



High Point Parks & Recreation Commission Board Minutes of April 9, 2018

Present: Marshall Newsome; Gary Ollis; Brian Petty; Bryon Stricklin; Gloria Halstead; Ed Price; Don Scarborough

Absent: Jerry Archie, Robert Davis, Todd Nifong

Staff: Lee Tillery, Tracy Pegram, Eugene Coleman, Randy Little, Colten Marble, Tyler Cole, Paige Moné



Call to Order / Welcome

The regular meeting of the HPPR Commission Board was called to order at 5:45 p.m. on Monday, April 9. The Chair, Marshall Newsome, welcomed all to the meeting.

Approval of February 5, 2018 Minutes

Since the Public Meeting on the Master Plan was held in lieu of the March Commission meeting, minutes from the February 5, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Gloria Halstead made a motion that the minutes from February 5, 2018 be accepted as read; Gary Ollis seconded. All were in favor of accepting the minutes and the motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business

Marshall Newsome thanked everyone for their help with the Public Meeting for the Master Plan on Monday, March 26, 2018 (rescheduled date due to weather). We were pleased with the turnout and staff from McAdams remarked that the response was one of the largest they had seen at a public meeting.

Lee Tillery indicated that approximately 100 people attended. To date, 166 responses to the online survey have been received. A small number of those people in attendance and responding to the online survey represented the interests of the neighborhoods near Washington Terrace Park and Community Center. Their desire is to see more programming at the center. With the relocation of the annual Easter Egg Hunt to one central location at High Point Athletic Complex, instead of two events at WTP and High Point City Lake Park, they indicated that transportation can be an issue for many residents since a lot of participants walk to the annual event.

Questions and comments

Randy Little responded that the events were merged into one to allow for better quality overall, as well as improved parking and safety.

Bryon Stricklin asked if we could possibly make transportation available to the Athletic Complex for people without transportation, so they could participate. Ed Price noted that we could consider a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs to make this happen.

New Business

Tracy Pegram presented the Piedmont Discovery Application, a project she has been working on for several years with the City of Greensboro Parks & Recreation and Guilford County Parks. The application will allow residents and visitors to search for parks and trails nearby or by the amenities they are looking for.

Staff Reports

Director's Report: Lee Tillery reported that work on the High Point Greenway Connector (Deep River to Penny Road) is underway and going well, with a target completion date of spring 2019. Paving projects at High Point City Lake Park and Blair Park Golf Course are complete. The Hedgecock Dog Park should be finished in the next few months. Improvements are also being made to the Tennis Center's indoor courts and site work has begun at Oak Hollow/Sailboat Point, made possible by the Connect NC grant.

Recreation Division: Randy Little reported that the Easter Egg Hunt went very well this year. Attendance was high and the Special Populations hunt was particularly well-received. The Little Sluggers League is now underway, with 4 recreation center-based teams. Youth cheerleading program recently won several awards at the first competition they entered. The regional Bridge Building competition and Kosmic March Madness events was very successful.

Parks Division: A playground rating standard has been developed for the department, using a number system to track maintenance and score age, condition, and usage. Preparation is underway for the High Point Furniture Market. A new recycling program has started at the High Point Athletic Complex, and staff is pursuing a grant to purchase additional containers that match the new trash cans. crews set up and assisted at 5 events.

Special Facilities: Piedmont Environmental Center is now open on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The final passenger train car at High Point City Lake Park is in the restoration process, with completion expected by mid-April. Rides and amusements will begin weekends-only operations on May 12. The First Tee project is underway at Oak Hollow Golf Course, with 26 participants. Oak Hollow is also offering Get Golf Ready classes. Aeration of the greens has been completed at both golf courses.

Marketing: The new *Leisure Guide* has been released, detailing departmental programs and events for April – June. We are highlighting a volunteer each day during National Volunteer Week, April 15 – 21. There is a particular need for coaches for various programs, including youth athletics and Miracle League, and it is hoped this will help with recruitment as we feature current volunteers. One Saturday each month from April –

October we will have a booth at the new Farmer's Market at the High Point Public Library. We are currently promoting spring and summer programs and events.

Questions and comments: Ed Price urged staff to reach out to high school coaches in the area schools to recruit volunteer coaches.

At the conclusion of reports and with no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next High Point Parks & Recreation Commission Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the P&R Administration Office, 136 Northpoint Avenue.

Submitted by: Paige Moné | Reviewed by: Tracy Pegram | Approved by: Lee Tillery