



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

Present: Jerry Archie, Brian Petty, Robert Davis, Monica Peters, Ed Price, Marshall Newsome, Gloria Halstead, Gary Ollis

Absent: Bryon Stricklin

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



Call to Order / Welcome

The regular meeting of the HPPR Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 9th. Marshall Newsome welcomed all to the meeting and wished everyone a happy holiday season. Next, he introduced the new City Council Liaison, Monica Peters.

Approval of October 2019 Minutes

Minutes of the October 14, 2019 meeting were presented for approval. Robert Davis made a motion that the minutes be accepted as read and Jerry Archie seconded. All were in favor of accepting the minutes and the motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business

Lee Tillery welcomed everyone to the meeting. He discussed the municipal bonds stating that they were approved with a 76% vote for the bonds. He stated that planning is in the beginning stages for both the new Senior Center project and Phase 1 of the City Lake Park project. He will present more information as it becomes available.

Tracy Pegram introduced Hana Miller, the new Administrative Specialist. Hana will help in the Administrative Office with marketing, special events, the Leisure Guide and many other tasks. Tracy presented a slide show with some of the completed projects from the Master Plan. Slides included the improvements at Oak Hollow Lake such as picnic shelters and tables, exterior repairs at the PEC, the new scoreboard at Oak Hollow golf course, a new playground structure at Burnett Park, interior painting at Oakview Recreation Center and a new surface on the Miracle League field. Tracy also presented slides on several October events and programs including Spooky Hoopla, Boo Bash, Red Zone Football and the Senior Games cheerleaders.

New Business

Lee Tillery discussed several new projects including the Declan Donoghue Foundation's donation of \$70,000 for a new inclusive playground at Deep River Park and the Kiwanis Club's donation of \$133,000 for a new inclusive playground at Washington Terrace Park.

A new KaBOOM! sport court is scheduled to be installed on Wednesday, December 11 at Southside Recreation Center. It is a grant-funded, interlocking sport court that will be assembled by a group of volunteers. Tracy Pegram mentioned that Parks & Recreation is working with the Wellness Division of the City to install new fitness room equipment at Southside Recreation Center. She also mentioned additional KaBoom! volunteer projects include painting the fitness room, add shelving to the pantry and sidewalk painting.

Melody Burnett, President of the High Point Convention and Visitors Bureau spoke about their Master Plan. The CVB's goal is to increase economic development through travel and tourism. She described the City of High Point as a destination in transition. The CVB Master Plan targets event-based businesses and sees High Point as a great location for niche sports such as jet ski races, rowing regattas and dragon boat races. Melody stressed that there must be a balance between events for economic purposes and usage of recreational venues by residents. Melody discussed the High Point CVB Foundation and its new name: DRIVE High Point. DRIVE stands for Destination: Renew and Innovate the Visitor Experience.

Lee Tillery discussed the grant from the CVB focusing on Festival Park. He mentioned that there are several players in the regatta game: Gene Kininmonth and Triad United Rowing Club, the High Point University rowing team, the Parks & Recreation Department facilities and the residents living on or near the lake. He would like to find opportunities for more children and adults to row. He also mentioned that putting on the regattas is a lot of work and involves lots of volunteers, tons of planning and plenty of coordination.

Questions and Comments

Marshall Newsome asked if there is any money for the Westchester Park project? Lee Tillery replied that we need to do something with the land and move it up the priority list. Marshall Newsome asked for an update on downtown High Point. Melody Burnett responded, saying that they are trying to leverage and link different sections of the downtown with other sections of the city for more appeal.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting officially adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting will take place on Monday, January 13th at 5:30 p.m. at the Administration Office at 136 Northpoint Avenue.

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