



**GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 14 at 5:00 pm**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Emily Linden, Vice Chair Cheskesha Cunningham-Dockery, Sue Henshall, Anthony Izzard, Blake Odum, Cecile Crawford, Scott Neely, Robert Nudelman

**STAFF PRESENT**

Phil Fleischmann, Kobe Riley, Shawna Tillery, Charles Jackson, Tony Royal, Haley Wilson, Monique Floyd, Carla Hoover, Kim Porter, Erin Kennedy, Jameya Miskel, Chamreece Diggs, Sharon Williams

**OTHERS PRESENT**

None

**WELCOME**

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 5:11 pm. Phil Fleischmann, Greensboro Parks and Recreation's newly hired Director welcomed the Commissioners to the Gateway Gardens Event Center, This is the first full year that the Gateway Gardens Event Center has been open, and most of the revenue collected for this building came in the warmer months where people could utilize the outdoor space that comes with the building rental. There were a total of 155 completed reservations at GGEC in 2022. Lisa LaMarr, Administrative Support Specialist, is in charge of reservations at both Gateway Gardens Event Center and the Barber Park Event Center. The Gateway Gardens Event Center also houses two of our Development and Engagement staff members, Cindy Boehling and Cohan Council who work as administrative support for the Greensboro Parks Foundation, Greensboro Beautiful, and our Community Engagement section under Paula Barger, Development and Engagement Administrator.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

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

**RECOGNITIONS**

- A. Recognitions- Charles Jackson, Community Recreation Services Division Manager recognized Sharon Williams, Parks and Recreation's Adaptive and Inclusive Recreation (AIR) Coordinator, for being awarded the UNCG HHS Pacesetter Award. The Pacesetter Award honors outstanding alumni in the School of HHS who have attained local, state, or regional recognition through their achievements in scholarship, leadership, or service during their career or through civic involvement .For the past 8 years, Sharon has done

extraordinary work on behalf of citizens of all abilities in our city. She manages over \$300,000 for adaptive and inclusive programming, coordinates summer day camps that serve children and youth with disabilities, and supervises full-time, seasonal, and part-time staff for the organization. A few of her more noteworthy accomplishments include receiving a grant to build and staff an accessible kayak launch at Lake Higgins, the first one in Guilford County, and she partnered with Proehlfic Park and The Arc to receive funding for the Challenger League in the Triad area.

- B. New Hires and Promotions-** Charles Jackson, Community Recreation Services Division Manager recognized Jameya Miskel as the new Supervisor at Brown Recreation Center. Jameya comes to us with experience in customer service, staff management, programming, facility management and administrative services. She has worked with Durham Parks and Recreation in Athletics as a Senior Program Assistant and the City of Winston Salem as an Assistant Recreation Center Supervisor. Jameya has a Bachelor's Degree from UNCG in Kinesiology and a Master's Degree in Sports/Athletics Management from Southern New Hampshire University. Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, recognized Erin Kennedy as the newest member of our Planning and Project Development Division. Erin will be serving as the new Parks Planner. Erin brings almost 20 years of planning and community involvement experience. She joins us from the Language Resources, where she managed the translation department. Before that, she planned and events and programs for the Volunteer Center of Greensboro including the Human Race 5k. She is passionate about creating welcoming spaces and getting people involved. Erin is a graduate of UNCG and a Greensboro resident for over 25 years. Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant, recognized Phil Fleischmann as the department's new Director. Many of you have worked with or know Phil Fleischmann, who most recently served as Deputy Director for Greensboro Parks and Recreation from 2018 to 2019. Phil returns to the City after spending more than three years as Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Chapel Hill. Phil began his career in parks and recreation with the City in 2001. He has served in several different management and leadership positions within Greensboro's Parks and Recreation Department including Community Recreation Services Division Manager. He has also held positions with the City of Raleigh and Mecklenburg County Parks Departments. Phil holds a Master of Science degree in Parks & Recreation Management from UNCG and an undergraduate degree from UNC Chapel Hill. He earned the designation of Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE) and has served on the boards of several area organizations, including the YWCA of Greensboro, Greensboro Farmers Market Inc., Greensboro Beautiful, Creative Aging Network-NC, and the UNCG School of Health and Human Sciences Alumni Leadership Council. Additionally, he serves as an adjunct instructor in the Department of Community and Therapeutic Recreation at UNCG.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Board and Commissions Handbook and Code of Conduct- As the City Clerk has updated the City of Greensboro Boards and Commissions Handbook in November 2022, an overview and Code of Conduct is requested of all Boards and Commissions. Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant, provided an overview of the updated Code of Conduct. All policies and statements contained in the Boards and Commissions Handbook are incorporated here by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Attendance and punctuality to meetings are reviewed by City Council bi annually. Any conduct that interferes with or adversely affects work as determined by the Chair is sufficient grounds for disciplinary action. Such action can range from warnings to immediate discharge. Depending on the conduct, disciplinary steps will be taken. Factors that will be considered in determining the appropriate action include the seriousness of conduct, the member's record, the member's ability to correct his/her conduct, action taken with respect to similar conduct by other members, and any other surrounding circumstances. The City of Greensboro is committed to providing a positive work environment free of discrimination, bias, and bullying. The Code of Conduct was reviewed and signed by each Commissioner going into the 2023 calendar year.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

None

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Phil Fleischmann, Director, congratulated Bob Brooks, Gillespie Golf Course Manager for receiving the 2022 Carolinas PGA Patriot for his work helping our veterans re-enter the game of golf with the PGA Hope program.

Fleischmann announced that Pomona Park, 3910 Clifton Rd., has been selected as the temporary location for the City's Doorway Project which will over shelter to the homeless population. Site selection involved considering available City-owned facilities that would provide the lowest impact to surrounding neighborhoods while also providing bus access, safety, and amenities for those accessing services. The park was selected for these reasons; and knowing that the scheduled use of the ballfield would not conflict with the schedule for the Doorway Project.

Thirty pallet shelters are being installed in the outfield area of the ballfield December 20-23. The program will conclude in March 2023. At that time, the pallet shelters will be removed and City staff will assess the park for any needs and work quickly to assess any areas needing attention, including but not limited to the ballfield. The City recognizes that the ballfield is a crucially important asset within the park system. We are committed to minimizing any impacts from the Doorway Project and also to addressing any needs quickly upon the conclusion of the program in order to minimize disruptions to scheduled spring play.

As an overview and recap of past and upcoming programs and events, Fleischmann shared the following:

Parks and Recreation assisted with the annual Greensboro Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities Shopper's Day on Thursday, December 1 at Four Season Town Center. More than 900 individual shoppers attended the event.

The department was selected by NC Division of Public Health as recipient for 5 bike racks and 1 fix it station to help us continue to support equitable access to biking in Greensboro. The new bike racks can be found at the following locations: Barber Park Sprayground, Greensboro Sportsplex, Peeler Recreation Center, Trotter Active Adult Center, and Warnersville Recreation Center. The new Fix It station is located at Woven Works Park on the Downtown Greenway.

The Greensboro Youth Council's annual Santa's Workshop Toy drive ended on December 9. Toys are now being sorted and prepared for family shopping days.

Youth basketball and cheerleading are looking for a few more volunteer coaches for the winter 2022 season. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering reach out to Alex Zaleski, Volunteer Coordinator.

Parks and Recreation will kick off its 3<sup>rd</sup> Winter Workout Challenge on January 1, 2023. We are encouraging residents to walk, run, hike, bike, or row 23 miles in the month of January. All individuals who participate will be entered into a P&R prize pack drawing at the end of the month.

Fleischmann also announced that 2023 is North Carolina's Year of the Trail. This campaign not only celebrates our vast network of trails, greenways and blueways, but also encourages people of all abilities to get outdoors and explore our diverse landscapes. As an official designation by the NC General Assembly, this year long initiative will help advocate for investment in trails and communities statewide. Greensboro will be celebrating throughout the year with different events and programs.

## COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Nudelman: Thanked staff and is looking forward to learning more about the department and all that it encompasses.

Izzard: Looking forward to upcoming year and thanked staff for being so present at community events.

Cunningham-Dockery: Is looking forward to getting to know our incoming Director. Challenged the other Commissioners to get out and visit the facilities in their district.

Crawford: Is looking forward to meeting everyone in person in 2023 and being involved in Parks and Recreation initiatives.

Neely: Is excited for Commission meetings to be in person in 2023 and plans to visit Parks and Recreation facilities more in the upcoming year.

Odum: Gave kudos to the Commissioners juggling their busy schedules and staying present in their role as

Henshall: Looking forward to in person meetings and connecting with fellow commissioners next year.

Linden: Thanked staff and Commission for a great year and encouraged Commissioners to be active and intentional in their roles.

With no further business, Commission Chair Linden adjourned the meeting at 5:52 pm.

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