

**Carrboro Greenways Commission
Minutes
September 9, 2019**

Members Present

*Dave Mabe (Chair)
*Robert Kirschner
*Rob Crook
*Jeff Summerlin-Long
*Alyson West

Absent

Ethan Beattie

Guests

Charlie Hileman, former greenways commission member
Tyler Gilmore

Randee Haven-O'Donnell – Board of Aldermen
Damon Seils – Board of Aldermen

*indicates voting member

Staff Present

Tina Moon-Carrboro Planning
Laura Janway-Carrboro Planning

- I. **Call to Order:** Dave Mabe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, and provided a summary of Charlie Hileman's contribution to the commission as a thank you for his tenure on the Greenways Commission.

Mabe also introduced Tyler Gilmore, a member of the Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan update stakeholder group, and asked him to discuss his experience with the Orange County Literacy Group as it relates to cycling and representing residents who may bike for transportation and experience areas where bike infrastructure is limited.

- a. **Approval of Minutes – (June 10, 2019)**

Seils noted that he was not presented at the June meeting and asked that the minutes be corrected accordingly. Kirschner motioned to approve the minutes as corrected; Summerlin-Long seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously to approve the June 10th, 2019 meeting minutes.

- II. **Updates: Report of Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan Update & Bicycle Friendly City Application.** Staff provided a brief summary of the schedule for the bike plan update and staff's efforts to reach out more directly to some of the neighborhoods who had been as engaged in the process to date. Staff also noted that the Bicycle Friendly City application had been submitted. Part of the submittal process is for the BFC staff to send out a survey for local residents; the survey is up and ready for use. There was discussion about the different surveys for the two different projects—the Town generated survey for the bike plan update and the BFC survey for the Town's BFC application. Greenway Commission members also asked if the bike plan update stakeholders group would be able to review the draft plan before the Board of Aldermen reviews it. Staff noted that the Town was working with the consultants to finalize the schedule but that their interest would be noted.

At the close of the discussion of the bike plan Kirschner noted the value of sharing the road with all modes of travel and the group held a conversation about various topics of bike-ped safety in the downtown area before shifting back to the topic of greenways.

- III. **Small projects creating connections.** Mabe shared his discussion with Tamara Sanders, the manager at Clean Machine bike shop, to identify other small projects that offered potential connections for cyclists and pedestrians. Hileman noted an area in the Sunset Creek subdivision where cyclists were wearing out the grass in an informal short cut and asked if the Town could pave the area. Staff noted that HOAs typically handle maintenance in private open space/recreation space rather than use public funds. All agreed to add all potential projects to the list and identify them as public/private.

IV. **Active Projects**

- a. **Homestead-Chapel Hill High School MU Path.** Staff provided a brief update on the project and the remaining punch list type items, and noted that the recently installed sidewalk from Claremont South to the greenway is not intended to replace the multi-use spur. Staff anticipates the spur being installed in the near future as part of the final coat of paving in the subdivision. There was also discussion about the need for dog bag stations, and improved signage for the two-lane path. Staff to relay to Public Works.
- b. **Morgan Creek Greenway.** Staff reported that the Town received two bids for the project, but both were over the engineer's estimate. Staff is reviewing possible next steps.
- c. **Jones Creek Greenway.** Staff reported that the Board of Aldermen is scheduled to receive a status report on the project on September 10th and the third public hearing for 60-percent design on September 24th. There will be a drop-in information session before the public hearing. Staff reiterated what had been discussed in June, when the Greenways Commission received a presentation from the design consultants, Wetherill Engineering, as the following four points:
 - 1) Limit tree clearing to the extent possible,
 - 2) Try to shift the alignment of the path into OWASA easement,
 - 3) Concrete surface to match portion of the existing greenway, and
 - 4) Bridge to match existing bridge, or look entirely different.

Kirschner noted an aspect of the Greenways Commission charge relating to protecting the environment and asked if the group could have a discussion on areas to be identified for protection with limited to no public access, or areas of natural space for "re-wilding." Staff to frame how the commission might discuss.

- VI. **Adjourn:** Kirschner motioned to adjourn the meeting; Crook seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2019.