

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

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Hargraves Community Center

216 N. Roberson Street,

Chapel Hill, NC 27516

In-Person & Virtual Meeting

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

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (May 21, 2024)
- 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
- 7:30 p.m. 5. Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair Appointments – Chair
- 8:00 p.m. 6. 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 Vacant
 - 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
 - Planning Commission Vacant

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- Transportation & Connectivity Advisory Board Vacant
- Youth Council TBD
- Racquet Sports (Tennis & Pickleball) Stakeholders Committee TBD
- Inclusive Playground Work Group Marcela Twamley

9:00 p.m. 7. Adjourn

EVENTS

Greene Tract

The Greene Tract is a parcel of land jointly owned by Orange County and the towns of Carrboro and Chapel Hill. The three entities are creating a long-range plan to guide development and preservation activities on this site. A Community Engagement Workshop was held on Sunday, June 9, at Morris Grove Elementary School, 215 Eubanks Road. For more information on this project and upcoming events, please check the Orange County's webpage [Greene Tract | Orange County, NC \(orangecountync.gov\)](https://www.orangecountync.gov/greene-tract)

Legion Property

The Legion property is a 36.2-acre, Town-owned property at 1714 Legion Road. The Town purchased the property in 2017. Town staff are currently working to build affordable housing and a Town park on the site, as approved by the Town Council in December 2022. For additional information you may join the Legion Property project [email list](#) to receive updates in your inbox and/or stay connected to [Legion Property | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#) webpage. If you have questions or comments, please send an email to [Legion Property staff team members](#).

June 2024 Update

Based on a professional assessment from the Town's engineering consultant, the Town will remove the pond and dam at the Legion Property and will replace them with a constructed wetland.

Here's why:

- A constructed wetland is a vibrant and biodiverse water feature that is well-suited for the future of the property
- It will meet both the water containment and stormwater management needs on the property
- It will allow for the development of affordable housing along the front of the property
- It will provide numerous environmental education and engagement opportunities.

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Next steps will occur over the next 6-9 months, including permitting, wildlife assessments, and planning for construction of the wetland. For the full May 31, 2024 staff and engineering memo to Town Council, click [here](#).

Teen Center

The reopening celebration was held on Friday, June 7 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for community members to tour the newly renovated Teen Center, 179 E. Franklin Street. Approximately 40 teenagers were in attendance to see the renovations.

Additional tour opportunities and signature events will be announced this summer and early fall.

Parks and Recreation Month

Our Parks and Recreation staff team received the Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation from Town Council at their June 17 meeting Town Hall. Parks and Recreation month is celebrated during the month of July, this year's theme is 'Where You Belong'. For full schedule of events and programs throughout the month of July, please visit [Park and Recreation Month | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#).

To register for the Parks Facilities Tour taking place on Sunday, July 14 from 1p.m. to 4 p.m. please visit: [Park and Recreation Month Facilities Bus Tour, Sunday, July 14, 1-4 p.m. \(office.com\)](#)

PROJECTS

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 Park to Estes Drive Extension: The Town has hired NV5 a planning and engineering firm to assist us in with the planning phase of this project. A kick-off meeting was held on Wednesday, June 5 with the Project Design Team members. Over the remainder of 2024, the Town will develop options for the potential extension of this section of the greenway.

Comprehensive Systemwide Master Plan: \$300,000 from the Penny for Parks funding is in place for this project. The Request For Qualifications (RFQ) from architecture, engineering, and landscape architect firms to update the 2013 Master Plans for Parks and Greenways have been received. Town team members have reviewed the Statement of Qualifications and have completed the review of the firms that were shortlisted. Award is expected to occur Summer 2024.

Hargraves Park Tennis Courts: Construction is substantially complete on the resurfacing and reconstruction of the three existing tennis courts. Punch List items are scheduled to be complete later this month. A ribbon cutting event will be scheduled later this Summer.

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Homestead Skate Park: \$500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place for the skate park upgrades 5th Pocket Skateparks is working on the design documents. Design is anticipated to be complete Summer 2024.

Inclusive Playground Equipment at Chapel Hill Community Center Park: \$500,000 and Systemwide Playground Accessibility (\$285,000) in American Rescue Plan Act funding is in place for this project. A design team meeting was held on May 29 to review the revised plans and provide feedback to the playground designer. A final review meeting will be scheduled later this Summer.

Morgan Creek Greenway Project

West Section: Kimley-Horn has been hired to finish the planning, design, community engagement, permitting, and construction documents for the West Section of Morgan Creek Greenway. Site surveying work has begun, and the Community Engagement Phase will commence in Summer 2024.

East Section: An amendment to the contract with McAdams is being processed to prepare design and construction documents. This phase of work will begin in Summer 2024.

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>

AGENDA NOTES

3. Communications and Petitions from Commission, Council Liaisons, and Staff
4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance
5. Chair and Vice Chair Appointments Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission
6. Liaison Reports– Receive reports from Commission members who liaise with Advisory Boards.
7. Adjourn

FUTURE MEETING ITEMS

1. Orange County Capital Improvement Program Projects - Orange County Parks and Recreation Division
 - ✓ Fall 2024

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2. Commission Interviews
 - ✓ TBD
3. Inclusive Playground Design Options – Review
 - ✓ Summer/Fall, 2024
4. Parks and Recreation Project Expenditures – Review and Update
 - ✓ Fall 2024 (in-person meeting)