

PARKS, GREENWAYS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Chapel Hill Public Library, Room C
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 – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (January 21, 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. American Legion Update/Information from Town Council meeting, February 12
- 8:00 p.m. 6. Friends of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Update
- 8:20 p.m. 7. Greenways and Sidepaths Overview and Updates/Bolin Creek and Horace Williams Trails
- 8:30 p.m. 8. Liaison reports
- 9:00 pm. 9. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TOWN IS IN THE MIDST OF MIGRATING TO A NEW WEB SITE. SOME OF THE FOLLOWING LINKS MAY BE BROKEN OR MAY BREAK IN THE FUTURE. ONCE THE NEW WEBSITE IS COMPLETE WE WILL UPDATE ANY BROKEN WEB LINKS IN FUTURE AGENDAS.

3. Communications and Petitions from Commission and Staff:

- A. **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. Background materials can be found on the Town's [Greene Tract webpage](#).
- B. **Capital Improvement Program Update:** Following are brief updates. Commission members should feel free to contact staff if you have any questions or comments. Please see the July 2019 [Parks and Recreation Planning and Development newsletter](#).
- *Bolin Creek Trail (East of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.):* Construction started in early January 2020. Work should take about 3-4 months barring any unusual problems such as a major storm. Please see the [Bolin Creek Trail](#) webpage.



- *Cedar Falls Tennis Court Reconstruction:* Draft plans are available on the Town's Cedar Falls Tennis Court project website for review and comment. A public meeting was held at 11:00

AM, January 25, 2020 at Cedar Falls Park. At this time we do not have adequate funding for construction. Please see the [Cedar Falls Park Tennis Courts](#) webpage.

- *Inclusive Playground*: Schematic plans complete. We must decide on a first phase for bid plan development. Please see the [Inclusive Playground](#) webpage.
- *Fordham Sidepath Project*: A public meeting was held September 18, 2019. We are compiling the information from the meeting and other inputs. Please see the [Fordham Boulevard Side Path](#) webpage. We anticipate a Council meeting on February 26, 2020.
- *Morgan Creek Trail West*: We are working with UNC and the Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools to acquire needed easements. Design is at about 65%. We should have enough bond funding for a first phase of this project. Please see the [Morgan Creek Trail](#) webpage.
- *Morgan Creek Trail East*: We are working with UNC and the Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools to acquire needed easements. Design is at about 65%. We have no funding for a first phase of this project. Please see the [Morgan Creek Trail](#) webpage.
- *Morgan Creek Bridge (Bartram Drive)*: We have come to an agreement with UNC to locate the bridge on UNC Botanical Garden property, assuming that both parties desire to do so after permitting and public engagement. If we proceed with this project we should have adequate funding. Please see the [Morgan Creek Bridge](#) webpage. A public meeting was held on January 14, 2020. There were 38 attendees. All of those who spoke were in favor of building the bridge. Some questions were raised. The staff will work with NC Botanical Garden staff to address the issues. We anticipate restarting design work in late January 2020.

5. American Legion Update/Information: The Chapel Hill Town Council discussed the future use of the American Legion property at its meeting on Wed., Feb. 12. Information related to this item can be found at the Town of Chapel Hill website calendar page <https://chapelhill.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx>

6. Friends of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Update: The Friends organization is considering the option of sponsoring the grand opening of the Bolin Creek Trail with the organizations planned fundraising event. The event would be held on either Friday evening June 5 or on National Trails Day, June 6.

9. Liaison Reports

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

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|------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Community Design Commission | McMahon |
| • 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
Possible Scheduling is noted after some items.

Greenways Updates

The Commission has asked for an agenda item to cover:

- Provide status on current and near term projects. Include Estes Drive, Morgan Creek, and Ephesus Church Road.
- 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 (McMahon)
- Trails in and around the Blue Hill District. Use maps.
- 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)

Other Topics

Teen Center Tour with Commission in January or February

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

Eastowne Project

Rails to Trails

Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Update

Sponsorships

Departmental Business Plan

Parks Master Plan Overview

Greenways Master Plan Overview

Sidewalk Maintenance