



Open Space & Trails Commission

M I N U T E S

February 15, 2012
2nd Floor, Committee Room
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Will Wilson, and Commissioners Toby Berla, Glen Bowles, Dan Clever, Bo Glenn, John Goebel, Artemas Holden, JoEllen Mason, Deborah Morgan, Steve Schewel, David Smudski, and Tom Stark

Excused: Vice-Chairman La Dawanna Summers, and Commissioners Kelly Bryant, Jr, Derwin Dubose, Annette Montgomery, Charlie Welch, Jason Nelson, Ellen Reckhow

Absent: Commissioners Jeffery Bakalchuck and Reynolds Smith

Staff Present: Helen Youngblood

Guests Present: Dilys Bowman, Fred Dietrich, John Kent

I. Call to Order 7:00pm Chairman Will Wilson

II. Approval of Minutes

- By unanimous consent, the January minutes were approved.

III. Agenda Adjustments

None

IV. Consent Agenda

None

V. Announcements and Introductions

Administration of Oaths

Chairman Wilson has invited the clerk to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to attend our meeting to give oaths to the BOCC's DOST appointees, but the clerk was not able to attend this month's meeting either.

Open Meetings and Email Use

Chairman Wilson advised Commissioners to not "reply to all" on emails, so as not to inadvertently hold an unannounced public meeting.

DOST Retreat

The retreat will be on Saturday, March 31st at Lowes Grove Library. It was agreed to discuss this at the next DOST meeting.

VI. Presentations

Trails GIS Software Demonstration

Commissioner Goebel, Chair of the Trails Committee, demonstrated the GIS-based database for all the trails in Durham's Trails and Greenways Master Plan. The database features the ability to view and export property information along proposed trail routes, including status of acquisition of rights-of-way for trails.

Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) Update

Dr. Dietrich, Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail (FMST) Trail Crew Leader for the Eno River, and Commissioner Mason, also a member of FMST, presented the progress made in Durham County on the MST. See attached report.

VII. Committees

Per the By-Laws, "the Commission may create such Standing or Ad-Hoc committees as it may deem necessary to promote the objectives and carry on the work of the Commission." *Motion:* Moved by Commissioner Bowles to approve all Committees, Associate Members, and Liaisons to committees per the attached "Committees, Associate Members, and Liaisons" document.

MOTION CARRIED.

Per the By-Laws, "Associate Members will be notified of their appointment by letter from the Chair of the Commission." Chairman Wilson will send appointment letters to any new Associate Members.

Per the By-Laws, "Committee chairs, Vice-chairs, members, and associate members shall be appointed by the Chair of the Commission at opportune Commission meetings." Chairman Wilson appointed all Chairs, Vice-chairs, members, and associate members to the committees per the attached "Committees, Associate Members, and Liaisons" document.

Commissioner Morgan gave the Earmark Committee report.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Glenn that Chairman Wilson call the City Manager and ask him to setup a meeting to discuss the City's strategy to acquire, preserve, and construct a trail on the inactive Duke Beltline railroad corridor. The purpose of the meeting would be to ensure the various City departments and citizen advocates, both internally and externally, understand their roles and responsibilities with respect to this endeavor. Anticipated participants would include representatives from Transportation, Parks and Recreation, General Services, Planning, DOST, and TRTC.

MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Bowles gave the Open Space Committee report.

Commissioner Goebel gave the Trails Committee report. See attached report (2/7/12 Meeting Minutes).

Ms. Youngblood gave the Development Review Committee report.

Commissioner Berla gave the report for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission. See attached report.

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Adjournment

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Minutes prepared by Commissioner Morgan, Secretary

Staff Contact: Helen Youngblood, Senior Planner
919.560.4137 ext 28245 Helen, Youngblood@durhamnc.gov