

**Carrboro Greenways Commission  
Minutes  
February 8, 2021**

**Members Present**

\*Ethan Beattie  
\*Rob Crook  
\*Robert Kirschner  
\*Jeff Summerlin-Long  
\*Alyson West  
\*indicates voting member

Randee Haven-O'Donnell – Town Council Member  
Damon Seils – Town Council Member

**Guests**

Mahin Manley  
Tamara Sanders, Greenways Commission  
Candidate

**Absent**

**Staff Present**

Trish McGuire -- Carrboro Planning  
Tina Moon -- Carrboro Planning

Marabeth Carr – Orange County

- I. **Call to Order:** Ethan Beattie called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.
  - a. **Approval of Minutes – December 7, 2020**

West identified some omissions in the minutes from December 7<sup>th</sup> relating to the bike plan, which was discussed at the end of the meeting as part of the item on informal paths and requested that additional language be added to the minutes to better reflect her comments relating to the Bolin Creek Greenway map and project description in the list of projects, and more information relating to the need for more thought on a comprehensive greenway approach which would connect all the greenways in Carrboro. Approval of the minutes was postponed until the following meeting so that staff could revise the minutes accordingly.
- II. **Approval of Annual Meetings Calendar**

Staff provided a brief introduction to the item and explained how the suggested schedule of meeting approximately every other month was developed. After a brief discussion, Summerlin-Long motioned to adopt the meeting calendar for 2021 as presented, Kirschner seconded the motion. The vote as unanimous.
- III. **Review of possible Orange County Transit Plan Projects**

Moon made the staff presentation, beginning with a short overview of the past Orange County Transit Plans, and update on the Orange County Transit Plan underway and information on the inclusion of small capital projects to support transit in the existing 2017 Transit Plan. Staff explained the interest of vetting ideas for small capital projects in advance so that if there is an opportunity to submit new projects for inclusion in plan update, the Town would be ready to do so. Moon described the three projects (a pedestrian connection from Roberson to East Main Street that staff had identified to date and asked for comments. The projects included:

- A bike/pedestrian connection from Roberson Street—(by the future 203 Project) to East Main Street (near existing bus stops for Chapel Hill Transit and GoTriangle’s commuter route from Carrboro/Chapel Hill to downtown Durham)
- A bike/pedestrian connection from Broad Street in Carrboro, crossing through the edge of Baldwin Park to connect to Craig Street in Chapel Hill.
- Additional segments of sidewalk along BPW Road to fill in gaps, making the infrastructure more complete.

Tamara Sanders asked about the area near the railroad and bridge as a possible project, and staff noted that it sounded, from the description, like the Tanyard Branch project that Chapel Hill has submitted for prioritization.

Summerlin-Long asked about the demographic metrics and noted that if racial equity was a priority than the Baldwin Park connector project should be identified as the highest priority of the three projects.

Bike/ped improvements along Estes Drive were also identified as potential project(s) advancing equity.

**IV. Follow-up Discussion of Morgan Creek Greenway**

Moon summarized the presentation and neighborhood discussion at the December Greenways Commission meeting on the status of the Morgan Creek Greenway. Commission members shared what they heard at the meeting relating to community interests and concerns.

- Kirschner noted concerns regarding the private soccer field at the Berryhill Subdivision
- Summerlin-Long expressed concerns regarding erosion along Morgan Creek.
- Crook noted that one could use Google earth to look at the changes to Morgan Creek over a series of years and since the 1980s there hasn’t been much of a change. Overall, the stream has stayed in its creek bed.

Also noted:

- Some of the concerns regarding public access to private trails could be addressed with signage. Also noted with the extent of resident turnover.
- A number of Berryhill residents have moved out/in since the project began and that type of turnover could be expected in to continue in the future.
- A number of neighbors in Canterbury Court and Berryhill spoke in support of the project.

**V. Carrboro Connects**

Moon introduced the item and provided a brief overview of the efforts on the Town’s comprehensive plan to date including the number of task force meetings, noting West’s participation on the Carrboro Connects Task Force representing the Greenways Commission. Moon explained the items in the packet and the recent discussion on transportation topics. McGuire responded to questions and provided additional context. After discussion, Beattie suggested that commission members review the material and the project website and be prepared to discuss at the meeting in March.

McGuire also announced the second community meeting on the comprehensive plan is scheduled for Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Please mark calendars.

- VI. **Adjourn** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kirschner and seconded by Summerlin-Long. Ayes – all. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm. The next meeting will be on March 15, 2021.