



GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, February 9, 2021 at 5:00 pm

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Nasha McCray, Kobe Riley, Charles Jackson, Haley Wilson, Elizabeth Jernigan, Monique Floyd,
Carla Hoover, Kim Porter

OTHERS PRESENT

Trey Davis, Assistant City Manager; Karen Kixmiller, City of Greensboro Budget &
Management Analyst; Allen Buansi, Assistant City Attorney

WELCOME

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was held virtually.
Commission Chair Emily Linden called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

Nasha McCray, Director, welcomed the Commission and attendees.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes from the January Commission Meeting- Commissioner Glazman made a
motion to approve the January 2022 meeting minutes and Commissioner Neeley seconded.
Motion unanimously approved.

RECOGNITIONS

- A. Staff Recognitions- Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, recognized Shelli Scott, Youth Programs Specialist on being appointed to the position of Interim Risk and Safety Administrator. As the Interim Risk and Safety Administrator, Shelli will assist with developing, implementing, maintaining and administering a comprehensive risk management program for the Parks and Recreation Department in accordance with industry standards. This specifically means the development of safety procedures, the enforcement of compliance requirement, risk management education, and consultation with respect to certain legal and regulatory compliance initiatives and compliance issues. She will assume the interim role, along with her normal day-to-day responsibilities as Youth Programs Specialist, until the position is permanently filled.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Participatory Budgeting- Karen Kixmiller, City of Greensboro Budget & Management Analyst, provided an overview of the City’s Participatory Budgeting Program and process. Participatory Budgeting (PB) Greensboro is a democratic process that allows residents to help determine how public funds are spent. Residents propose ideas, volunteers develop them into projects, and residents vote on which to fund. Greensboro was the first city in the south to implement participatory budgeting in 2015 and the fourth cycle of Participatory Budgeting (PB) Greensboro is now underway. Since the program’s inception, 73 projects have been approved by residents, with nearly 55% of those being parks and recreation-related. Examples of projects include bus shelters, bike racks, murals, park upgrades such as picnic tables and play equipment, and new crosswalks. Kixmiller also stated that 70% of projects that were selected from the previous cycle were Parks and Recreation related.

The City will provide \$500,000 for PB projects or programs recommended by residents in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget. Kixmiller provided highlights of Parks and Recreation projects completed to date, and information about the upcoming Cycle 4 project submittal process, which is a March-October timeline.

Commissioner Smith asked Kixmiller what type of role do volunteers play in the PB process.

Kixmiller responded that volunteers help with idea collection, proposal development, and lastly community voting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the revised Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations- Nasha McCray, Director and Allen Buansi, Assistant City Attorney, presented a recommendation for the Parks and Recreation Commission to approve revisions to the Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations in order to remove or modify certain criminal penalties associated with violations and to incorporate language regarding use of mini/e-bikes.

In conjunction with the City’s Legal Department, the Parks and Recreation Department proposed revisions to the current ordinances to change criminal penalties to civil for violations related to safety equipment at city skate parks and pump tracks and the unlawful use of minibikes, motorcycle, motorized trail bikes, or other self-propelled vehicles on unpaved rights-of-way, vacant lots and vacant areas, and in areas of parks not designated as a street or trail for self-propelled vehicular use. The Legal Department also recommended removal of Section 18-29 from the Code of Ordinances, which bans registered sex offenders from city parks and recreation facilities, due to a conflict between this Section and state law. Since the state law is more severe than the City’s current ordinance, removal of this Section would leave the state law as the clear, controlling law. Lastly, a revision to define and differentiate “Class 1 electric bicycle”

from other types of electric bicycles and areas of permitted use of these vehicles was also requested for an amendment to the Parks and Recreation regulations. The proposed revisions would impact Sec. 17 of the Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations and would also include text amendments to Sec. 18-4, 18-29, and Sec. 19-3 of the Greensboro Code of Ordinances.

If approved, the recommended amendments would be presented at the February 15, 2022 City Council meeting for consideration.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the revised Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Cunningham-Dockery. All Commissioner voted in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director McCray thanked the Commissioners who were able to attend the Bryan Park North joint meeting with the Guilford County Parks Board that took place the day before. She appreciated the thoughtful ideas and comments that our Commissioners made and indicated that Bryan Park Master Plan will be updated by the end of this summer and additional public input and stakeholder meetings are forthcoming.

McCray relayed that the new City Manager, Tai Jaiyeoba, will host two listening sessions in each council district in the upcoming weeks, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Residents can attend the listening sessions in person, with a limited capacity, or view online on the City's YouTube channel and submit questions through the channel's comments.

McCray shared that in honor of Black History Month, each Tuesday in February, the Parks and Recreation Department will highlight a Black History Month P&R story on its social media channels.

McCray shared that the City of Greensboro and NC A&T State University reached an agreement in March of 2015 to transfer ownership of the War Memorial Stadium Complex, from the City of Greensboro to the University. On February 3, 2022, the transfer has been completed and the deed has been recorded. As part of the City's support for the transfer, the City committed funding in the amount of \$1,500,000 to the University for the purposes of preservation and renovation of the facility's facade.

McCray also provided an accreditation update, stating that as of Monday February 7th, the Department has completed its evidence of compliance submission and completed the process. The Department's CAPRA visitation is tentatively scheduled for April 18-22. It will be virtual instead of in person and more information will be shared with the Commission about the visitation as the date nears.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Neely: Happy to hear that we received a grant for new Kayaks at Lake Brandt, definitely needed and appreciated.

Cunningham-Dockery: Always sees social media posts from Parks and Recreation but how to do we get our recreation centers to advertise all that is going on in the centers.

Smith: No comment

Glazman: Great meeting, always wonderful to hear what all the department is accomplishing.

Odum: Has some ideas for social media as well and will reach out about some opportunities he has in mind.

Linden: Great to hear about the War Memorial Stadium transfer and is looking forward to seeing everyone in person in March.

Izzard: No comment

With no further business, Commission Chair Linden adjourned the meeting at 6:03 pm.

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