

Carrboro Greenways Commission
Minutes
April 19th, 2010

At –Large Members Present

*Salli Benedict – At Large
*George Daniel (Chair) – At Large
*Robert Kirschner – At Large

Representatives Present

*Eric Allman – Recreation and Parks Commission
*Mark Chilton-Mayor/Board of Alderman
*Randee Haven-O’Donnell – Board of Alderman
*Dave Otto (Vice chair) – Friends of Bolin Creek
*Johnny Randall – Morgan Creek Valley Alliance/NC Botanical Garden

Staff Present

Randy Dodd- Town of Carrboro Planning Department
Brendan Moore- Town of Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department
Nick Parker – OWASA

Absent

*Matthew Arnsberger– Environmental Advisory Board
Jeff Brubaker—Town of Carrboro Planning Department
Marabeth Carr – Orange County Environmental Resources and Conservation Department
*Gary Junker – Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
Ray Magyar – UNC
* Robin Michler – Transportation Advisory Board
*Amber Wagner – At Large
Bill Webster – Town of Chapel Hill

Guests

James Carnahan	Carol dePoix
Bruce Sinclair	Carla Jensen
Julie McClintock	Monica Leap
Michael Birenbach	
Ken Moore	

* indicates voting member

- I. **Call to Order:** George Daniel called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- II. **Administrative Matters:** The Greenways Commission approved the minutes of the March 19th meeting (unanimous). Robert Kirschner was nominated to serve as chair by Dave Otto, Salli Benedict seconded. The Commission supported unanimously. The Commission postponed election of a new vice-chair until the May meeting.
- III. **Bolin Creek Conceptual Plan Discussion:** Ken Moore, retired from the NC Botanical Garden, shared his relevant experience in the community and also his perspective that the sewer line corridor is currently degraded, and is concerned that it will continue to become more degraded. James Carnahan spoke in favor of an offroad transportation corridor as an important community amenity. He also shared that a hardened trail surface will stabilize an unstable condition, and in favor of a universal

access surface. He also offered that the surface will concentrate traffic into a narrower corridor, and would like to see a management and maintenance plan for the corridor. Julie McClintock introduced a new effort of the Friends of Bolin Creek, the establishment of a Conservation Study Group, and provided a handout. Salli shared copies of a memo from her to the Commission and a new review of the conceptual plan sponsored by Save Bolin Creek and completed by the Catena Group. Randee shared that she has been in contact with Sharon Myers and that UNC is continuing to look at bike and pedestrian connections for the Carolina North property, including logging roads. She shared a map prepared by Tim Stallman compiling planned bike connections in and around Carolina North. Johnny Randall reintroduced a request to have a group of objective experts review the plan. The Commission further discussed this possibility, and Johnny offered to draft questions for the Commission's review that could be appropriate to seek expert review. Mark and Randee requested that the Commission focus on feedback on Phases 1 and 2 for the remainder of the meeting, and begin to develop a plan and timetable for Commission review of those projects. Mark reminded the Commission that the resolution passed December 8th by the BoA requested staff to bring back to the BoA recommendations for further public input on Phases 3 and 4.

IV. Discussion of Phases 1a and 1b of Bolin Plan. The Commission discussed the alternative alignments and design from the Claremont developer and from Greenways, Inc. connecting the greenway under Homestead Road and to the existing greenway north of Homestead Rd. Randy shared input on the status of review of the Claremont construction plans, staff consideration of possible geotechnical work to assess the sites soils and geology, and information provided by Jeff Brubaker regarding compliance with AASHTO standards. The Commission unanimously voted to endorse the Greenways, Inc. alignment and design for the section under the bridge and to the north of Homestead Rd., connecting to the greenway behind the pool several hundred feet north of Homestead Rd. (instead of at the existing trail stub (moved by Dave Otto, seconded by Eric Allman). Randy also passed on from Jeff that staff currently are anticipating releasing a request for proposals or qualifications for developing construction documents for Phase 1a in June. Staff will report back as to if that request will include Phase 1b as well, or if that will be released at a later date. The Commission further discussed connections for Phase 1b to planned facilities along Seawell School Road and the railroad tracks. Mark recommended that the connectivity along Seawell School be carefully considered based on where the railroad tracks can/will be crossed. The Commission would like to invite Sharon Myers/UNC staff to a future meeting to discuss and clarify UNC's plans.

IV. Announcements. Robert reported that the Morgan Creek greenway in Chapel Hill is currently under construction. Randy passed on information from Marabeth that construction is proceeding on schedule with the Morris Grove greenway. Dave mentioned that an invasives removal workday is planned for April 20th at Carolina North. Julie mentioned that the FoBC will have a table at Carrboro Day. Randee shared that the Intergovernmental Works Group endorsed all three recommendations for connections to the Mountains to Sea trail.

V. Upcoming Meetings: Next regular Greenways Commission meeting: Monday, May 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Century Center, Room 2/3.

VI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.