

City of Greenville
Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 14, 2011 @ 5:30 PM
City Hall – City Council Chambers
200 West Fifth Street



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Fenton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Gillespie | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Kriewall |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lamarco Morrison | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura J. Davenport | <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Vestal |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 with the highlights of the discussion and actions below the agenda item.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Fenton introduced Council Member Kandie Smith as the City Council's Liaison to the Recreation and Parks Commission. Thanked Council Member Marion Blackburn for her commitment to the Commission.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes:
Motion: Matt Smith
Second: Don Williams
Motion approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

V. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

- A. The Beatrice Maye Garden Park Dedication was held on Saturday and reception followed at Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church.
- B. A luncheon was held in November to announce the planned development of the "Partners for Greenville Parks" group, a coalition of "friends-of-the-park" type

organizations. Need to establish a board of 9-12 members, then will apply for non-profit status with the IRS. Looking for board members with a diversity of backgrounds. There will be separate chapters and each will have their own board and budget.

- C. Hosted a meeting on Monday regarding the West Greenville Basketball Complex proposal. The basketball complex is an inter-departmental project between Community Development, Police, and Recreation and Parks, as it can represent a neighborhood revitalization project, a crime reduction initiative, and an opportunity for expanded recreational services. The complex will need an adequate operational budget. Also, attended a meeting on Tuesday night regarding the Dream Park Master Plan. Both projects will require a significant investment. PARTF funds will be applied for for the Dream Park; application is January 31.
- D. The department was actively involved in the BMX Jam Fest and the Greenville Gives Holiday event at Five Points Plaza. Was also part of the Greenville Little Leagues groundbreaking for the stadium project at Elm Street Park, made possible by a generous donation from the Stallings Family, over one million dollars.
- E. Working with Cal Ripken Foundation to make some significant improvements to the Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams.
- F. Tammy Purdue addressed City Council regarding a development of a regional aquatics facility. Ms. Purdue realizes that the magnitude of such a project mandates that it must be a cooperative effort among City, County, medical community, etc.

VI. STAFF REPORT

A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent

- 1. Recreation Update
 - a. Review of November – 11/12 BMX Jam Fest, 11/13 Cardboard Boat Regatta at GAFC, 12/2 Special Olympics Basketball Skills, and 12/3 Greenville Gives Holiday event.
 - b. MYTE Program at Eppes and South Greenville. Basketball has started and both facilities are now doing Arts & Crafts.
 - c. Tonight is the Holiday Dance for Specialized Recreation at Eppes. Holiday Break Camp at Boyd Lee Park next week and the week after Christmas. The Special Olympics 5 on 5 tournament in Chapel Hill will be 1/6.
 - d. Youth basketball at Boyd Lee Park has over 450 participants.
 - e. We will be combining A Celebration of Black History event with Alpha Kappa Alpha's Community Black History Quiz Bowl on 2/18

at the Agriculture Extension Center. Lewis Holloman, now in Senior Programs, is the contact person for this event.

B. Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent

1. Parks/Golf Update
 - a. On 12/5 Bradford Creek Golf Course Advisory Committee met. A youth program was established last summer with Cornerstone Baptist Church. Using this model, golf staff is looking to expand this program and offer it to the PAL participants. Staff is seeking a grant to secure an instructor for this program. PAL Golf Tournament at Bradford Creek raised \$5,000 for the PAL program.
 - b. Shares pictures of tire cleanup on the greenway; cleanup provided by a group from ECU.
 - c. Issues at the maintenance center continue. Shared a picture of a forklift that was stuck in deteriorated asphalt.
 - d. Lamarco Morrison reported the Drew Steele Center demolition is 95% complete and the new wing will start taking shape. Will also be meeting with an interior designer for decisions regarding furniture, colors, and flooring.
 - e. Evans Park Bridge replacement – Received bids within budget, plan to start in January and hope to finish in March. Bank improvements will be made as well. The project should be complete in 90 days.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Operating Agreement with First Christian Church

A partnership has been fostered by Commissioner Sandy Steele with First Christian Church regarding a baseball field they are building on church property. The operating includes Recreation and Parks providing routine maintenance and mowing, and the church is responsible for the construction. There are some unresolved agreement issues, so a motion was made to table this item until the January meeting.

Motion: Debra Jo Garfi
Second: Matt Smith
Sandy Steele abstained.
Motion approved.
- B. Lease Agreement with Eppes Alumni Heritage Society

The City and Eppes Alumni Heritage Society have had a 3 year agreement giving Eppes Alumni permission to use part of the Eppes Center. The lease was \$1 per year. The Eppes Alumni Heritage Society is asking to extend this agreement for another 3 years at \$1 per year. This item if approved, will go to City Council in January 2012. A motion was made to extend the lease agreement for another 3 years at \$1 per year.

Motion: Don Williams
Second: Matt Smith

- C. Dream Park Master Plan, Commission Recommendation to City Council Final Master Plan presentation was given last night at the Dream Park Public Meeting. This process included reviewing possible program elements with the community and including the most popular within the plan. Two concept plans were developed. Based on the public meetings, a final concept was determined that includes parking for 25 cars, memorial walk to tell the history of the park, playground, spray ground, shelter, community garden, multipurpose field, and small additional shelter on the grounds of the Community Shelter building. Considering various opportunities for funding – reviewed probable cost statement of \$683,900. Potential funding sources: PARTF Grant, Jack and Jill Corporation of NC, private donations, and City of Greenville match. A motion was made to adopt the Dream Park Master Plan and recommend to City Council to also adopt the Plan.

Motion: Darin White
Second: Robert Jones
Motion approved.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Department Holiday Luncheon on 12/16 at Bradford Creek Golf Course. All Commissioners are invited.
- B. Currently in the 2nd year of the 2 year budget, and preparing the next biennial budget. Funds will be tighter next year.
- C. NCRPA Conference is in November 2012. Dennis Vestal is Conference Chair. Dennis is also chairing the department's Accreditation team.

IX. COMMENTS

- A. Donald Williams asked about the property on Staton Rd. This property is a small piece of land that was donated by the Federal Government. It is not a high priority property.
- B. Debra Jo Garfi – Wished everyone a Happy Holidays and looking forward to the luncheon. Would like to assist with transportation planning for the 2012 NCRPA Conference.
- C. Darin White – Thanked staff for their hard work. Wished everyone Happy Holidays, thanked families for their donations to support projects (i.e. the Drew Steele Center), and thanked our troops.
- D. Sandy Steele – Very proud of community for their help and donations. Willing to help with fund raising for Dream Park.
- E. Francine Taft – Commended the department for their hard work.
- F. Freddie Outterbridge – Welcomed Council Member Kandie Smith as liaison to the Commission. Complimented the success of the Beatrice Maye Park Dedication Ceremony.

G. Kandie Smith – Thanked staff for the monument at the Beatrice Maye Park and for their hard work.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Sandy Steele

Second: Debra Jo Garfi

Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Davenport

Laura J. Davenport
Administrative Secretary