

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

7:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 20, 2020

**Virtual Meeting
Chapel Hill, NC**

Roll Call: Renuka Soll (Chair), Wesley McMahon (Vice Chair), Alice Armstrong (Orange County Representative), Jeanette Bench, William Kaiser, Lydia Kivihya-Ndugga, Jochen Schwarz, and Guthrie Richardson (Youth Council Representative)

- 7:00 p.m. 1. Welcome and Roll Call – Chair
- 7:05 p.m. 2. Approval of Minutes (September 15, 2020)
- 7:10 p.m. 3. Communications and Petitions from Commission and Staff
- 7:30 p.m. 4. Questions and Petitions from the Public in Attendance – Chair
- 7:45 p.m. 5. Cemeteries Update – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent
- 8:00 p.m. 6. Town Bike Share Program – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent
- 8:10 p.m. 7. Discussion: Bullying and Harassment Prevention in Parks – Commission and Phil Fleischman, Director Parks and Recreation Department
- 8:30 p.m. 8. Liaison reports
- 8:40 p.m. 9. Adjourn

AGENDA NOTES

3. Communications and Petitions from Commission and Staff:

- *Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Commission (PGRC) Applicants Update* – Memorandum sent on September 16, 2020, to Mayor and Town Council from Renuka Soll, Chair of the PGRC, regarding recommendations for one (1) reappointment for upcoming vacancy for Orange County representative seat and two (2) current Town Resident vacancies for PGRC. Item will be on the Town Council agenda on October 28, 2020.
- *Mobility and Connectivity Plan Update* – Transportation Staff held meetings on September 24 and 29 with members of the public to present the proposed update and receive community feedback before presenting the update to the Planning Commission on October 6. The update includes an upgrade for the proposed facilities along NCDOT roads to complement the Complete Streets Policy (bike lanes and sidepaths) and reconfiguring the proposed multiuse paths in the area around Carraway Village. The update will be presented to the Town Council for approval on October 28, 2020. Please see <https://www.townofchapelhill.org/residents/transportation/bicycle-and-pedestrian/chapel-hill-mobility-and-connectivity-plan> webpage.
- *Ordinance Revision Update* – As shared at the September PGRC meeting, Transportation Planning Staff has proposed to amend the Town’s ordinance Chapter 12 Article 1 Section 12.2. This modification was initiated to allow e-bikes on Greenways as part of a new bike-share program for the Town. The amendment will be presented to Town Council on October 28, 2020.
- *The Triangle Bikeway Project* – Transportation Staff is working with other agencies across the region to study the idea of a 17-mile bikeway. The bikeway will link the City of Raleigh to Research Triangle Park (RTP) and from RTP to the Town of Chapel Hill. The current planning effort includes design and construction recommendations between Raleigh and RTP and a corridor assessment for the connection west to Durham and Chapel Hill. The planning process will take approximately 18 months. For more information, please see the project website. [Triangle Bikeway Study](#).
- *Municipal Services Center* – Following a recent public meeting to review a new proposal for the proposed Municipal Services Center, the Community Design Commission examined the concept and last month offered input. Pending approval, the center would be developed at the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and Weaver Dairy Rd. Extension, the current location of Fire Station No. 4. The venue would house fire and EMS stations, police operations, and administrative offices for Town departments such as Parks and Recreation and Technology Solutions. The Town Council will review and offer direction at an upcoming meeting. If constructed, Parks and Recreation’s administrative offices will move from 200 Plant Road to the new center.
- *Town Ombuds, to help with Advisory Boards* – Anita Badrock, one of the Town’s Ombuds, will be reaching out to board chairs to ask a few questions. Ms. Badrock wants to determine what kinds of help/support she can offer to the Town’s advisory boards since part of her job will be allocated to this effort.

Greenways, Sidepaths, and Parks Projects Progress: Following are brief updates. Commission members should feel free contact staff if you have any questions or comments.

- *Bolin Creek Trail (East of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.):* Construction and Coal Ash Remediation work is on-going on the portion of the Bolin Creek trail between Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and Bolinwood Dr. Staff received approval from the Stormwater Division to proceed with the work necessary to alleviate the stormwater run-off that is occurring in the Police Department parking lot and is impacting the trail construction. After this work is completed, the contractor will finish the last remaining portion of the trail project by replacing the old asphalt section between Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Bolinwood Drive with a more resilient concrete path. We anticipate the entire project will be wrapping up early winter. Please see the [Bolin Creek Trail Phase 3A Construction | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#) webpage.

- *Fordham Sidepath Project:* Staff and the Project Engineer have reviewed the Public Survey results completed on August 21, 2020, to receive community input related to limiting through traffic entering the Little Ridgefield neighborhood via Ridgefield Road and Willow Drive. The traffic calming concept illustrated in Option 1.1 received the most support of the two options. Staff will hold a Virtual (Zoom) webinar on October 22, 2020 to inform community members on the project progress and the feedback received through the public input survey. Register for this webinar at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xyMBw9wmS5aaXbwKjsN4wg. Please note that you must register in advance. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. More information can also be found on the [Fordham Boulevard Sidepath Project | Town of Chapel Hill, NC](#) webpage.

- *Playground Replacement at Burlington and North Forest Hills Parks:* Staff has received input from community members on vendor's options for the playground equipment and made a recommendation on awarding the contract to the purchasing team. The final award is pending until Staff receives approval for additional funding for the project through a budget amendment. The budget amendment is scheduled to go to Town Council on October 28, 2020 with construction projected to begin in November.

5. Cemeteries Update:

The Commission has indicated a desire to receive periodic updates on the Town's cemeteries. The presentation being provided will be the first such update. At its meeting last October, information was given to the Commission, offering an overview of the Town's cemeteries. As part of this meeting, staff will be reviewing what was shared and will provide a quarterly update on the Parks and Recreation Departments operations and maintenance program for the Towns cemeteries. A copy of the presentation is attached for reference.

6. Town Bike Share Program:

A private vendor will be partnering with the Town and Carrboro to offer e-bike rentals. The e-bikes will be stationed at 20 plus hubs around Chapel Hill and Carrboro. A presentation on this

topic will be shared at the meeting, and Commission members will be asked for input on the program.

7. Bullying and Harassment Prevention in Parks:

Recently, Parks and Recreation was made aware of allegations of racist, harassing behavior which occurred at one of the Town's parks. The Commission will receive an update on steps taken since these incidents were reported. Then, the Commission will discuss ideas related to how to minimize the occurrence of such behavior and possible strategies to promote positive interaction in parks.

8. Liaison Reports:

Commission liaisons may make a report on topics of interest to the entire Commission:

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| • Community Design Commission | McMahon or TBD |
| • Community Tree Committee | Kaiser |
| • Cultural Arts Commission | Kivihya-Ndugga |
| • Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board | Bench |
| • Friends of Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation | McMahon |
| • Orange County Parks/Recreation Council | Armstrong |
| • Planning Commission | Bench |
| • Transportation & Connectivity Advisory Board | Soll |

POSSIBLE FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

Greenways Updates

Greenways Topics Covered So Far:

- Blue Hill District Sidepaths and Trails
- Bolin Creek and Horace Williams Trails
- Booker Creek
- Fordham Sidepath Project
- Morgan Creek and Fan Branch Trails
- North and Dry Creek Trails

Other Topics

Parks and Recreation Department – Update and Overview

Teen Center Tour with Commission

Parks Master Plan Overview

Greenways Plan Overview

Open Space Data – How much do we have in comparison to other communities? Where are there gaps?

American Legion Update

Greene Tract Presentation

Easttown Project

Rails to Trails

Sidewalk Maintenance

Bus Rapid Transit
Development Buffers
Affordable Housing
Sponsorships