

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

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 18, 2022

**Virtual Meeting
Chapel Hill, NC**

Roll Call: Tyler Steelman (Chair), Leah Boucher (Vice Chair), Alice Armstrong (Orange County Representative), Shane Brogan, Hallie Cherry, Lydia Kivihya-Ndugga, Renuka Soll, Marcella Twamley and Christopher Worrell

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (September 20 and 26 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
- 7:25 p.m. 5. Solar Picnic Table - Chair and Brennan Bouma, Sustainability Program Analyst
- 7:45 p.m. 6. Trunk or Treat Event – Lizzie Burrill, Senior Recreation Supervisor
- 7:45 p.m. 7. Cemeteries Update – Tanner Thompson, Park Maintenance Superintendent
- 8:00 p.m. 8. North Carolina Communities Parks, Greenways and Recreation Capital Improvement Program Budgets and Funding - Marcia Purvis, Principal Planner
- 8:25 p.m. 9. Commission Logistics - 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 Vacant
 - Orange County Parks/Recreation Council Armstrong
 - Planning Commission Vacant
 - Transportation & Connectivity Advisory Board Soll
 - Youth Council Vacant
 - Racquet Sports (Tennis & Pickleball) Stakeholders Committees Soll
 - Splashpad Work Group Boucher

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9:00 p.m. 11. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

3. Communications and Petitions:

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): At the October 3 work session, the Town Council received an update on ARPA funding and discussed ideas for projects that could be eligible for the unallocated funds. More information about the ARPA can be found at [this link](#). Discussions are expected to continue into November.

Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground Feasibility Analysis and Report: The report was updated based on feedback received during September 26 special meeting of the Commission. At the October 3 work session, the Town Council received an update and presentation from Department staff and representatives from CJT, PA, and 80 West Group on the status of the feasibility report, including the site visits that have been conducted to evaluate the six parks (Cedar Falls, Hargraves, Southern Community, Umstead, Chapel Hill Community) and 2 Public Housing neighborhoods (Eastwood and Oakwood) to determine suitability for locating a splash-pad and inclusive playground. The Council provided feedback and expressed its support for the work completed thus far on the Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground. They also recommended that the team move forward with the Community Engagement phase of the project. Staff will provide more information on the Community Engagement portion of the project to the Commissioners next month.

North Carolina Botanical Garden Foundation Property Acquisitions: At its October 12 meeting, the Council authorized a budget amendment to provide the previously agreed upon contribution of \$100,000 towards the North Carolina (NC) Botanical Garden Foundation planned acquisition of the Raney property, approximately 25 acres of privately held property which once acquired will add to the Stillhouse Bottom Nature Preserve adjacent to Morgan Cree. This pledge was supported by the Commission's prior petition dated October 2021.

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

Oakwood, Cedar Falls, and Hargraves Parks Repair and Maintenance Projects: On October 11 – 13 Oakwood and Cedar Falls Parks were closed for tree and vegetation work. The playground at Hargraves Park was also closed for painting.

Hargraves Parks Tennis Court Projects: The \$679,800 Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (OPCC) for the Hargraves Park tennis court project indicates a need for an additional \$464,800 to supplement the \$215,000 in Two-Thirds bond funding received for this project. At its October 12 meeting, the Council authorized the transfer of bond funds remaining in other various project accounts and Recreation Area Payment-in-Lieu monies to make the difference. This authorization means that this project can move forward to bidding and construction.

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*Due to industry conditions and inflation, many other construction projects are now experiencing similar funding challenges.

Ephesus Park Tennis and Pickleball Court Projects: The Ephesus Park Tennis Courts will be closed for approximately 4-6 weeks for a court resurfacing project beginning on October 13. The Mondoten surfacing work for the Ephesus Park Pickleball Courts will occur October 17 – 19, affecting the availability of some or all courts on those days.

4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance:

5. Solar Picnic Table – Brennan Bouma, Sustainability Program Analyst, will share information on Solar Picnic Tables, and Tyler Steelman, Chair, will discuss ideas for supporting the purchase of one or more of the Solar Picnic Tables for use within the park system and with the help of the Commission.

6. Trunk or Treat Event – Lizzie Burrill, Senior Recreation Supervisor will share information on Parks and Recreation Department event to be held on Sunday, October 30, from 5:00 – 6:30 PM.

7. Cemeteries Update – Tanner Thompson, Park Maintenance Superintendent will provide an update on the department's operations and maintenance program for the Town's cemeteries. The presentation will also include a brief overview of a plan to review the Town's cemetery ordinance and a request to have 1-2 Commission members involved in the preliminary ordinance review.

8. Commission Logistics – Tyler Steelman, Chair, will lead a discussion of ideas for commission logistics, including possible subcommittee review of agenda items in advance of agenda preparation, liaison and advocacy processes and assignments, and assessment of attendance and related communications guidelines.

9. North Carolina Communities Parks, Greenways and Recreation Capital Improvement Program Budgets and Funding – Marcia Purvis, Principal Planner, will share information requested by Leah Boucher, Vice Chair on the Town of Chapel Hill and other communities funding sources for Parks, Trails/Greenways, and Recreation Capital Improvement Projects.