

**Carrboro Greenways Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**At –Large Members Present**

- \*George Daniel (Chair) - At Large
- \*Robert Kirschner- At Large
- \*Salli Benedict- At Large
- \*Amber Wagner- At Large

**Representatives Present**

- \* Eric Allman – Recreation and Parks Commission
- \*Gary Junker- Chapel Hill/Carrboro City Schools
- \*Livy Ludington- Chapel Hill/Carrboro City Schools
- \*Dave Otto- Friends of Bolin Creek (Vice-chair)
- \*Heidi Paulsen – Planning Board
- \*Johnny Randall- Morgan Creek Valley Alliance/NC Botanical Garden
- \*Katie Schwing –Transportation Advisory Board

**Staff Present**

- Marabeth Carr – Orange County Environmental Resources and Conservation Department
- Randy Dodd- Town of Carrboro Planning Department
- Ray Magyar-UNC
- Adena Messinger- Town of Carrboro Planning Department
- Nick Parker – OWASA

**Aldermen Present**

- \*Randee Haven-O’Donnell

**Absent**

- Michael Flynn –alternate
- \*Andreas Hay-Environmental Advisory Board
- Bill Webster – Town of Chapel Hill
- Brendan Moore- Town of Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department

**Guests**

- Dan Jewell- Coulter, Jewell, Thames
- Tom Kagarise- Coulter, Jewell, Thames
- Wendi Ramsden- Coulter, Jewell, Thames

\* indicates voting member

- I. **Call to Order-** George Daniel called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- II. **Approval of Minutes-** The minutes for January and February were approved by unanimous vote.

- III. **Update on Bolin Creek Planning (Staff)**- Adena presented a brief update of progress on the Conceptual Plan for Bolin Creek. The current intention is for Greenways, Inc. to present draft alignments as part of a 3-hour working session with dinner for April Commission meeting. There are also plans for a public workshop to receive public input on draft alignments at the Homestead Community Center on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- IV. **Morgan Creek Planning**- Wendi Ramsden and Dan Jewell provided a presentation for CJT work to date covering data collection, early assessment review, and field work. The team has been in the field in February and March, and has identified opportunities and constraints for the corridor. CJT has pulled in GIS data for all types of information of interest. Topics covered included utility easements, natural constraints (jurisdictional waters, natural heritage areas, plant and animal species), topography, vegetation, connectivity, access, circulation, destinations, and other factors that affect greenway alignment and feasibility. The theme of CJT's presentation was identification of some of the opportunities and constraints observed to date, with inclusion of printed graphics. Dan provide a photo inventory and description of the team's field visit, with observations of some of the relevant observations as they could affect alternative alignments. CJT observed that topographic conditions, the existing land use, and access/connectivity considerations provide substantial guidance to a suggested alignment, with major unknowns being associated with where to cross the creeks (3 crossings will definitely be needed; 4 crossings may be needed), need for additional easements, whether/how to extend the trail to University Lake, and considerations given location of much of the trail/corridor in the floodplain. CJT believes that 80%-90% of the required easement/access has already been obtained. The Jones Ferry park and ride lot, the Public Works site, and FPG school provide possible parking/access. The Commission and CJT discussed various greenway issues including surfaces, lighting, maintenance, and neighborhood safety concerns. CJT will finalize their opportunities and constraints in a report. The Commission recommended Frank Porter Graham as a meeting place for a public workshop in June.
- V. **Trail to Morris Grove School**: Marabeth mentioned that the Orange County Commissioners may be discussing as soon as April 7<sup>th</sup> the possibility of developing a greenway trail on the Twin Creeks property. Motion made by Randee to write a letter of support from the BOA to the Commissioners in support, and adopted unanimously.
- VI. **Announcements**- Dave Otto announced that the Carolina North forest crew would be leading a hike to look at new trails Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- VII. **Next Regular Meeting**: April 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Fire Station (adjacent to Town Hall).
- VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.