

CARRBORO RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION – 4/7/08

Present – Members: Doris Murrell, Marianne Nicholson, Eric Allman, Kevin Fuerst and Delores Clark; Board Liaison: Lydia Lavelle; Potential Member: David Dirito and Staff: Anita Jones-McNair.

Murrell called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Murrell called for corrections or questions concerning the minutes of the last meeting, 3/03/08. No corrections or questions were requested; therefore the minutes were accepted as presented.

Communications and/or Speakers from the Floor

Murrell called for communications and/or speakers from the floor. Jones-McNair provided a letter of approval from Superintendent Pedersen to transfer Fuerst into the school representative seat on the commission. The request will be presented to the Board of Aldermen for approval. Murrell mentioned that potential member, Matthew Grady was invited to attend this meeting and mentioned he would attend. Since he was not present at this point of the meeting, she mentioned maybe he would come in later.

New Business

Murrell called for new business. Alderman Lavelle announced that at the next Board meeting the agenda includes reviewing the current advisory board selection and training processes. She asked if anyone had suggestions that she could share with the Board? The commission discussed the current selection and training process. The commission agreed that orientation should be required for new members and suggested having available the orientation materials online for new members that could not make scheduled sessions. She also invited everyone to attend the Board meeting.

Old Business

Murrell called for old business. Allman provided an update of the Greenway Commission. He did not attend the recent meeting, however attended the meeting scheduled March 5th. He mentioned that various field reports and pictures were presented along with other literature such as easement maps. He mentioned that the commission is moving forward with the Morgan Creek RFQ with the help of Bill Webster who is on the commission and a Chapel Hill staff member that has extensive experience with the process. Allman also mentioned that the commission was trying to determine whether they wanted to move forward with the current Bolin Creek Plans. There has been a lot of discussion about paved versus unpaved trails and the use of the approved federal funds for the conceptual planning of the greenway. Further discussion was scheduled on the agenda of the meeting he was not able to attend. Jones-McNair mentioned that the Greenway Commission approved and recommends that the Board of Aldermen proceed with the conceptual planning of the Bolin Creek Trail with the understanding that a condition of the agreement is to plan for a paved trail, that the specific location of the trail will be an outcome of the planning process and that the goal of the trail is to provide a north-south connection. Allman then mentioned that an active website and blog is available if you need additional information on the committee and resources. He will email the commission with the web addresses at a later date.

Allman also mentioned that the Greenways, Inc group is currently in the assessment phase. A vision statement for the Bicycle Plan is developed and a survey is being distributed for feedback. There is also an Information Session scheduled at Carrboro Elementary School on April 15th from 4:30-7:30p. Another session will take place sometime in June. It was mentioned that having a table at Carrboro Day for informational purposes and survey distribution would be a good idea. Jones-McNair mentioned that she would share that with Brendan Moore and Adena Messinger. Alderman Lavelle asked whether the Town recognizes Bike to Work Day? She asked because she remembered that day from working with Durham Recreation and Parks Department. Jones-McNair mentioned that the Town has recognized the day in the past and the previous Transportation Planner, Dale McKeel shared information with the Board and provided

community information. She will confirm that the new planner, Adena Messinger would continue the Town's direction this year.

Report by Chair and Director

Murrell shared this was her 7th Legislative Forum. She stressed it was positive and upbeat; yet the same issues are apparent. Some highlights include: No funding has been suggested for the LWCF. NRPA is recommending 90 million. "The No Child Left Behind Initiative" is currently not working. NRPA started the No Children Left Inside Campaign. Hopefully funds will be identified to cover that program. The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program was introduced. Four hundred and five people were in attendance and every state was represented with the exception of North Dakota. She also shared literature from the Forum including a program that the state of Ohio has implemented successfully using various agencies.

Jones-McNair provided an update on the Wilson Park Bathroom project, the Martin Luther King Jr. Garden and a play initiative that staff will be looking into for the community.

Jones-McNair also shared with Allman if equipment is needed for committee meeting summaries to let her know so it will be set-up for his presentations.

Considerations for next and future meetings

Develop goals and objectives for the commission.

Meeting Adjournment

Murrell adjourned the meeting at 8:24p.m.