware of issues associated with the building. Will also have a later open house with the date announced in the newspaper. RFP is in the attorney's office for review. Issues are accessibility, liability, limited parking capacity, and/or conflict with activities in the park when use is simultaneous. Zoning was a concern but if the potential lessee is providing a service recreation and parks or another department of the might provide then that would be classified as municipal use and there would be no zoning issue. Most non-profits, not all, might have a mission that follows the mission of the department or the City.
- B. For a number of years the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce invited us to submit an article for their publication *Glimpse* magazine. The 2013 article centers on how citizens and businesses give back to the community through its recreation and parks department.
- C. River Park North - Habitat Restoration - Christopher Horrigan, Parks Coordinator has been with the department for one year now. Mark will provide a briefing on this issue later.
- D. Commissioner Boardman had relayed in a prior email that we failed to include an article he had written a letter to the editor. This was an oversight, and a copy was provided for the Commission.
- E. Elm Street Park - The Field of Dreams project is now underway. The dugout and the back stop are coming together and are brick, looking much like Stallings Stadium and there were be other projects including accessible bleachers. All of this has been made possible by a grant from the Cal Ripken Senior Foundation matched by local businesses to a value of \$160,000.
- F. Town Common - A lot of chatter about the Town Common regarding a concept presented at a City Council meeting in January and in the paper before that. A concept that might allow a portion of the park to be developed by the private sector in exchange for financial resources to develop the rest of the park. Mr. Fenton stated he is not instantly against or instantly for such a concept.
- G. Provided a report where monies had been allocated in the capital improvement program (CIP) specifically for park projects. The CIP comes out every year with updates and usually has two columns that are addressed, the current year and the next fiscal year and two additional columns labeled "met" and "unmet." This report shows what has been in the met column for the last 10 years. Commissioner Boardman requested this for 5 years but the Director thought 10 years might be more helpful.

VII. STAFF REPORT

A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent

1. Recreation Update

- a. Upcoming Events – Specialized Recreation Valentine Dance is tonight beginning at 7PM at Eppes Middle School; this Saturday the Black History Quiz Bowl will be held at Lakeforest Elementary School beginning at 9AM; next Saturday at Jaycee Park is the Annual Cultural Arts Day with the STAR program; GAFC has added two new members to GAFC Advisory Committee; GAFC and Bradford Creek Public Golf Course have new TV's from Public Information to promote happenings and items related to the City; athletic staff are currently promoting a Shamrock Softball Tournament at Boyd Lee Park on 3/16 ; Special Olympics Spring Games are scheduled for 4/17 at JH Rose High School; and GAFC are inviting the public to a Nutrition Workshop on 2/23.

B. Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent

1. Parks/Golf Course Update

- b. In mid-March dehumidifier will be replaced at the GAFC.
- c. Received an estimate of \$15,000-25,000 to demolish the old "Teen Center."
- d. Looking into the process of creating an Adopt-A-Greenway Program.
- e. Have 5 new greenway etiquette signs going up soon on the greenway.
- f. Habitat Restoration at River Park North (RPN) took place for several reasons including safety, to increase the diversity of the native plant community, and for providing more wildlife resources. A lot of cover remains at RPN. Shared pictures of trees/plants planted at RPN.
- g. Boy Scouts visited RPN to clean up trash.
- h. RPN signage - going to rework signage, will move RPN sign at road closer to the building and place the new standard park sign close to the road. Trying to get away from the old park signage
- i. Paramore Park - NCDOT will not allow the Paramore Park sign to be moved closer to the road for better visibility. At some point may need to reconfigure the entrance driveway to the park.
- j. Green Mill Run Greenway Phase II (extension to Evans park) - working closely with Public Works and just finished a 60% review.
- k. South Tar River Greenway, Phase III - continuing to work closely with Public Works and just finished a 30% review. The greenway will go under the bridge on Hwy 11 close the hospital.
- l. Bradford Creek Golf Operational Analysis - Provided a list to the Commission regarding the recommendations. The project was managed from the City Manager's Office. Discussion ensued regarding a letter to the Editor of the Daily Reflector written by Commissioner Boardman. The budget is set for a \$50,000 subsidy. No capital money has been spent at Bradford Creek except to repair a bridge that was failing.

2. Capital Projects Update, Lamarco Morrison

- a. Dream Park Master Plan – Elements for the park include two new parking lots, two shelters, restroom and mechanical building, sprayground, playground and a natural playground. Applying for Environmental Health permit for the sprayground on Friday. Shared photos of elements already in place. The large shelter will have electricity. On schedule for opening sooner than the original date set in August (about 60 days ahead). Project schedule includes: January - March - restroom and mechanical building; March - May - sprayground installation and sidewalks; May - June - utilities and parking lots; and mid-June -

- Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting. Reviewed advantages and disadvantages of multi-prime bidding. Decided to go with single prime bidding.
- b. Eppes Recreation Center Renovation - replacing gym floor and bleachers, painting and ADA accessible restrooms and kitchen.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update of Capital Priorities

Director Fenton provided a list of capital priorities that could be funded with \$10,000,000. The money would be spent on existing facilities and South Greenville Recreation Center would be the top priority. Director Fenton will provide a PowerPoint presentation at the March meeting. The City recognizes a big need in South Greenville which is also highly used by Pitt County Schools (South Greenville School). Pitt County Schools has been approached regarding sharing the cost.

B. Discussion Item - Stalling Stadium Field Usage

Recreation Manager Dennis Vestal provided a PowerPoint presentation of Stalling Stadium usage and field maintenance required for the field. Brian Weingartz of Greenville Little Leagues was recognized for his 60+ hours of work a week that are put into the well-being of the field. This field is one of the heaviest used facilities in Greenville and its improvements were made possible through a generous donation from the Stallings Family. Commissioner Boardman is concerned about individuals not being able to use the field to practice on when it is not in use for Greenville Little Leagues programs. He stated he is not in favor of others not using the field when it is not in use. Director Fenton commented that it is not uncommon for fields to be used primarily for high level games, and that pick-up games are also not allowed Guy Smith Stadium. There are other fields that can be used for pick-up games and one-on-one practice.

C. Sunday In The Park Update

Superintendent Shana Kriewall recognized Stuart Aronson for his 40 years of planning Sunday in the Park. The Sunday in the Park schedule was shared with Commissioners. Some bands are return bands; however there are four new bands on the schedule this summer. Staff does solicit for sponsorships and some sponsorships include McDonalds, Physicians East, East Carolina Veterinary Office, Sheetz, and WNCT media.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

X. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XI. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Donald Williams – Senior projects and Sunday in the Park.
- B. Freddie Outterbridge – focus is on the Town Common and hopes everyone keeps supporting it as a public park, still a lot of history in the park and appreciates what Mr. Pennington is doing for Bradford Creek Golf Course.
- C. Terry Boardman - appreciates Commissioner Outterbridge's comments regarding the Town Common, which we need public areas for the citizens to use.
- D. Darin White – wishes Laura Davenport a successful surgery.

XII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Donald Williams

Second: Debra Jo Garfi

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Davenport

Laura J. Davenport, Administrative Asst.