

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

**7:00 P.M., Tuesday, January 18, 2022**

**Virtual Meeting  
Chapel Hill, NC**

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

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (December 21, 2021)
- 7:10 p.m. 3. Communications and Petitions from Commission, Council Liaisons, and Staff
- 7:15 p.m. 4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance – Chair
- 7:25 p.m. 5. East Chapel Hill High School Monarch Butterfly Club Project Overview and Recognition – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent, Raymond Zhao, and Kevin Guo, Club Representatives
- 7:45 p.m. 6. Comprehensive Parks, Greenways, and Open Space Master Plan Overview and Outline – Marcia Purvis, Senior Planner
- 8:00 p.m. 7. Parkland and Open Space Inventory Discussion - Phil Fleischmann, Director, and Marcia Purvis, Senior Planner
- 8:15 p.m. 8. Splash Pad Update – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent and Phil Fleischmann, Director Parks and Recreation Department
- 8:25 p.m. 9. Council Liaison, Community Tree Committee and Environmental Stewardship Board Assignments - Chair
- 8:35 p.m. 10. Liaison reports  
Liaisons may make a report on topics of interest to the entire Commission:
- Community Design Commission Steelman
  - Community Tree Committee Vacant
  - Cultural Arts Commission Kivihya-Ndugga
  - Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board Vacant
  - Friends of Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation McMahon
  - Orange County Parks/Recreation Council Armstrong
  - Planning Commission Bench
  - Transportation & Connectivity Advisory Board Soll

- Youth Council Krause
- Racquet Sports (Tennis & Pickleball) Stakeholders Committees Soll
- Splashpad Work Group Boucher

8:45 p.m. 11. Adjourn

## AGENDA NOTES

### 3. Communications and Petitions

*Inspire-Create-Preserve* newsletter – Parks & Recreation’s public newsletter, Inspire-Create-Preserve, was released on January 7, 2021. View the most recent edition [www.townofchapelhill.org/Home/Components/News/News/17586/4174](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/Home/Components/News/News/17586/4174)

Sign up for Chapel Hill E-News / Parks & Recreation in order to receive future issues directly in your email box.

*American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)* – A general input survey is open for all community members to express general interests regarding how funds should be spent. For more information [www.townofchapelhill.org/arpa](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/arpa)

*Assembly of Governments Meeting* – The elected boards of Orange County and the Towns of Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough will meet virtually on January 25 beginning at 7pm. An anticipated agenda item relates to parks, trails, and connectivity. Members of the public will be able to view and listen to the meeting via live streaming video at [orangecountync.gov/967/Meeting-Videos](http://orangecountync.gov/967/Meeting-Videos) and on Orange County Gov-TV on channels 1301 or 97.6 (Spectrum Cable).

*Commission Correspondence Regarding American Rescue Plan Act, Town’s Excess, Capital Improvement Program, and any other funding* – January 4, 2022, memo from Tyler Steelman, Chair was forwarded to the Mayor and Town Council regarding the Commission’s December 21, 2021, unanimous vote recommending specific project priorities for financing.

In identifying the priorities, the Commission reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department's Capital Improvement Program needs (84 projects collectively valued at \$12.5 million) and utilized the following criteria.

- Health and urgent safety-related repairs
- Demand and utilization
- Outreach to reach underserved community members, including projects within ARPA-defined Qualified Census Tract (QCT) areas and which are Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)-focused.

Nine priority projects and four additional recommendations were identified and included.

*Let's Talk Town* – Town staff will be in different locations during January and February in order to promote opportunities to engage with Town government, provide input on a variety of matters, and learn more about programs and services. For more information including schedules visit

<https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/let-s-talk-town>

*Peoples Academy* – 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. Applications for the 2022 program are now open. The registration deadline is February 11. Visit <https://www.townofchapelhill.org/things-to-do/get-involved/chapel-hill-peoples-academy>

5. East Chapel Hill High School Monarch Butterfly Club Overview and Recognition – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent will share remarks to recognize and thank the East Chapel Hill High School Monarch Butterfly Club and supporting partners for their leadership in establishing two native pollinator areas designed to attract monarch butterflies. In 2021, gardens were established at the Legion Road Open Space and at Community Center Park in front of the department's Administrative Offices.

6. Comprehensive Parks, Greenways, and Open Space Master Plan Overview and Outline - Marcia Purvis, Senior Planner, will share an overview and outline of the proposed contents for this project. This agenda item will provide an initial opportunity for the Commission to offer feedback on components of a new plan. This information will be useful in developing a Request for Qualifications or Request for Proposal for the project. The last Parks Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2013. Such plans typically have a useful life of no more than 10 years, with an update completed at the five-year interval. Chapel Hill's plan is at the end of its useful life.

7. Parkland and Open Space Inventory Discussion - Phil Fleischmann, Director, and Marcia Purvis, Senior Planner will share drafts of new maps and data showing parkland and open space within the town limits. The Commission's feedback will be sought on the information and desired ways in which to share the new inventory will be discussed.

8. Community Splash Pad Project – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent and Phil Fleischmann, Director, will provide an update on the Splash Pad Work Group, ideas for “pop-up” splash pads, and the status of the feasibility assessment and report.

9. Council Liaison, Community Tree Committee and Environmental Stewardship Board Assignments – Chair, will discuss need for Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission members assignments.

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

*Cedar Falls and Hargraves Parks Projects* – Staff has prepared a brief 14 question online survey requesting additional input on the design of the Cedar Falls and Hargraves parks Tennis Court project. The survey, questions, answers from the December virtual community meeting, and additional information about the project are on the [project update web page](#). The survey will remain open for submission until January 20, 2022. Results from the survey and design plans reflecting community input will be shared with the Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Commission at the February 15, 2022, meeting.