



GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Emily Linden, Anthony Izzard, Susan Henshall, Scott Neely, ChesKesha Cunningham-Dockery, Marsha Glazman, Emily Linden, Jeff Smith

STAFF PRESENT

Nasha McCray, Kobe Riley, Charles Jackson, Shawna Tillery, Haley Wilson, Phil Hardin, Tony Royal

OTHERS PRESENT

None

WELCOME

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was held virtually. Commission Chair Emily Linden called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm.

Nasha McCray, Director, welcomed the Commission and attendees.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes from the November Commission Meeting- Commissioner Henshall made a motion to approve the November 2021 meeting minutes and Commissioner Neeley seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

RECOGNITIONS

None

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Adult Open Gym Update - Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, provided an update in response to the shooting incident that occurred at Barber Park on October 10, 2021. An internal committee was established to revise the existing Adult Open Gym program structure, conduct security and risk assessments at the Department's indoor facilities, and to provide recommendations for necessary security upgrades. The committee developed recommendations for enhancing and improving security at the Department's indoor facilities and for the program operation, including the Adult Open Gym program. The recommendations will be implemented in phases and contingent upon availability and capacity of resources, such as funding and staffing.

The structure and nature of certain programs, specifically Adult Open Gym, allows for unstructured, drop in play at pre-determined locations and times. Due to staffing capacity

of the Department, Adult Open Gym was monitored periodically throughout the scheduled time.

Department Recommendations include providing 1-2 dedicated roster staff (depending on location) to actively monitor the program, manage registrations/sign-in sheets for participants, and rules management. There will be an estimated expense increase of \$34,000 for additional roster staffing allocation to implement at multiple locations and times across the Department. Other changes include scheduling Adult Open Gym to no more than 2.5 hours per location per day; all participants will be required to have an active registered profile with the Department and scan in each visit to participate; bags will no longer be allowed in the gym; and the capacity for number of participating players will be capped at 40 people per court per day. This will limit the number of people in a gym at any given time while allowing individuals sufficient opportunity to participate. Rules are also being revised to establish a sign in sheet, score and time limit per game, which will decrease potential conflict during games. The court monitor will be the staff person responsible for upholding rules and keeping games moving.

The Adult Open Gym Program has been on hold since October 11, 2021. The Department anticipates resuming the program during the week of December 6, 2021, with the aforementioned recommendations will be phased in over the next 60 days. Since the Department begins offering youth basketball during the winter months from the beginning of December to beginning of March, scheduling of the Adult Open Gym program may not be immediate and will be contingent upon availability of indoor gym space. Contracted security will also be considered where necessary going forward to help alleviate safety concerns.

Commissioner Henshall asked a question regarding when the contracted out Security would be attending Parks and Recreation facilities.

Deputy Director Riley replied that security would be brought in when an event or facility has a high volume of attendees that are projected to attend.

Commission Chair Linden asked if the same security team is used across the board at all City facilities and events.

Riley answered that yes, as of July 1, 2021, East Coast Security is the contracted Security used by the City.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission 2022 Meeting Schedule- Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant, proposed the 2022 Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission meeting schedule. Wilson stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission reviews and adopts its annual meeting schedule for the upcoming calendar year each winter. Historically, these meetings have been held at various recreational facilities in each City

Council District. Due to COVID-19 and public health and social distancing considerations, all meetings in 2021 were held virtually. Based on Commission discussion regarding future meetings, staff recommended the follow proposed meeting schedule changes for 2022: continuation of virtual meetings through 2022 with an in-person meeting held once per quarter; no July meeting due to operational capacity, seasonal demands, scheduling, and to allow for the recognition and honoring of Parks and Recreation Month; and changing the annual Commission Facilities Tour from July to October.

Commissioner Smith asked if a Commissioner was not comfortable meeting in person, if there would be a zoom set up so that the Commissioner could still follow along with the meetings that would be held in person.

Ms. Wilson responded that a Zoom meeting would be set up so that anyone not attending an in person meeting could listen to the meeting. She also stated that if COVID trajectories change, that the Commission can choose to pivot to only virtual meetings if they wish to do so.

Commissioner Henshall made a motion to approve the meeting schedule and Commissioner Cunningham-Dockery seconded. All commissioners voted in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nasha McCray, Director, provided an update on upcoming programs and events and wished the Commission a Happy Holidays going into 2022. She made special note of the Winter Edition of Discover Greensboro guide being available online or by picking up a physical copy at any of our facilities. McCray also noted that the Greensboro Youth Council needs volunteers December 7-11, for Santa's Workshop. Times vary throughout the week, but help is needed cleaning and sorting toys, and helping families shop. McCray also took some time to recognize the hard work our Park Operations team has done in helping with the set up for the Downtown Christmas festivities and all their hard work during the winter months.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Neely: Commended staff on the swift work done with the Adult Open Gym modification to make it still be operable and safer going forward. Happy Holidays to everyone.

Henshall: Congratulated Chair Linden on her first meeting as Chair and thanked staff for helping on board

Cunningham-Dockery: Excited to learn more about the Adult Open Gym facilities safety plan and will follow up with Deputy Director Riley about it.

Glazman: Congratulated Chair Linden on a great first time leading the meeting and wished everyone a safe and wonderful holiday

Linden: Thanked the Commission and staff for a great first meeting and thanked Park Operations staff for their work with the Downtown Holiday decorations and parade.

Smith: Thanked the Commission for a great year serving together.

Izzard: No comment

With no further business, Commission Chair Linden adjourned the meeting at 5:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant
Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department