

# Joint Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Hosted by Hillsborough Parks and Recreation Board

7pm, Tuesday, April 23, 2019

105 East Corbin Street, Hillsborough

## MEETING ATTENDANCE: 28

Hillsborough: 10, Chapel Hill: 6, Carrboro: 4, Orange County: 7, Efland: 1

## MEETING NOTES

### **Community Engagement**

#### *What Works*

- Dedicated spaces for teens, CH and Carrboro; these can be used as recreational, educational, or simply safe hangout spaces
- Teen Advisory Board Seats, CH and Carrboro; positions advertised in brochures, Twitter, schools, teen-focused community organizations
- Youth Advisory Board, Carrboro; extends beyond advising Parks and Rec topics, meets during school year, Mayor serves as liaison
- Planning teen engagement events with the input of teens has proven way more successful than events planned without their input
- Reach out and partner with existing organizations that are already serving the population you're looking to engage (for teens: HS environmental clubs, community service clubs, farm/garden club, school counselors, Scout troops, sports recreation leagues)
- Using language that resonates with the community you're speaking to; providing materials in other languages

### **Needs Assessments and Data Sharing**

#### *Existing Resources*

Interactive Parks Locator Map: <http://server2.co.orange.nc.us/parklocator/>

Interactive Trails Map: <https://gis.orangecountync.gov:8443/TrailsAndParks/default.html>

#### Town of Hillsborough Parks Information

- Meetings and agendas posted under Meeting Information
- Master Plans for all parks also share here
  
- In order to report to Town Boards, critical to have data that supports/demonstrates strong needs or opinion about parks projects; if data is available to support your story, leadership is more
- Survey at grocery stores, laundry mats, gas stations – rather than at park facilities where you're engaging only the people that already utilize the resource
- Coordinate survey or outreach with a "tour guide" that already has access and connections to whatever population you're hoping to engage
- Pool data inventories to share regionally, digital inventory

### **Environmental Stewardship and Conservation Efforts**

- Limit use of chemicals in grounds maintenance; steam weeding an option worth trialing, potentially resource share between jurisdictions to share costs
- Developing maintenance plans that don't require excess mowing; using native plants and pollinators
- Resilience plan, Climate Action Plan, Chapel Hill

### **Collaboration and Funding Partnerships**

- Utilizing Friends networks to make connections and collaborate on fundraising
- Using private partnerships to fill budget funding gaps; foundations, local businesses, transportation funds doubling as parks fund
- Communication is critical, we all exist as resources to each other from lessons learned to personal connections and idea creation

### **Multi-Modal Trail**

- Identified three different potential routes (Old NC 86, NC 86, and rail line that currently serves as transport for the UNC campus coal supply)
- Potential next step: feasibility study to determine which option is worth pursuing
- Question of what we mean by "multi-modal," do we really mean to extend beyond bike/ped? How can we also provide resources for equine recreation?