

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
PHIL BAZEMORE ACTIVE ADULT CENTER
500 W. JEFFERSON STREET
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA 28112**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024
6:00PM**

AGENDA

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- Item 1.** Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2024
- Item 2.** Introduction of Tyson Carrier, Athletic and Special Events Supervisor
- Item 3.** Bearskin Greenway Phase III and Creft Park Renovation Project Update
- Item 4.** Special Event Updates
- Item 5.** Juneteenth Update
- Item 6.** Facility Updates
- Item 7.** Divisional Program Updates (MAFC, Parks Maintenance, Recreation)
- Item 8.** Financial Report
- Item 9.** Other Business

ATTENTION COMMISSION MEMBERS: Please contact Angie Sustar at asustar@monroenc.org or 704-282-4651 to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2023
MINUTES**

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Monroe, North Carolina met in the Phil Bazemore Active Adult Center, 500 W. Jefferson Street, Monroe, North Carolina at 6:00PM on December 5, 2023.

Members Present: John Thomasson and Debbie Dillion

Members Absent: Tiffany Wilson (Chair)

Staff Present: Ryan Jones, and Angie Sustar

Guests: Keith O'Herrin, Urban Forester, NC Cooperative Extension Union County Center, and Miriah Lasher

Member Debbie Dillion called the meeting to order at 6:04PM and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes from November 15, 2023

Motion: John Thomasson moved to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting.

Second: Debbie Dillion

Action: The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Debbie Dillion and John Thomasson

NAYS: None

Item No. 2. Facility Naming Request

Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Jones advised that he had been contacted by several individuals requesting that the City and Parks and Recreation honor Mr. Hunter Presson for his many years of dedicated volunteer work with the youth of Monroe through both the Little League Baseball (1955 - 1972) and the Midget League Football programs (1968 – 1972). Mr. Presson was known for his fairness and kindness to not only his players but all who came in contact with him. Mr. Jones stated that he thought it would be appropriate naming one of the fields at Sunset Park after Hunter Presson. Mr. Jones stated that the emails were all very positive and described the kind of person that we need as our coaches. He offered to provide the emails received.

Mr. Jones advised that the City's Facility Naming Policy requires Advisory Board recommendation of the request before presenting it to City Council for approval.

Member John Thomasson made a motion to support the naming of Field 1 at Sunset Park the Hunter Presson Field.

Motion: John Thomasson made a motion to support the naming of Field 1 at Sunset Park to

Hunter Presson Field.
Second: Debbie Dillion
Action: The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Debbie Dillion and John Thomasson
NAYS: None

Item No. 3. Other Business

Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Jones stated that he had provided Keith O'Herrin, Urban Forester with Union County Center of NC Cooperative Extension with an update on the public tree ordinance.

Mr. Jones advised that this would be Rae Moore's last meeting as her last day with the City is December 15th. He thanked Rae for her years of dedicated service and expressed how proud he was of her and for the impact she has made in the community. Mr. Jones stated that Rae has done a phenomenal job and it has been outstanding watching her grow.

Member John Thomasson stated that it's an awesome opportunity where she's going to and she deserves it.

Special Events:

Mr. Jones advised that the Tree Lighting Ceremony scheduled for Saturday, December 2 was postponed due to the threat of inclement weather and took place last night, Monday, December 4.

Mr. Jones stated that the "Santa's Workshop Experience" takes place December 7 – 23, 2023 and is scheduled every Thursday and Friday 6pm – 9pm and Saturdays 4pm – 8pm at 120 North Main Street. This is a free public event.

- "Santa's Workshop Experience" December 7 – 23, 2023
Thursday and Fridays – 6pm – 9pm
Saturdays 4pm – 8pm

Member Debbie Dillion asked how leaf collection was going.

Mr. Jones advised that due to the holiday schedule and rain that the past couple of weeks had been difficult. He advised that due to extremely heavy leaf volume, trucks are running on Saturday.

Mr. Jones provided a brief update on the Creft Park and Bearskin Greenway Phase III project. He advised that we are getting ready to go under contract with our consultant. He advised that the City received a N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant (PARTF) in the amount of \$500,000 in matching funds for the Bearskin Greenway Phase III and Creft Park renovation project. He stated that last year we had a renovation project in every one of our parks. He stated that over the next fiscal year the focus would be on the community centers to replace or renovate the gymnasium floors.

Member John Thomasson asked if Parks and Recreation do the grounds for the Science Center. Mr. Jones advised that facility maintenance is responsible for the grounds at the Science Center.

Community Centers:

Mr. Jones stated that Member John Thomasson has been working on a project with the Harlem Wizards that will take place at Monroe High School and Parks and Recreation are going to purchase tickets and give them to children in our community centers. Member Thomasson stated that the Harlem Wizards provide an entertaining event. He advised that the Rotary sponsors the event, the Wizards have a model they use, and the Rotary provides the labor and interact with the schools. The money raised goes to Rotary projects such as scholarship for high school students. The event is February 3 at 7:00pm at Monroe High School. Mr. Jones stated that Parks and Recreation staff would officiate the game.

There being no further business, Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Debbie Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Second: John Thomasson and Debbie Dillion

Action: Motion to adjourn passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Debbie Dillion and John Thomasson

NAYS: None

Respectfully Submitted,
Angie Sustar,
Administrative Services Supervisor
Parks and Recreation Department