

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

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, March 15, 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 (February 15, 2022)
- 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. Morgan Creek Greenway East Section Information – Marcia Purvis, Parks Planner, Gregory Georges and Patrick Mortell, Kings Mill Morgan Creek Neighborhood Representatives
- 7:45 p.m. 6. Proposed Policy Framework for Repurposing Open Space for Alternative Uses – Marcia Purvis, Parks Planner and Emily Holt, Affordable Housing Development Officer, Affordable Housing and Community Connections Department
- 8:00 p.m. 7. Teen Center Projects and Programs – Deaver Smith, Teens Specialist and Nikiya Cherry, Recreation Manager
- 8:15 p.m. 8. Cemeteries Update – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent
- 8:30 p.m. 9. Joint meetings with other Commissions and Boards - Ideas and Schedules- Tyler Steelman, Chair
- 8:45 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

9:00 p.m. 11. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

3. Communications and Petitions:

Parks, Recreation and Greenways Commission – New Member Application and Appointment Schedule-

- Applications received and distributed - 5.10.22
- Interviews – 5.17.22
- Recommendations Due – 5.19.22
- Town Council Meeting to review recommendations – 6.8.22
- New Commissioners Orientation – Week of 6.13.22 (exact date to be determined)

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – The general input survey remains open for all community members to express general interests regarding how funds should be spent. For more information www.townofchapelhill.org/arpa

Let’s Talk Town – Town staff continues 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 schedule: <https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/let-s-talk-town>

Community Programs: In February, Hargraves Community Center hosted two program series geared towards Black History Month – an African American Movie Series and Celebrating Black History month at the Seymour Senior Center in partnership with Orange County. At the Chapel Hill Community Center, plans for the 33rd year of Webster’s Rock the Hill indoor rock-climbing competition are underway, with the event scheduled for March 12-19. Both centers continue to offer out of school time programs including teacher workday camps and community programs.

Homestead Aquatic Center: The facility will reopen from its annual maintenance closure on Fri., March 4. Work completed this year included upgrade to plumbing, replacement of ceiling tiles, cleaning of HVAC returns, deep cleaning and waxing of lobby and locker room floors, and all valves on the main pool filtration system were replaced. Staff is considering moving away from or reducing the current COVID-era reservation system at the pools upon reopening.

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.

Community Splash Pad Project – The six sets of qualifications were distributed after the Splash Pad Work Group’s meeting on February 22, to the volunteers from the group who offered help evaluate the qualifications and recommend a firm to conduct the feasibility study this spring. A meeting with the evaluation committee members is being scheduled for March. The feasibility study will examine park locations and at least two public housing communities.

Homestead Park Landscaping: Park Maintenance staff removed the stumps of the large crepe myrtle trees cut down by Duke Energy in the fall and amended the beds. The East Chapel Hill Rotary Club plans to install new size-appropriate landscaping at the site this spring. See photos below of the work in progress.



Trail at Trinity Court: New signage has been installed at this refurbished 0.3-mile-long natural surface trail. See photos below.

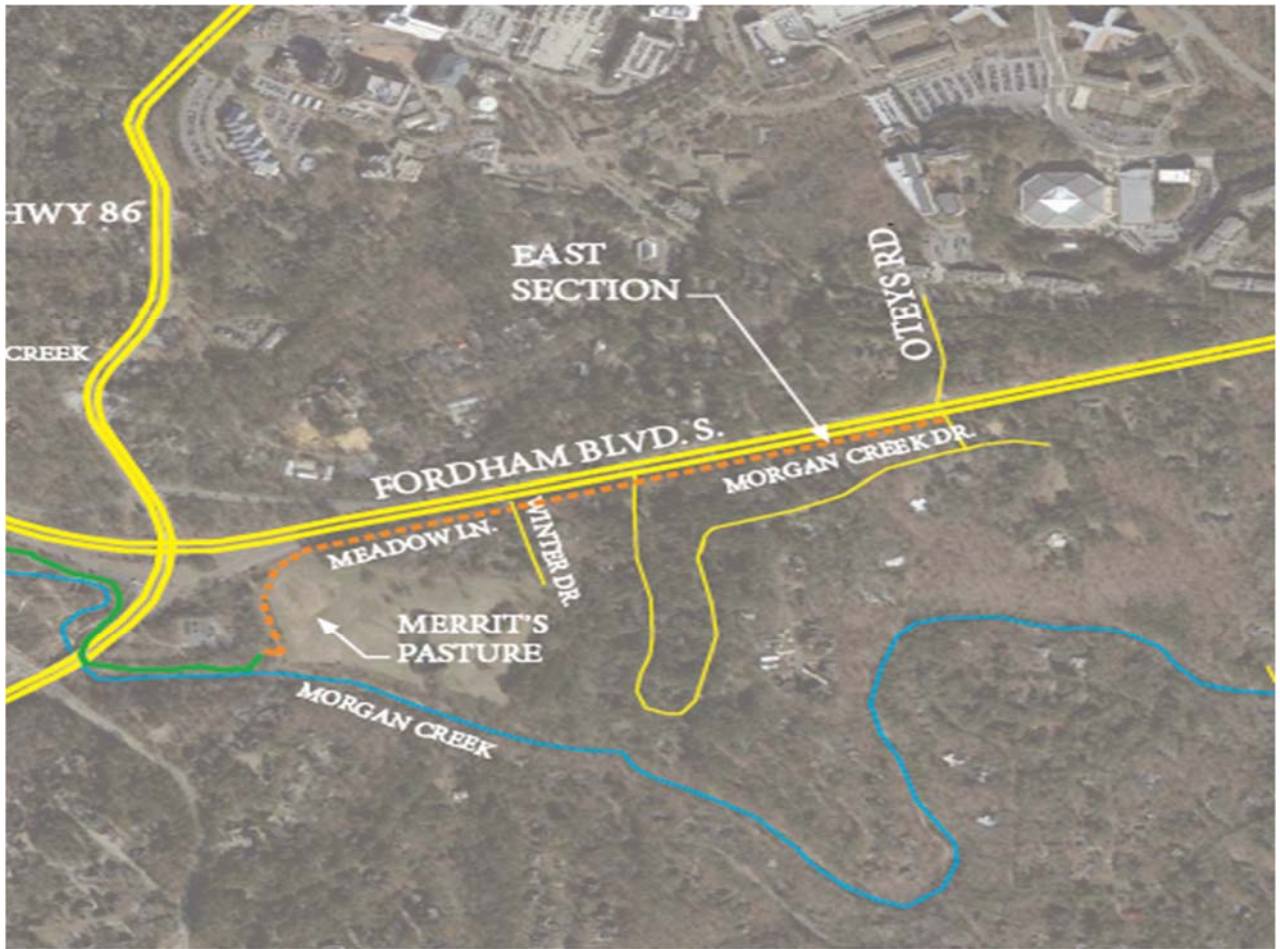


Umstead Park: A drainage improvement project has been completed around the basketball court area. This work included the addition of a catch basin, improvements to the existing drainage swells and fence repair.

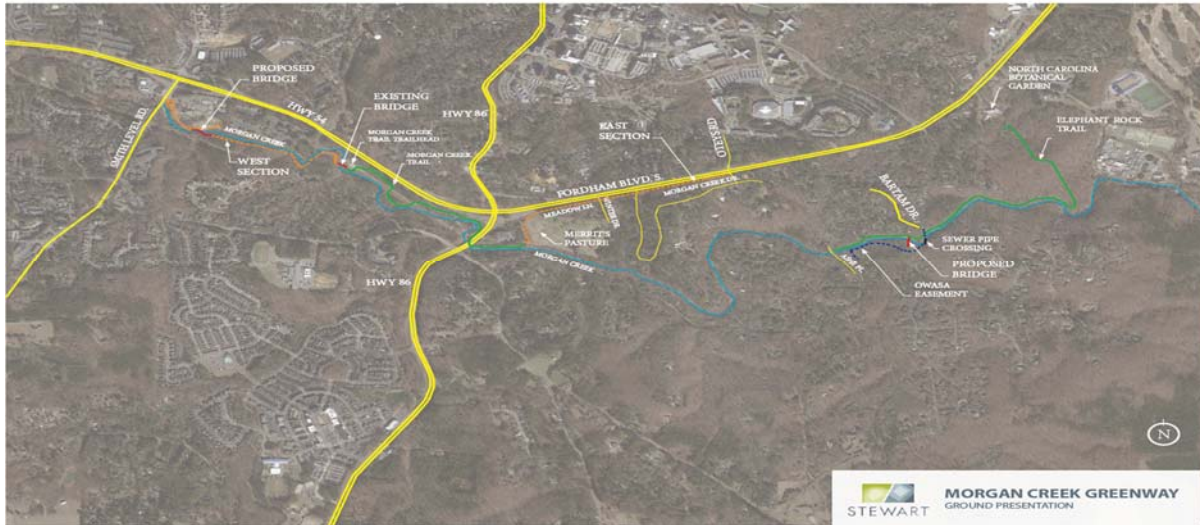
4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance:

5. Morgan Creek Greenway East Section Alternative Alignment – Marcia Purvis will introduce Gregory Georges and Patrick Mortell. Mr. Georges and Mr. Mortell will present information outlining and explaining why funding is needed for the East Section of the Morgan Creek Trail.

EAST SECTION



MORGAN CREEK GREENWAY – EXISTING AND PROPOSED TRAIL SECTIONS



6. Proposed Policy Framework for Repurposing Open Space for Alternative Uses – Emily Holt, Affordable Housing Development Officer, will present the framework for repurposing land for alternative uses such as affordable housing.

7. Teen Center Projects and Programs – Deaver Smith, Teens Specialist and Nikiya Cherry, Recreation Manager will share building improvement projects that are underway and proposed and Teen Center Programs and Activities.

8. Cemeteries Update - Kevin Robinson, Parks Maintenance Superintendent will provide a quarterly update on the department’s operations and maintenance program for the Town’s cemeteries.

9. Joint meetings with other Commissions and Boards - Ideas and Schedules- Tyler Steelman, Chair will review various boards and commissions that the Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission members have mentioned wanting to conduct or attend joint meetings with such as.

- Town of Carrboro Parks and Recreation Commission 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Monday of each month
- Town of Hillsborough Parks and Recreation Board – 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Orange County Parks and Recreation Council - 6:30 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month
- Town of Chapel Hill (TOCH) Cultural Arts Commission – 5:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month
- TOCH Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board - 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month
- TOCH Housing Advisory Board – 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month
- TOCH Stormwater Management Utility Advisory Board - 6:00 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of each month

- TOCH Transportation and Advisory Board – 7:00 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of each month

- Community Parks Tour with Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commissioners, Town Council Members and other Town of Chapel Hill Boards and Commission Members – Date to be determined