



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

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Kim Alexander-Henderson, Susan Henshall, Blake Odum, Scott Neely, ChesKesha Cunningham-Dockery, Marsha Glazman, Emily Linden

STAFF PRESENT

Nasha McCray, Kobe Riley, Charles Jackson, Shawna Tillery, Haley Wilson, Kristen Herndon, Mel Melton, Chamreece Diggs, Trey Godette, Phil Hardin, Kim Porter, Roderick Jones

OTHERS PRESENT

None

WELCOME

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was held virtually. Commission Chair Alexander-Henderson called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Nasha McCray, Director, welcomed the Commission and attendees.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes from the August Commission Meeting- Commissioner Linden made a motion to approve the August 2021 meeting minutes and Commissioner Chair Alexander-Henderson seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

RECOGNITIONS

- A. Recognition of New Hires and Promotions- Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, announced the hiring of the department's new System Support Specialist, Kali Griggs. This is a full time position in the Administrative Services Division that will support the software applications and technology used throughout the department. Her role will expand to include technology leadership on common and specialized projects, associated policies and procedures, training development, data analysis, IT liaison and much more.
- B. Recognition of Commission Chair- Nasha McCray, Director, recognized Commission Chair Kim Alexander-Henderson's on serving her last Parks and Recreation Commission meeting as a Commissioner and Chair. Kim has served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for the last 6 years and this past year as Chair. She has been instrumental in advocating for and supporting the Department in a number of endeavors, such as Trotter Active Adult Center, Henry Street Park, Barber Park Phase II Expansion, Gateway Gardens Visitor's Center, Department Re-accreditation, 2016 Parks and Recreation Bond

Referendum, Plan2Play Adoption, National Gold Medal Award, and more. Her service and leadership as part of the Commission has been invaluable and she will be missed.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Summer Wrap Up and Fall Preview- Chamreece Diggs, Facilities Coordinator, and Phelan Fletcher, Barber Park Assistant Manager, gave a robust summary of the department's programs and events from summer 2021 and highlighted fall's upcoming programs and events.

Community Recreation Services highlights included recap of recreation centers' summer camp attendance, Youth Services' programs and activities, Athletic events/youth leagues, and Special Programs initiatives. Summer Camp had 1,557 Registered Participants and an overall 6,895 in attendance. There were 9,232 meals served at summer camp sites with 648 meals served at Energy at the Park at Hampton Park, Heath Park, McCulloch Park, Sussman Park, and Woodmere Park. Youth Services offered 72 Programs with 1,598 Participants, attended 54 community meetings, and conducted 9 trainings.

On the Park Operations side, Park Services provided logistic support for Fun Fourth, Friday Night Live concerts, and the August Food Truck Fest downtown. Summer reservations at all facilities generated over \$114,000, the Paddle boats at Country Park had 15,000 users resulting in \$37,000 revenue, and Sprayground rentals were booked solid almost every weekend resulting in over \$33,000.

- B. 2020-21 Greensboro Parks and Recreation Annual Report- Jennifer Hance, Community Engagement Coordinator, showcased the digital copy of the 2020-21 Greensboro Parks and Recreation Annual Report, highlighting our accomplishments from the past year including updates on construction and renovation projects, highlights of achievements, and department facts and figures. The Annual Report utilizes our Department tagline with an interwoven message of "Enhance, Expand, Connect". A hard copy of the Annual Report will also be available for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposed User Fee Changes for FY 21-22- Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, recommended approval of the proposed FY 2021-22 User Fee Schedule for participation in Parks and Recreation programs and rental of facilities. As part of the Department's annual budget preparation process, user fees and charges are reviewed to determine if they are sufficient

to cover the costs of providing programming or accommodations for events and activities. During this review period, several programming and facility fees and charges were adjusted to assist the Department in its efforts to increase cost recovery, to simplify the pricing structure of specific elements or activities, or to improve and enhance the overall customer experience. Examples of updated fees include court and room rental fees at Simkins Indoor Sports Pavilion and green and cart fees at Gillespie Golf Course.

Commissioner Henshall asked about the reasoning behind the increases that were made to the user fees.

Riley stated that the fees are tracked during the department's annual budget process and the department looks at how much operational costs are year by year. The reason for certain fees bring increased is because of operational budgets increasing in the last fiscal year.

Commissioner Glazman commended the Parks and Recreation Department on how affordable it is to play a round of golf at Gillespie Golf Course and that it is a wonderful asset to the Community.

Commissioner Cunningham Dockery made a motion to approve the proposed user fee changes for FY 21-22 and Commissioner Glazman seconded. All Commissioners voted in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nasha McCray, Director, gave an update on upcoming programs and events including the 2021 NC Folk Festival and Annual 9/11 Remembrance Stair Climb. The Folk Festival will start on Friday (9/10) 5:30pm - 10:15pm and continue Saturday (9/11) 12pm - 10:15pm (9/11 Remembrance Stair Climb begins 8:30am in Center City Park), and Sunday (9/12) 12pm - 6pm. The City of Greensboro plays a significant role in supporting the festival, so it will be a busy weekend for us. Many of our P&R staff will be on hand working at the event.

As part of the festival this year, the City will host the Annual 9/11 Remembrance Stair Climb at 8:30am, on Saturday and an added 9/11 Concert that evening beginning at 5pm in the MLK surface parking lot at MLK Dr. and Elm St. (102 MLK Jr. Dr.). In addition to all the great mobile food vendor options this year, many of our downtown restaurateurs and retailers will be open and running specials during the festival. While this is an outdoor event spread throughout downtown, we are taking safety precautions against the spread of COVID-19 very seriously. A mobile vaccination unit will be part of the festival this year. Performers, staff, production crew, presenters, and select volunteers whose roles are in close contact to the aforementioned participants are required to provide proof of vaccination or negative COVID test within 48 hours of working. All volunteers are required to wear masks when working in capacity as volunteer. Sanitation will be encouraged and implemented across the festival site. Distancing will be encouraged across the festival site as well.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Alexander-Henderson: Thanked all fellow Commissioners and the kind words. Volunteering with Summer Night Lights and the Folk Festival got her involved and introduced to Parks and Recreation. She loved joining the Commission and learning all that she has since 2016. Thank you to the staff for all the projects throughout the years and letting her be part of so many great things. She will miss us but won't be a stranger.

Neely: Overwhelmed with the volume of information shared and very impressed with the Parks and Recreation department. Can't wait to learn more.

Henshall: Applauded the staff reports we were presented with today and all the great information that was shared

Odum: This was a great meeting with great information shared that shows the level of commitment that the Parks and Recreation Department. The work being done is phenomenal. So sad about this being Chair Alexander-Henderson's last meeting and thanked her for serving, she is a great example.

Glazman: Flabbergasted by the volume of Parks and Recreation programs, activities, and events that were put on during the summer. She is so proud of what the department accomplishes. To Chair Alexander-Henderson, we made a great team over the years and you are a wonderful example of a community leader.

Linden: So sad that Chair Alexander-Henderson is leaving the Commission, she is such a great example of being a Community leader. She is incredibly proud of the work and appreciative of what the staff accomplishes. Thanks to Kim and the department.

With no further business, Commission Chair Alexander-Henderson adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

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