

Quick Minutes

Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission

Date/Time: Virtual Meeting- November 17, 2020; 7:00 pm – 8:40 pm

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

Members not Present: N/A

Staff Present: Phil Fleischmann (Director), Linda Smith (Assistant Director), Kevin Robinson (Park Maintenance Superintendent), and Marcia Purvis (Senior Planner), and John Richardson (Community Resilience Officer)

Council Members Present: Hongbin Gu

Citizens Present: Joel Bulkley, Community Sports News

	Discussion points	Motions/Votes	Action
Approval of Minutes	Approval of October 20, 2020 Minutes	McMahon motioned, and Armstrong seconded a motion to approve the Minutes.	The motion passed 9-0
Communications and Petitions from Commission and Staff	Marcia Purvis, Senior Park Planner Parks, and Recreation Department discussed the following; Safe Route to Parks and Schools Program – Requested ideas for obtaining grant funding from this program. Grant application suggestions were made for the following;	N/A	N/A

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	<p>- Design of the new location for Hope Gardens and a trail to connect to the TOCH 2200 Homestead Road project.</p> <p>- Initiating and defining and a connection between the future path on Morgan Creek and a school.</p> <p>Park Donation Program: Requested input from commissioners on styles of amenities that could be donated through this program and for creating park design standards.</p> <p>Commissioners Soll, McMahon, Armstrong, and Bench offered to assist in providing feedback.</p> <p>Staff will follow-up with Commission members in the new year.</p> <p>A request was made to organize a joint meeting with Transportation Connectivity and Advisory Board. PGRC is interested in understanding the mobility plan and greenways master plan, how they connect, and how the two groups together could take action.</p> <p>Staff will follow-up with the PGRC Chair and Vice-Chair on moving forward with this request.</p>		
Climate Action Plan	John Richardson, Community Resilience Officer, provided an update on the Town’s Climate Action Plan and asked for feedback from Commission members on critical points of connection between parks and greenways and climate protection.	N/A	N/A
Payment -in-lieu Program	Marcia Purvis, Senior Park Planner Parks and Recreation Department, distributed and reviewed a summary outlining the Payment-in-Lieu Program and the amount funding the Department has received through this ordinance requirement.	N/A	N/A

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	Staff will follow-up early next year with a spreadsheet outlining amounts received, how money was dispersed, and a summary describing the requirements other Payment-in-Lieu programs managed by other towns in North Carolina.		
Liaison Reports	<p>Kivihya-Ndugga apprised meeting participants that the Cultural Arts Commission is open to finding ways to raise money to have artists paint more of the OWASA manholes</p> <p>Bench informed the meeting participants that the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board needs a volunteer liaison as she will be relinquishing her seat.</p> <p>McMahon updated the meeting participants that the TOCH staff will be hosting a virtual Arbor Day Celebration and will be referencing the tree planting work provided by the Friends of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation.</p> <p>Armstrong notified the meeting participants that the Orange County Parks and Recreation Council held meetings and shared information on additional land acquired to provide Hillsborough and Eno River Trail connections.</p> <p>Guthrie notified meeting participants that the Youth Council worked with the Hargraves Park staff packaging-free meals for distribution.</p>	N/A	N/A