

**PARKS, GREENWAYS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA**

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, January 19, 2021

**Virtual Meeting
Chapel Hill, NC**

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

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (December 15, 2020)
- 7:10 p.m. 3. Communications and Petitions from Commission, Council Liaison, and Staff
- 7:15 p.m. 4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance – Chair
- 7:20 p.m. 5. Little Free Pantry Projects Overview and Recognition - Phil Fleischmann, Director Parks and Recreation Department
Homestead Park – Dhara Buebel, Ashley Meggs, Sarah Wesley, Chloe Carroll, Carrboro High School Team Members
Booker Creek Greenway – Karen Stegman, Council Member Town of Chapel Hill
- 7:35 p.m. 6. 2200 Homestead Road Redevelopment Project Status – Emily Holt, Affordable Housing Officer Housing and Community Department and Wendi Ramsden, Landscape Architect Coutler Jewell Thames PA
- 7:50 p.m. 7. Capital Improvement Program Planning Process and Schedule – Marcia Purvis, Senior Planner Parks and Recreation Department
- 8:00 p.m. 8. Discussion Regarding Joint Meeting with Transportation and Connectivity Advisory Board Agenda and Schedule – Commission, Marcia Purvis, and Phil Fleischmann
- 8:15 p.m. 9. Liaison reports
- 8:30 p.m. 10. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

3. Communications and Petitions

Chapel Hill Peoples Academy -A few meetings ago, the Town's Peoples Academy was mentioned. The Peoples Academy is an opportunity to learn, connect and lead. Participants learn about Town services and opportunities, connect with Town leadership and community members, and lead by engaging in dialogue about community issues. The program is free and ALL people that live, work, play, pray or study in Chapel Hill are invited to register. This year's program will be held virtually over four Saturdays in March, and registration is now open. For more information, visit <https://www.townofchapelhill.org/things-to-do/get-involved/chapel-hill-peoples-academy>.

Hope Gardens Correspondence – Based on the action of the Commission at its last meeting, on December 17, 2020 Chair Soll provided a (memo) to the Mayor and Council. Consistent with the consensus of the Commission the correspondence requested and recommended to the Town Council that they ensure that the Hope Gardens remains on the 2200 Homestead Property, as the Council moves forward with their development plans for affordable housing. The Commission also recommended that the town assist the Hope Gardens in the relocation of the garden and orchard.

Parks and Recreation Management Team Addition – Monica Rainey has joined Parks and Recreation as the new Administrative Services Manager. She is replacing longtime employee Andrea Judge who is retiring at the end of the month. Monica holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration and has more than 20 years of experience in various administrative roles including experience in the public and private sectors. The Administrative Services division is responsible for financial and personnel management functions of the department (e.g., budget oversight, accounting, cash handling, staff training, payroll, etc.), technology support, volunteer coordination, marketing and promotion, and oversight of customer service and the front desk operations at Plant Road.

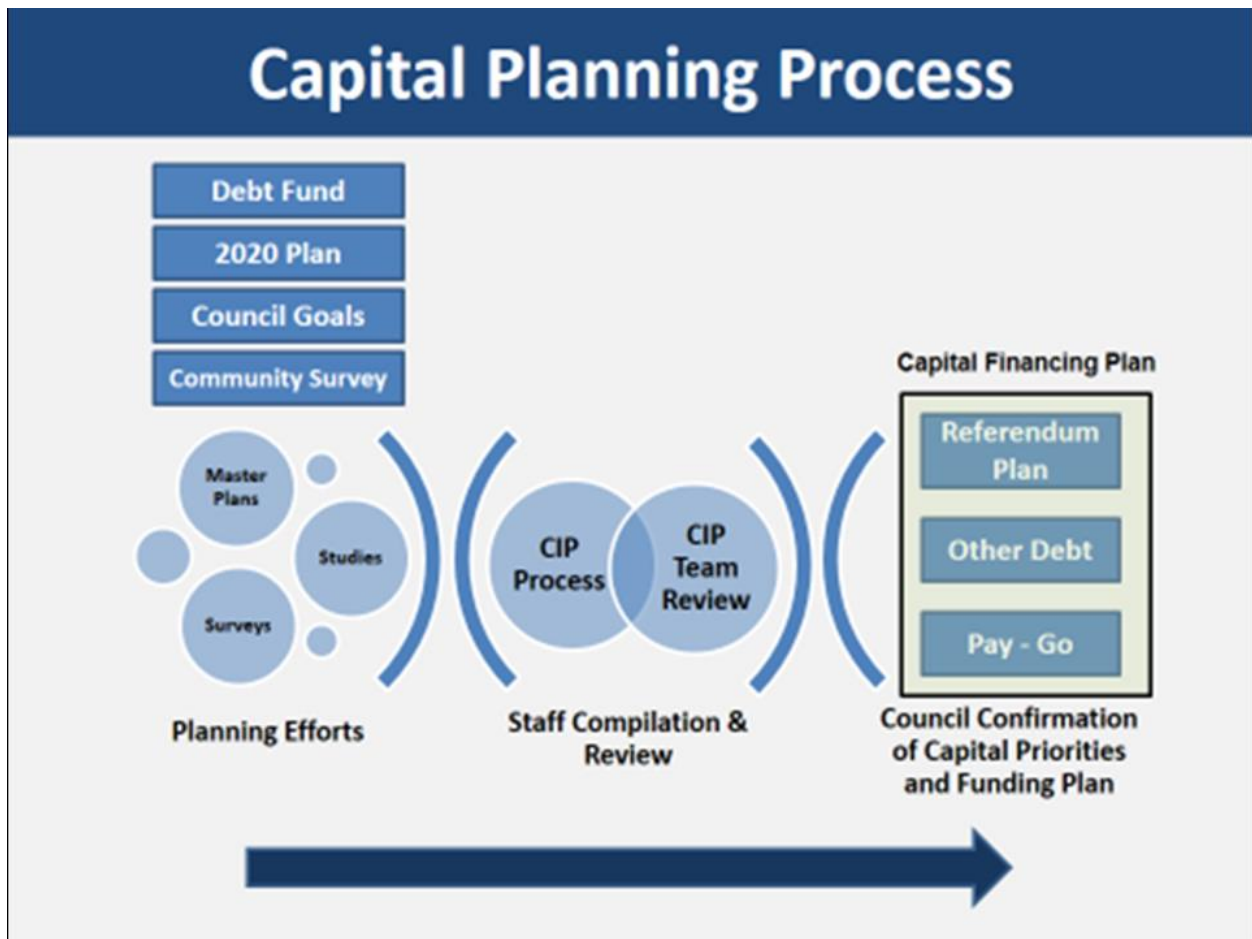
Greenways, Sidepaths, and Parks Projects Progress: Following are brief updates. Commission members should feel free to contact the staff if you have any questions or comments.

- *Bolin Creek Trail Upgrades* – Project construction is complete. A final inspection will be held late January early February to review project and compile any punch list items.
- *Morgan Creek Trail Expansion* -The engineering firm has provided opinions of the probable construction cost for three options to expand the trail. Staff has asked the engineers to update the cost to include value engineering suggestions for items such as; paving that could reduce the cost of construction. The Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Commission will be asked at a future meeting for input on to prioritizing section(s) for completion given the cost estimates and available funds.

5. Little Free Pantries Projects Overview and Recognition - In 2020, community members established two Little Free Pantries within the parks system. Council Member Karen Stegman and her family established one at the trailhead at Booker Creek Road. Carrboro High School students Dhara Buebel collaborated with Ashley Meggs, Sarah Wesley, and Chloe Carroll to develop one at Homestead Park. The purpose of both efforts is to allow individuals to pick up needed non-perishable and household items at any time. Community members can donate items by leaving them in the pantry. An overview of both initiatives will be provided, and those involved will be recognized for their efforts. More information about the Little Free Pantry movement can be found here: <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>.

6. 2200 Homestead Road Redevelopment Project Status – Emily Holt, Affordable Housing Officer Housing and Community, and Wendi Ramsden, Landscape Architect Coulter Jewell Thames PA, will present the current plans for an affordable housing development on the Town-owned open space at 2200 Homestead Road and share a status update on the project. This is the property where Hope Gardens is currently located.

7. Capital Improvement Program Planning Process and Schedule – Marcia Purvis, Senior Planner Parks and Recreation Department



SCHEDULE

Dates	Actions
October	Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – Kick-off
November	Project Managers Prepare and Submit CIP Proposals
January	Technical Review Team (TRT) - Review
February	CIP Leadership Team Review – Review and Rank Projects
February	Business Management Department – Review Projects and Recommended Ranking
February	CIP Leadership Team Recommendations to Town Manager
May	Managers Recommendation Presented to Town Council
June	Town Council Consideration of Budget

8. Discussion Regarding Joint Meeting with Transportation and Connectivity Advisory Board– Staff will update the Commission on recommended meeting dates and agenda recommendation.

9. Liaison Reports:

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

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

POSSIBLE FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

February / March 2021 Working Draft Agenda for Planning Purposes

Cemeteries Update

Joint Meeting with Transportation and Connectivity Advisory Board

Park Donations Program Review

Gene Strowd Rose Garden at Community Center Park Update

Pickleball at Southern Community Park Update

Greenways Updates

Greenways Topics Covered So Far:

- Blue Hill District Sidepaths and Trails
- Bolin Creek and Horace Williams Trails
- Booker Creek
- Fordham Sidepath Project

- Morgan Creek and Fan Branch Trails
- North and Dry Creek Trails

Other Topics:

Payment-in-lieu Program Update and Modifications of Town's Ordinance

Teen Center Tour with Commission

Parks Master Plan Overview - How to update master plan

Greenways Plan Overview

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

American Legion Update

Greene Tract Presentation

Easttown Project

Rails to Trails

Sidewalk Maintenance

Bus Rapid Transit

Development Buffers

Affordable Housing

Sponsorships

Pickleball at Southern Community Park Update

Park Fees and Cost Recovery Overview