



**GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Wednesday, January 12, 2021 at 5:00 pm**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Emily Linden, Susan Henshall, Scott Neely, Marsha Glazman, Anthony Izzard

**STAFF PRESENT**

Nasha McCray, Kobe Riley, Charles Jackson, Shawna Tillery, Elizabeth Jernigan, Monique Floyd, Carla Hoover, Kim Porter, Megan Rhead, Karenga Arifu, Michelle Gill Moffatt

**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 December Commission Meeting- Commissioner Glazman made a motion to approve the December 2021 meeting minutes and Commissioner Neeley seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

**RECOGNITIONS**

- A. New Hires and Promotions- Charles Jackson, Community Recreation Services Division Manager, recognized Monique Floyd on her promotion to the position of Athletics Superintendent. As the Athletics Superintendent, Monique will oversee and supervise the operations and scheduling of the department's athletic facilities including the Greensboro Sportsplex, Gillespie Golf Course, Carolyn Allen Park, Jaycee Park, and off-site field locations including both Parks & Recreation sites and school sites maintained through a joint-use agreement with Guilford County Schools. Monique has been with the department for over eight years. Throughout her time with the department, she has worked at the Sportsplex, Recreation Centers, and the last five years as an Assistant Athletic Director. Monique received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of North Carolina Greensboro in Parks and Recreation Management. She is nationally certified as a Certified Park & Recreation Professional (CPRP) and is a graduate of the City's Foundations of Supervision program. She has served as the City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation wellness Representative, Chapter 6 Accreditation Team Member, Plan2Play Program Guide Committee Member, and an Advisor for the Marketing Focus Group.

Jackson also recognized two new hires in Community Recreation Services: Megan Rhead has joined the lakes staff and will be filling the Lake Warden position at Lake Townsend. Megan comes to us from Colorado, but she is well traveled prior to that, holding a variety of positions that uniquely suit her to taking on her role with the lakes. She has extensive experience working in outdoor adventure positions and formerly was a State Ranger in Colorado, and Oregon before that. Prior to being a Ranger, she worked with the Washington State Fish and Wildlife Department at a fish hatchery that primarily worked with Chinook Salmon, and also Sturgeon. Megan has a degree in Wildlife Ecology & Management from Utah State University.

Also joining the department is Karenga Arifu as our new Peeler Recreation Center Supervisor. He will be responsible for the daily operations and programming over Peeler Recreation Center. Karenga has a Bachelor's degree in Sports Management and a Master's degree in Social Work Administration from Rutgers University. He comes to us with experience in municipal recreation, youth programming, and facility management. He recently was the program director for the Brooklyn Bureau of Community Services in New York and additionally was a physical education teacher within Brooklyn. With over 15 years of youth sport development experience he has implemented and coached sports to include baseball, soccer, lacrosse, track and double-dutch.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Department Operations Update- Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, provided an update on the Parks and Recreation Department's operations including vacancy reports and COVID protocols. On January 5<sup>th</sup>, Guilford County reissued the County's mask mandate. The City of Greensboro followed that mandate by making it known that masks are required inside all city facilities. The Parks and Recreation department has decided to postpone the start of Youth Basketball until February 1<sup>st</sup>. It will be an abbreviated season from an eight game season to a six game season. Riley also let the Commission know of the status of the Park Operations Division Manager hiring process and the vacant Department's Safety Administrator and Greenway and Gardens Coordinator positions that will be advertised.
- B. Planning and Project Development Update- Shawna Tillery, Planning and Project Development Division Manager, and Elizabeth Jernigan, Trails Planner, provided an overview of master plans, projects under design, construction and completion, property management and grants. Many of these projects are the result of bond funding, grant or private funding. The overview provided useful information on the development of neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, facility upgrades and trails. Some of major completed projects in 2021 included Keeley Park Phase II, Heath Park Playground replacement, the Gateway Gardens Visitors Center, the Downtown Greenway, Barber Park playground resurfacing, and Palmetto Trail boardwalk.

Commissioner Chair Linden complimented the department on the different ways that funding is found for these projects and the diversity of the projects themselves.

Commissioner Glazman thanked the Planning and Project Development team for their extensive work.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Nasha McCray, Director, welcomed our department's new hires to the meeting and congratulated Monique Floyd on her promotion. McCray thanked our Planning and Project Development Division on a thorough and comprehensive presentation on our department's projects under design, construction and completion, property management and grants. She stated that it is beneficial for the Commission to be aware of the projects that are happening within Parks and Recreation.

McCray relayed that the department's CAPRA visitation is scheduled for April 18-22. It will be virtual instead of in person so the department will be working on ways to engage the visitors virtually so they can get to know the City. McCray let the Commission know that the City of Greensboro has hired a new City Manager, Taiwo Jaiyeoba, coming to us from the City of Charlotte. His first day will be February 1, 2022.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Neely: Enjoyed hearing about all the Parks and Recreation projects, is an avid user of trails.

Henshall: Very enlightening to hear how P&R projects come to be and are completed

Glazman: Thanked staff for working so hard to make Greensboro the city that it is. Welcomed our new hires.

Linden: Complimented the stewardship and ownership that the people in Greensboro have for our parks that it's such a show of how hard the department works to keep them a place of pride.

Izzard: No comment

With no further business, Commission Chair Linden adjourned the meeting at 6:32 pm.

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