

City of Greenville  
**Recreation and Parks Commission**  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 8, 2011 @ 5:30PM  
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"/> Marion Blackburn, City Council Liaison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Williams             |  |

**STAFF**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Fenton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Gillespie     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Kriewall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lamarco Morrison       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura J. Davenport | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alonza Price   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Vestal          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Livesay      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Riddick   |

**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**

GRPDP employees Frank Livesay and Alonza Price were introduced to the Commission.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the May 11, 2011 minutes:

Motion: Matt Smith

Second: Francine Taft

Motion approved.

**IV. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT**

- A. Demolition Party at Elm Street Gym. It was nice to have Skip Holtz present since he was a huge part of the fundraising effort.
  
- B. Introduced Debra Jo Garfi, the newest appointed Commissioner. Debra works for ECU as the Director of Parking and Transportation. She is supportive of walking, biking, and greenways. Debra served on the board of the Bridgeview Park District in Bridgeview, IL, where she served for 16 years.

- C. Shared the invitation for the dedication ceremony of the South Tar Greenway on Saturday, 6/11 at 10am. Open to everyone and there is extra parking in St. Peter's Catholic School parking lot.
- D. Greenville Little Leagues Stadium Project – This initiative is on the agenda for the 6/9 City Council meeting.
- E. A Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation representative met with Mr. Fenton and the leadership of Exceptional Community Baseball League (ECBL) to present a fundraising proposal for improvements to the Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams. These improvements (in excess of \$150,000) would provide accessible bleachers, lighting, dugout improvements, a knee wall (brick wall along baselines) and outfield netting. The fundraising efforts will be lead by the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation. ECBL ended last Saturday. ECBL is the first program of its type that the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation has financially supported.
- F. Possible fundraising by the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation for the Jackie Robinson field also.
- G. ECU's Department of Nutrition and a non-profit organization called Greenville Harvest approached GRPD regarding developing a community garden at Dream Park, near the homeless shelter. This garden would be a benefit to any resident in the area. A grant was received to address some of the expenses to get it started. Preference given to projects that partner with local recreation and parks agencies.
- H. West Greenville Basketball Complex – conceptual plan and a cost estimate have been completed. Funds have been identified in Community Development to have a detailed design completed with a specific budget. A Public Input Meeting is scheduled for 6/30 at 6:00PM at Eppes Recreation Center.
- I. Received Badges-4-Baseball Grant from Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. Next year will have JRBL apply for the grant directly, b/c they are a 501 (c)(3) and are eligible to apply for the grant themselves. Opening Ceremony is this Saturday, 6/11 at Thomas Foreman Park.
- J. The Recreation and Parks Board Member State Forum that is hosted by NCRPA will be in Greensboro 8/11-13. If anyone is interested in attending the forum (a portion or all of it), please let the Director know by next Monday. Expenses will be paid by GRPD.
- K. Kristin Drive – new playground recently installed at Kristin Drive. Money is left over from that project. Mark will provide an update on future plans.

- L. Receiving an increasing number of requests for fee waivers for picnic shelters and facilities from Neighborhood Associations. Want to be consistent and will be bringing a proposed policy to the Commission in the future. There are 2 issues to consider: 1- GRPD has an anticipated revenue (\$40,000) built into the budget for facility rentals. If we are not receiving rentals we usually receive otherwise it impacts the budget and there can be a shortfall; and 2- If renting a building that requires an attendant, there will need to be a charge to offset the cost of that employee's time.
- M. In the process of reapplying for Playful City status from KaBoom!
- N. Jarvis Spot – Self-built skateboard park in floodway which had to be removed. Area skateboarding group wants to help with a project to address a park for skateboarders. Exploring areas near ECU for this project to determine what may be done. No money currently available, but looking into it.
- O. Greenville Convention & Visitors Bureau – The GCVB has put in a bid for an outdoor writers conference in 2014. GRPD has been asked to be the liaison for the group to get this conference in Greenville.
- P. Commission tour of facilities on Wednesday, 6/29 at 5:30PM, approximately 3 hrs. Will meet at Jaycee Park and dinner will be provided.
- Q. Director has been called for Jury Duty the week of 6/27.

## **V. STAFF REPORT**

### **A. Shana Kriewall, Recreation Superintendent**

- 1. Recreation Update
  - a. Shared photographs of the events of Saturday and Sunday, 6/4-5 of ECBL Closing Ceremonies, Zumba in the Park, Gatorade® Free Flow BMX Event, Community Pool opening, and Sunday in the Park.
  - b. Learn to Swim Donation Ceremony, 6/18 at 10:00AM at the Community Pool.
- 2. Alonza Price, Recreation Supervisor, Eppes Recreation Center  
Mr. Price provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the programs and services of Eppes Recreation Center.

### **B. Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent**

- 1. Frank Livesay, Landscape Supervisor  
Mr. Livesay provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the details of ballfields, irrigation and landscaping responsibilities.

2. Stewart Goodson, Greenville Disc Golf Association  
Mr. Goodson provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Greenville Disc Golf Association and its proposal for a new disc golf course/park at the old Pinecrest Mobile Home Park on Mumford Road.
3. Parks/Golf Update
  - a. Bradford Creek Public Golf Course revenues for April and May exceeded anticipated amounts.
4. Capital Project Update
  - a. Drew Steele Center plans received from Hite Associates to review.
  - b. Gym lighting – relamped Eppes Recreation Center. Lighting in Boyd Lee and GAFC gyms are 50% complete.
  - c. Eppes Recreation Center – Structural work is progressing. On 7/1 work will start on replacing the old plumbing. Future needs include interior painting, working on acoustics in gym and hallways, adding central air in the PAL room and Eppes Alumni Center, and replacing the gym floor. Over \$700,000 has been spent on Eppes improvements.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Kristin Drive Update, Mark Gillespie, Parks Superintendent  
Mr. Gillespie provided a conceptual plan for the Kristin Drive Neighborhood. Playground renovation was extremely popular. Had a community meeting on site and the neighborhood would like to see the playground expanded and basketball courts. Basketball courts would be on an old tennis asphalt surface. Plan to meet with property owners Saturday, 6/11 at 6PM about whether basketball courts should be added. GRPD would need to seek a lease modification for the basketball area. A motion was made to approve an expansion of the lease agreement.  
Motion: Matt Smith  
Second: H. Robert Jones, Jr.  
Motion carried.
- B. Coach's Appeal – Jackie Robinson Baseball League  
Mr. Moses Phillips addressed the Commission regarding his appeal. Mr. Phillips has a pending case for a DWI. His case has been postponed until 7/14/11. Mr. Phillips has been coaching with the Jackie Robinson Baseball League for three years. He works with the youth of the Greenville Housing Authority. A motion was made to reinstate as a coach of the Jackie Robinson Baseball League for this season.  
Motion: Brian Jacobs  
Second: Matt Smith  
Motion carried, with Ms. Garfi abstaining.

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**VIII. COMMENTS**

- A. Don Williams – Asked Mr. Fenton if there are any examples of dog parks also being used as a petting zoo. Mr. Fenton knew of no such examples.
- B. Freddie Outterbridge – Hopes to do a good job as Commission chair.
- C. Debra Jo Garfi – Thanked the Commission for her welcome. Impressed with what the department is doing. Looking forward to working with the Commission.
- D. H. Robert Jones, Jr. – None.
- E. Francine Taft – None.
- F. Council Member Blackburn – Come out to the greenway opening Saturday morning at Greensprings Park at 10am. JRBL Season Opener is Saturday at 5PM.
- G. Sandy Steele – Thanked those of the department helping with Demolition Party and ECBL.
- H. Brian Jacobs – None
- I. Matt Smith – Thanked Laura for Commission packets.

**IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion: Matt Smith  
Second: Donald Williams  
Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laura J. Davenport*

Laura J. Davenport  
Administrative Secretary