



GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 5:00 pm

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Emily Linden, Susan Henshall, Marsha Glazman, Cheskesha Cunningham-Dockery,
Walter Johnson, Cecile Crawford

STAFF PRESENT

Nasha McCray, Kobe Riley, Charles Jackson, Shawna Tillery, Haley Wilson, Tony Royal, Carla Hoover, Kim Porter, Michelle Gill-Moffat, Monique Floyd, Baron Edwards, Crystal Jones, Michael Romano, Marquita "MJ" Hines, Lindsay Lee, Gail Scott

OTHERS PRESENT

None

WELCOME

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 5:05 pm at Leonard Recreation Center. Shannon Teamer, Center Supervisor, welcomed the Commission and attendees and gave an update on activities and programs available at Leonard Recreation Center.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes from the August 2022 Commission Meetings- Commissioner Henshall made a motion to approve the August 2022 Commission meeting minutes and Commissioner Glazman seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

RECOGNITIONS

- A. Charles Jackson, Community Recreation Services Division Manager, recognized the following new hires and promotions within the Community Recreation Services Division: Baron Edwards as a new hire in the role of Assistant Athletic Director. Baron oversees the adult softball, adult basketball and field rental/allocation policies. Crystal Jones as a promotion in the role of Lake Warden at Lake Brandt. Crystal has been instrumental in putting together and running Xtreme Teen Adventure Weeks each summer and has contributed to the department by taking on a large role in programming for environmental education, hiking, and paddling. Marquita "MJ" Hines, Lindsay Lee, and Gail Scott as a promotion in the roles of Program and Center Support Specialists to provide much needed support and increased capacity to our recreation centers.
- B. Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant, recognized Commissioners Marsha Glazman and Jeff Smith for the conclusion of their six years on the Parks and Recreation Commission and thanked them for their time served.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Summer Wrap up and Fall Preview- Michelle Gill-Moffat, Youth Services Superintendent, and Phelan Fletcher, Country Park Assistant Manager, recapped programs and events that were offered during the summer season throughout the Department. In addition to the department's traditional summer programs, day camps, and the ENERGY at the Park playground program; there were several engaging programs, events, and activities to offer something for everyone this summer. Staff also introduced and highlighted upcoming fall programs, projects, and events happening in both Community Recreation Services and Park Operations. See attached presentation.

- B. Department Strategic Plan Overview- Shawna Tillery, Planning and Project Development Division Manager, provided a brief overview of the Department's Strategic Action Plan, including current fiscal year action items and achievements made to date since adoption of Plan2Play. Annual review, along with adoption of the Department's Strategic Action Plan every 3-5 years, must be completed by the Parks and Recreation Commission in order to meet the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) standard for strategic planning. See attached 2022-2023 Strategic Plan.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Accessibility for Park Grant for Keeley Park Adaptive Mountain Bike Support Facility- Shawna Tillery, Planning and Project Development Division Manager, presented and requested approval of the Keeley Park Adaptive Mountain Bike Support Facility renovation project for the 2022 Accessibility for Park Grant. The Accessibility for Parks grant program awards parks and recreation grants to benefit children and veterans with disabilities in North Carolina. For the Keeley Adaptive Mountain Bike course, the request will support enhanced parking facilities for the trail. The department will focus specifically on engaging local veterans; however, the trail will serve all users, regardless of ability. The program is administered through the Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR) within the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) in North Carolina. Local governments can request a maximum of \$500,000 with each application and must match the grant with \$1 of local funds for every \$5 of grant funds. The match request will be \$70,000. City Council will review the request to apply at the October 18, 2022 City Council meeting and the application is due on November 1, 2022. The department will complete direct stakeholder engagement as required by the grant submission.

Commission Glazman made a motion for approval of the Keeley Park Adaptive Mountain Bike Support Facility renovation project for the 2022 Accessibility for Park Grant and Commissioner Johnson seconded. All Commissioner voted in favor. Motion unanimously approved.

- B. Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Facility Tour- Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant, proposed locations for the 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission

Annual Facilities Tour. Commissioner Cunningham Dockery made a motion to approve the tour locations and Commissioner Henshall seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

- C. Parks and Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair Nominations- Parks and Recreation Commission Nominations Committee members, Cheskesha Cunningham-Dockery and Sue Henshall, led in the nominations and appointments of a new Commission Chair and Vice Chair. The Nominating Committee convened prior to the September Commission meeting to discuss Commissioners that have indicated an interest in serving in the roles. The Committee provided recommendations for nominations for acceptance, consideration, and approval by the Commission.

Commissioner Cheskesha Cunningham Dockery and Commissioner Anthony Izzard indicated interest in the Vice Chair role with Cunningham-Dockery being appointed as Vice Chair on a 5-1 vote and Emily Linden was re-appointed as Chair on a 6-0 vote. Appointments were made effective at the conclusion of the meeting and will serve for one (1) year in these roles.

OLD BUSINESS

None

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nasha McCray, Director, welcomed Cecile Crawford as the newest member of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission and announced that the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission will receive the Distinguished Recreation Board Award at the North Carolina Recreation and Parks Association (NCRPA) state awards at the NCRPA annual conference in Greenville, NC on October 19th. The award is for the Commission's engagement with the community; promotion and advocacy of parks and recreation at the local and/or state level; and their ability to work with elected officials and general support of agency goals and objectives. The Commission has been a key stakeholder and advocate of the Department's award-winning Plan2Play; multiple bond referendums; the aquatic facilities master plan process; and use of a racial equity lens to modify park rules and regulations and to make needed Department policy changes that have expanded food offerings across multiple outdoor facilities.

The VF Foundation will also receive the Corporate/Humanitarian Award for their significant and generous local and statewide recreation contributions. Since 2021, VF Foundation and VF Corporation have provided over \$400,000 in financial support to Greensboro Parks and Recreation and the Greensboro Parks Foundation, supporting critical projects that provide more people with access to the outdoors. In 2021, the Greensboro Parks Foundation was awarded the largest single donation from the VF Foundation for the expansion of a critical connection impeded by a railroad, opening up one of the most vulnerable census tracts in East Greensboro to the Downtown Greenway. Examples of other transformational projects include supporting the City's first adaptive mountain bike (aMTB) trail; new signage along trails; reconstruction of

outdated bridges and boardwalks along the trails system; and sponsorship of programs such as Take a Child Outside (TACO) Week and Trails Day event.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Cunningham-Dockery: Is looking forward to serving as Vice Chair and learning more.

Henshall: Congrats to the new hires, enjoyed hearing about the summer recap and fall preview. Congrats to Chair and Vice Chair and the awards.

Johnson: Thanked staff and congratulated Chair and Vice Chair.

Crawford: Thanked staff for her orientation today. Loves fishing, hiking, and being outdoors. Super excited to join the Commission.

Glazman: Congratulated Chair and Vice Chair on their appointments. Is so thankful for her time on the Commission and is excited for Dr. Robert Nudleman to join next month in her Commission seat.

Linden: Thanked Commissioner Glazman for her time on the Commission, thanked staff, and welcomed Commissioner Crawford to the Commission.

With no further business, Commission Chair Linden adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.

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