Greenway Committee  
Thursday, October 15, 2020  
6:00 PM  
Virtual  
Webex, Cary, NC 27511


A. CALL TO ORDER  
The chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.  
Staff: Sandi Bailey, Juliet Andes (Phone), Sally Pilson

B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]  
MOVER: Paul Black  
SECONDER: Paul Sappie  
AYES: Bustrack, Black, Crumpton, McLaughlin, Sappie, Abrams, Tomczak  
ABSENT: Kostansek, Borse

C. PUBLIC SPEAKS OUT (one-hour time limit)  
None

D. DOWNTOWN PARK PRESENTATION - SARAH ALEXANDER  
Sarah Alexander, Landscape Architect with the Transportation and Facilities Department gave a detailed presentation to the committee on the Downtown Park. The schedule for the main park construction will begin in summer 2021, groundbreaking is scheduled for May 2021, and park construction to be completed by summer 2023.

Questions  
Is the park designed to be as green as possible? Any certifications? The Town is looking into how we design and build to make it as green and lush as possible. We will replant existing trees and add large canopy trees if available and native plants to this area. No certification will be done.

Will water fountains be available to refill water bottles? Yes, there will be public water fountains throughout the park.

What is planned for the old library and will that be a part of the park? No, that will not be part of the park. That area will be under development at some point.

The park will be a popular place, what is the plan for parking? The parking deck has 600 spaces. 100 spaces are meant for library use, 20 are dedicated to library staff, parking will also be used for the apartment buildings and office spaces, the 2nd and 3rd floor for park use. The Methodist Church is also building a parking deck and the Town will also have shared use of that parking deck as well. There will be other parking planned throughout Town. A parking study will be done.

Is the Park ADA Compliant? Yes, we are making it as accessible as possible. There are some stairs in the arena area and the kids play area.
Are there certifications for natural areas like the National Wildlife Certification, and the Audubon bird friendly communities? We are looking to get bird friendly plants native to our area. Any of those type certifications would come later.

The glass box in the drawings are a concern for birds. What solutions could you use to make that more visible to birds and not distracting from the light to go through for its original use? Designing with bird and architecture conflicts in mind is something that our group takes very seriously and considers at all stages of design. The scale of the building being one story, along with the update that includes a roof overhang protecting the glass creates visual volume and reduces aviary conflicts. More importantly, the sizing of the windows and doorways throughout the garden house have mutton patterns that run both vertically and horizontally reducing the scale of the glazing and providing visual dominance to opaque patterning.

What plans are there for lighting at night? The Town is sensitive to where the lighting goes for public safety and neighborhood sensitivity. Various lighting types being considered are pedestrian lighting, ambient lighting, string lights on trees and lights pointing downward.

Are there plans to tie-in to the Higgins Greenway headed east into bike lanes on Chatham? Will they be marked for dual use? The PRCR Master Plan includes extension of Higgins Greenway along Kildaire Farm Road to the Downtown Park. Staff are also looking into extensions from Walnut Creek into Downtown, as well as possible street-side trail (SST) along Academy Street tying to future SST along Chapel Hill Road.

The Chair thanked Sarah and stated that Joy Ennis will be the General Manager for the Park. The construction that is ongoing now is the building of apartments and office buildings.

E. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

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<th>RESULT:</th>
<th>APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOVER:</td>
<td>Robin Crumpton</td>
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<td>SECONDER:</td>
<td>Teresa McLaughlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>AYES:</td>
<td>Bustrack, Black, Crumpton, McLaughlin, Sappie, Abrams, Tomczak</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABSENT:</td>
<td>Kostansek, Borse</td>
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E.1 Greenway Committee - Committee Meeting - Aug 20, 2020 6:00 PM

The minutes were amended to correct the last meeting date of the PRCR Board meeting. Section F. 1. PRCR Board meeting has been corrected from April 3 to August 3rd.

Also noted Paul Black but was late but not absent for the meeting.
F. REPORTS

F.1 PRCR Advisory Board Report

Lora Greco is the newest member of PRCR Board.

The Town Manager has taken a longer approach to staff working from home with some exceptions such as Public Works, Police and Fire. Staff from Town Hall will be working from home until the end of February.

PRCR department - all programs have been cancelled; however, some programming will be done virtually.

Due to COVID, the Veterans day catered luncheon will be a drive-in event this year. Meals can be picked up at the Town Hall Campus Parking Deck on November 10 from 8am to 5pm.

The applications for the three committees, Athletic, Greenway, and Cultural Arts can be done online and are due November 2nd. For the Greenway Committee, 5 slots are eligible to apply and 2 members have re-applied for their 2nd term leaving 3 openings available.

Amy Mackintosh from Transportation & Facilities gave a presentation on Western Cary Parks updates.

G. INFORMATION SHARE

G.1 PRCR Committee Application Period

The application period ends on November 2, 2020. The chair asked the committee if they know of anyone interested to have them apply.

G.2 Crabtree Creek Greenway - Tunnel under RR

Morrison recently completed their last section of the Crabtree Creek Greenway, the underpass under the rail line paralleling Chapel Hill Road. This completes 3.5-4 miles of greenway between Black Creek Greenway and Davis Drive. Is the access from the Morrisville Community Park easy? A comment was made that it was confusing but getting to the park was easy. Sandi shared photos. (see attached)

G.3 PRCR Master Plan Addendum

The PRCR Master Plan will go to the Council next week.

G.4 Chapel Hill Road Study - Appearance Survey Online

A new Chapel Hill Road Study Appearance Survey is online on the Town’s website.

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G.5 Greenway Use During COVID

Sandi Bailey shared a snapshot of the greenway usage data comparing 2019 to 2020 (see attached).

Other Information Shared:

Robin visited trails in Bentonville, Arkansas in the Ozarks and went mountain biking. She remarked how they use all of the green space available to them and was a good example of how trails should be laid out. She was very impressed; she will be checking to see what other information she can share with the staff.

Paul Black stated that the City of Raleigh opened the Downtown North-South Greenway Connector. It is the future connection to Rosengarten greenway and Rocky Branch and will run parallel to Capitol Boulevard when complete. This is the urban section that goes along west street and Harrington with cycle tracks with sidewalks.

Ideas for the first walk. Panther Creek Greenway was proposed. The chair stated that in person contact is difficult to do right now. The Town is looking into different options.

Next Meeting - November 19

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM
CRABTREE CREEK GREENWAY – UNDERPASS AT HWY 54 & RAILROAD
Chapel Hill Road Appearance Survey

Sidewalks: What is most important to you?

Select one response.

- Wider Sidewalks
- Separation from Traffic
- Shade
Greenway Counts During COVID