

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

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, January 16, 2024

**Virtual Meeting
Chapel Hill, NC**

Roll Call: Renuka Soll, Chair, Marcella Twamley, Vice Chair, Shane Brogan, Holly Burnham, Jane Harris, Orange County Representative, Margaret Moore, Lydia Kivihya-Ndugga, and Christopher Worrell

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (December 19, 2023)
- 7:10 p.m. 3. Communications and Petitions from Commission, Council Liaisons, and Staff
- 7:20 p.m. 4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance
- 7:30 p.m. 5. End of the Year Project Review and Update – Atuya Cornwell, Director, Marcia Purvis, Principal Planner and Kevin Robinson, Senior Manager
- 8:00 p.m. 7. Liaison reports
Liaisons may make reports on topics of interest to the entire Commission:
- Community Design Commission Margaret Moore
 - Community Tree Committee Marcella Twamley
 - Cultural Arts Commission Kivihya-Ndugga
 - Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board Christopher Worrell
 - Friends of Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation Shane Brogan
 - New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee TBD
 - Orange County Department of Aging TBD
 - Orange County Parks/Recreation Council Jane Harris

PARKS, GREENWAYS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA
Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Chapel Hill, NC

- Planning Commission Holly Burnham
 - Transportation & Connectivity Advisory Board Renuka Soll
 - Youth Council TBD
 - Racquet Sports (Tennis & Pickleball) Stakeholders Committee Renuka Soll
 - Inclusive Playground Work Group Marcela Twamley
- 9:00 p.m. 8. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

3. Communications and Petitions:

Sports Cafe: Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation's Athletics Team hold a Sports Café meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2024, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Chapel Hill Community Center on Thursday, February 8, 2023, 6 to 7p.m. To join online, please click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88348742154>

Meeting recaps are shared on the Athletics page at www.chapelhillparks.org.

EVENTS

The Department’s Youth Basketball Season started league play started on December 16.

Tennis Community Engagement Meeting was held on Wednesday, December 20, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Hargraves Community Center. Six people were in attendance. A meeting summary will be posted later this month on following webpage: [Athletics | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#)

Pickleball Community Engagement Meeting was held on Thursday, December 21, from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. at Chapel Hill Community Center. Five people were in attendance. A meeting summary will be posted later this month on following webpage: [Athletics | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#)

PROJECTS

Teen Center: Recreation team members continue to assess the current set up of the facility and have started making improvements in anticipation of the facility reopening in early 2024. New furniture has been delivered and contracted work will enhance the rooms, floors, and lighting within the facility.

PARKS, GREENWAYS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA
Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Chapel Hill, NC

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

Bolin Creek Greenway Umstead to Estes Drive Extension Planning, Community Engagement, and Design Project: \$500,000 American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place. The Transportation Planning Division manages this project, which will be planned in conjunction with the Estes Drive Extension Project. A planning and engineering firm has been selected and staff is reviewing their fee proposal.

Fordham Boulevard Sidepath Project: Bids have been received for the renovation and extension of the Fordham Boulevard Sidepath Project. The bids have been rejected since they were over what is allocated for this project. The project team is working with our Business Management Department and Senior Management to review options for additional funding in January 2024.

This project will provide a multi-modal path along Fordham Boulevard between Cleland Drive and Willow Drive. It is divided into two segments. The southern portion between Cleland Drive and Ridgefield Road involves upgrading the existing asphalt section to concrete. The northern part consists of constructing a new path between Ridgefield Road and Willow Drive along the eastern side of Fordham Boulevard.

Hargraves Park Tennis Courts: Construction is in progress to resurface the three existing tennis courts. Work is scheduled for 150 days, which results in a completion date of Friday, April 5, 2024, for this project.

Comprehensive Systemwide Master Plan: \$300,000 from the Penny for Parks funding is in place for this project. A Request For Qualifications (RFQ) has been drafted to find an architecture, engineering, and landscape architect firm to update the 2013 Master Plans for Parks and Greenways. The RFQ will be advertised in January and posted on the Town's webpage for 30 days. The award is expected to occur in March.

Homestead Skate Park: \$500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place for the skate park upgrades. 5th Pocket Skateparks, Inc. is under contract to provide design services for the skate park upgrade project. Their work will include design, construction documents, and specifications for a concrete skatepark. The design work phase will consist of obtaining community feedback. 5th Pocket Skateparks has recently worked with a neighboring jurisdiction on their skatepark project.

Public meetings were held to obtain feedback at Homestead Park Skate Park on Monday, December 17, at 2:00 p.m. at Homestead Park and on December 18, at 6:00 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Public Library, Meeting Room B.

PARKS, GREENWAYS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Chapel Hill, NC

Inclusive Playground Equipment at Chapel Hill Community Center Park: \$500,000 and System-wide Playground Accessibility (\$285,000) in American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place for this project. The work committee met on Monday, December 4 at Chapel Hill Community Center to review the options. Community Engagement meetings are scheduled

- February 11, 2024, Noon – 2:00 p.m. Chapel Hill Library Room B
- February 15, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Chapel Hill Community Center

Teen Center Study: \$65,000 American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place. Staff is in contact with other parks and recreation agencies regionally and nationally about this project to learn about methods they have applied for launching a study and their lessons learned. Staff created a teen center study team that generated a survey to receive input from teens in the community. This information has been shared with high schools in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools for distribution and feedback. A Request For Qualifications (RFQ) is currently being drafted and advertising is anticipated for February 2024.

Morgan Creek Trail Project

East Section: The community engagement phase for the planning and design phase of the East Section of Morgan Creek Greenway started in November. An online survey in Burmese, English, Karen, Mandarin Chinese, and Spanish was open through December 20. 1,514 people participated in the survey. Public Meetings were also held on:

- December 9, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Public Library with approximately 20 people in attendance.
- December 14, from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the Morgan Creek Greenway parking lot approximately 16 people were on site to find out more about the project, some of which participated in a walk to review the connection from the existing trail to the new extension.
- December 14, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. virtual meeting five people participated
- December 15, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. virtual meeting one person participated
- January 9, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. – noon was held with North Carolina Botanical Garden staff to review this phase of the project and receive input.

A January 23, 2024, meeting from 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. will be held to review the potential alignments using neighborhood streets and Fordham Boulevard.

Feedback and the results of the survey are being incorporated into a report and will be shared with the Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission at the March 19, 2024, meeting.

For more information, please visit the project webpage:

<https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/departments-services/parks-and-recreation/planning-and-development/morgan-creek-trail-phase-3>

PARKS, GREENWAYS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Chapel Hill, NC

West Section: We have completed the selection process for hiring planning, landscape architecture, and engineering firm to finish the planning design, community engagement, permitting, and construction documents for the West Section of Morgan Creek Greenway. A fee proposal has been received from the selected firm, and a contract should be awarded by February 2024.

Tanyard Branch Trail: \$200,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place for creating a trail connector to the Tanyard Branch Affordable Housing Project. Transportation Planning Division is managing this project.

4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance

6. End of the Year Project Review and Update – Atuya Cornwell, Director, Marcia Purvis, Principal Planner and Kevin Robinson, Senior Manager

7. Liaison Reports– Receive reports from Commission members who liaise with Advisory Boards.

FUTURE MEETING ITEMS

1. Town of Carrboro Capital Improvement Program Projects - Carrboro Recreation and Parks & Planning Departments
 - ✓ Parks & Greenways – TBD possibly February 20, 2024
2. Parks and Recreation Department Programs and Camps 2024 - Introduction
 - ✓ March 19, 2024
3. Morgan Creek Greenway East Extension Project – Feasibility Report Update
 - ✓ March 19, 2024
4. Sponsorships and Parks Donation Program – Review and Update
 - ✓ April 16, 2024
5. Volunteer Program
 - ✓ April 16, 2024
6. Orange County Capital Improvement Program Projects - Orange County Parks and Recreation Division
 - ✓ May 21, 2024
7. Commission Interviews
 - ✓ May 21, 2024
8. Inclusive Playground Design Options – Review
 - ✓ May 21, 2024
9. Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Content Review
 - ✓ May 21, 2024
10. Parks and Recreation Project Expenditures – Review and Update
 - ✓ June 18, 2024 (in-person meeting)