

**PARKS, RECREATION AND GREENWAYS COMMISSION
AGENDA**

**7:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 18, 2020
Virtual Meeting
Chapel Hill, NC**

Roll Call: Renuka Soll (Chair), Wesley McMahon (Vice Chair), Linda Alexander, Alice Armstrong (Orange County Representative), Jeanette Bench, William Kaiser, Lydia Kivihya-Ndugga, Jochen Schwarz, and Guthrie Richardson (Youth Council Representative)

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (May 18, 2020)
- 7:10 p.m. 3. Communications and Petitions from Commission and Staff
- 7:20 p.m. 4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance – Chair
- 7:25 p.m. 5. COVID-19 Department Response Update – Phil Fleischmann and Linda Smith
- 7:45 p.m. 6. Greenways and Sidepaths Project Update – Marcia Purvis
- 8:00 p.m. 7. Parks Project Update- Marcia Purvis
- 8:15 p.m. 8. Liaison reports
- 8:25 p.m. 9. Meeting Schedule – July, August, September
- 8:35 p.m. 10. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

3. **Communications and Petitions from Commission and Staff:**

A. Trash Collection at MLK/Estes: Per feedback from the Commission, Parks Staff, visited this location and verified that trash had been collected at this location.

B. Cedar Falls Park:

- Inclusive Playground Project (Orange County Interest) – Inclusive Playground Project (Orange County Interest) – Parks and Recreation Department staff had a meeting on January 31, with Orange County Parks and Recreation Department Director and senior team to review the inclusive playground project. Parks staff has also contacted Orange County Parks staff to discuss the project status.
- Orange County Recycling Station – Orange County Recycling Station – The Parks staff has been in contact with Orange County representatives regarding the recycling station location and met with Orange County staff at Cedar Falls on June 4. County staff says this location is well used and will clean up the area. Orange County has also committed to monitoring the site and removing any trash due to the collection center.

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C. Greene Tract: The Planning Department is planning to hold a single meeting for all Town advisory board members. We will notify everyone once the date is finalized.

D. Future Land Use Map: Alisa Duffy Rogers, Project Manager, will be transmitting the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) documents electronically to all Town advisory boards and commissions to review. If, after receiving the materials, Boards and Commission members want to discuss with Alisa in non-quorum groups, she will be available to arrange.

E. Cemeteries Updates: Per feedback from the Commission, parks staff will plan to present quarterly updates on Cemeteries beginning in Fall 2020.

F. American Legion Property: Based upon the Council's action on May 20, staff are working to finalize a lease agreement with Melody Eggen, Inc. for the continued operation of the dance studio. Also, at its May 20 meeting, Council received the Commission's petition related to the American Legion property.

5. **COVID-19 Department Response**

A presentation providing an overview of this topic will be shared during the meeting.

Capital Improvement Program Update: Following are brief updates. Commission members should feel free contact staff if you have any questions or comments.

6. **Greenways and Sidepaths Projects - Progress**

- *Bolin Creek Trail (East of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.):* Construction and Coal Ash Remediation work is on-going on the portion of the Bolin Creek trail between Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and Bolinwood Dr.

Once this work is completed, the contractor will move on to replace wood decking and railings on two of the bridges on the trail. This work will take approximately two weeks to complete. There is an existing trail route that the public can use to bypass the area where the first bridge is located. The second bridge is located between Bolinwood Drive and the Community Center. The contractor is investigating installing a temporary bridge on-site during construction. If we are unable to use the temporary bridge in this location, this section of the trail would need to be closed to the public. We may also need to consider postponing the bridge repairs to a time when Bolin Creek Greenway use is less active. The contractor will be providing us with a cost estimate for remobilizing in case the temporary bridge is not an option, and this section of the trail is not accessible.

More information will be provided to the public once the timeframe of bridge repairs is known and if there is any closure of the trail. Work should be complete this summer, barring any unusual problems such as a significant storm. Please see [Bolin Creek Trail Phase 3A Construction | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#) webpage.

Additionally, Community Arts & Culture has completed a public art project adding murals that are visible as trail users approach the connector from either side of the trail at Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. A celebration featuring all the improvements will be planned for a future date.





- *Fordham Sidewalk Project:* Parks and Recreation Department Staff is working with Transportation and Planning Staff to post traffic calming concept plans this summer to receive input from stakeholders and the public. A public meeting may be held later this year to update community members on the project progress and respond to comments received through the project website. More information can be found on the [Fordham Boulevard Sidewalk Project | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#) webpage.

7. Parks Projects - Progress

- *Playground Improvements - Burlington Park and North Forest Hills Park:* Parks and Recreation staff will be receiving input from community members, who were involved in the public engagement process, with the evaluation and selection of the vendor's playground equipment proposals. Playground Equipment proposals have been distributed to team members with a scorecard to evaluate and vendors. A virtual meeting will be held on June 16 to discuss results and to make recommendations on the award.

8. Liaison Reports:

Commission liaisons may make a report on topics of interest to the entire Commission:

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| • Community Design Commission | McMahon or TBD |
| • Community Tree Committee | Kaiser |
| • Cultural Arts Commission | Kivihya-Ndugga |
| • Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board | Bench |
| • Friends of Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation | McMahon/Alexander |
| • Orange County Parks/Recreation Council | Armstrong |
| • Planning Commission | Bench |
| • Transportation & Connectivity Advisory Board | Soll |

POSSIBLE FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

Greenways Updates

The Commission has asked for an agenda item to cover:

- List of current greenways and trails.
- Identification of what is missing (as noted in Greenway and/or Mobility plans).
- Possible options for funding, any partners / groups pushing for specific connections.
- Potential Orange County Trail
- Provide information on where to monitor NCDOT projects and working with Transportation Board.

Greenways Topics Covered So Far:

- Blue Hill District Sidepaths and Trails
- Lower Booker Creek
- South of Fordham Boulevard (Morgan Creek and Fan Branch Trails)
- Bolin Creek and Horace Williams Trails

Other Topics

Parks and Recreation Department – Update and Overview Fall 2020

Teen Center Tour with Commission – TBD

Open Space Data – How much do we have in comparison to other communities? Where are there gaps?

Greene Tract Presentation (All advisory boards, Planning)

Bus Rapid Transit

Easttown Project

Rails to Trails

Sponsorships

Parks Master Plan Overview

Sidewalk Maintenance