



**High Point Parks & Recreation Commission Board Minutes of September 9, 2019**

Present: Don Scarborough, Robert Davis, Ed Price, Marshall Newsome, Gloria Halstead

Absent: Jerry Archie, Bryon Stricklin, Brian Petty, Gary Ollis

Staff: Lee Tillery, Tracy Pegram, Paige Mone, Randy Little, Eugene Coleman, Colten Marble, Adriene Heffner



**Call to Order / Welcome**

The regular meeting of the High Point Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order at 5:31 p.m. on Monday, September 9th. Marshall Newsome welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for their dedication to the group. He also mentioned that, since only a few board members are present, the minutes for both August and September will be approved at the October meeting.

**Old Business**

Lee Tillery stated that Marshall Newsome has been reappointed to the Commission and Todd Nifong has resigned. Lee discussed accountability and the Comprehensive Master Plan. His goal is to provide examples and photos of the progress being made each quarter to keep the Commission members informed and show how the plan is being implemented. He showed photos of the new exterior paint on both Oakview Recreation Center and Morehead Recreation Center. Randy Little mentioned that the new paint will help add to the curb appeal of the centers and help attract more people. He also mentioned that the interior of Oakview will be painted very soon. Lee stated that many of the deferred maintenance issues from the past are being addressed now. The goal is to take care of the facilities that the city already has in its portfolio before adding new ones. Lee also mentioned that the General Obligation Bond will contain two items pertaining to Parks & Recreation. These items include plans for the Senior Center and Phase 1 of the City Lake Park Master Plan.

**New Business**

Lee Tillery discussed the Convention & Visitor's Bureau initiative to add niche events to High Point. The CVB gave the department \$98,000 for an additional dock and buoy system at Festival

Park to help in attracting additional rowing events to the city. Rowing events bring in visitors who often stay overnight and add positive economic impact to our city.

### **Questions and Comments**

Don Scarborough asked if photos of renovations are posted so the public can see the progress and change. Lee Tillery responded that they are sometimes posted on social media and mentioned the new playground at Oak Hollow Lake as an example.

Don Scarborough asked if the department tracks attendance numbers after a major project to improve a facility to see how it affects participation. Lee Tillery responded that we haven't tracked this in the past, but it is a good suggestion.

Marshall Newsome asked for clarity on the plans for the senior center. Lee Tillery responded saying the department has looked at several options and is leaning towards building a new facility in a different, centrally located location rather than renovating the old facility.

Robert Davis asked if lighting can be added to the Johnson Street playground so the children can use it in the evenings. Eugene replied that ground lighting can be a challenge, but flood lighting mounted to a building might be a good solution.

Ed Price asked if the department can mention the Winston Salem State University football game that is moving to High Point in the next newsletter or publication. High Point youth will have the opportunity to attend for free.

Don Scarborough asked if we can add additional lighting to University Park. Lee Tillery responded and said that the department is looking into options to expand the parking area and will consider adding lights.

Ed Price asked if anyone was familiar with a report highlighting a list of potential large-scale events designed to bring visitors into the city. He also asked if the department has responded to the report. Lee Tillery replied that he was not familiar with the report.

Marshall Newsome commented on the outreach program provided by Servants Heart Ministry at City Lake Park. He said that Park Ranger Thomas Roehm did a great job with public relations and commended him for taking care of a homeless person who needed help with transportation.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting officially adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

### **Next Meeting:**

The next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting will take place on Monday, October 13 at 5:30 pm at Northpoint Administrative Office.

Submitted by: Adriene Heffner | Reviewed by: Tracy Pegram | Approved by: Tracy Pegram