



D U R H A M 2012

Open Space & Trails Commission

M I N U T E S

May 16, 2012
2nd Floor, Committee Room
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Draft

- Present:** Chairman Will Wilson and Commissioners Jeffery Bakalchuck, Toby Berla, Glen Bowles, Adam Brakenberry, Dan Clever, Anita Daniels, Derwin Dubose, Bo Glenn, John Goebel, Artemas Holden, JoEllen Mason, Annette Montgomery, Deborah Morgan, Jason Nelson, Ellen Reckhow, Steve Schewel, Reynolds Smith, David Smudski, and Tom Stark
- Excused:** Vice-Chairman LaDawanna Summers and Commissioner Kelly Bryant, Jr
- Absent:** Commissioner Charlie Welch
- Staff Present:** Kathy Everett-Perry, Beth Timson and Helen Youngblood
- Guests Present:** John Kent

I. Call to Order 7:05pm Chairman Will Wilson

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Clever to approve the minutes with the change to show that he was appointed by DOST, not BPAC, to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee formed by the Director of the City's Department of Parks and Recreation to name the bridge at Sandy Creek Park.

MOTION CARRIED.

III. Agenda Adjustments

None

IV. Consent Agenda

Commissioner John Goebel was appointed by DOST to serve on DOST for a three year term.

V. Announcements and Introductions

Chairman Wilson introduced new Commissioner Adam Brakenberry.

Ms. Timson said that the contractor for the American Tobacco Trail Phase E was to receive notice to proceed on June 11th and to start within 10 days. She said the scope included Alternate A, a wider width trail on the portion DOST had requested.

NEPA EIS Scoping Process Public Comments

Chairman Wilson reminded DOST members that as citizens they can provide comments on the web at <http://www.ourtransitfuture.org/index.php/contact/PSWC>. He said that it would be good to reiterate the point that Sandy Creek should be avoided.

VI. Presentations

County Open Meetings Laws

Ms Kathy Everett-Perry, Assistant County Attorney, presented information regarding the County's Open Meetings Laws. She said a good reference was the book "Open Meetings and Local Governments in North Carolina: Some Questions and Answers" by David M. Lawrence. She also referenced North Carolina General Statute 143-318, Meetings of Public Bodies. She said Section 11 dealt with closed sessions. Commissioner Reckhow said that a topic such as conservation land purchases might warrant the need for a closed session. Ms Everett-Perry said that using email to figure out when to meet would be OK. She said that it was also OK to phone members to check for consensus on a topic.

Light Rail Crossing over Lick Creek (C1 versus C2)

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Smudski that Chairman Wilson write a letter to the Chair of the Triangle Transit Authority, fellow Commissioner Reckhow, expressing the commission's concerns about both C1 and C2.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ellerbee Creek Trail Width

Commissioner Clever provided a briefing on his meeting with City staff regarding the width shown on the submittal drawings for the Ellerbee Creek Trail. He said permits had already been obtained and design funding was not adequate to request a revision by Stewart Engineering. So, staff has agreed to redline their sets of drawings as a means to remind themselves that if an opportunity arises for a future revision to do so.

VII. Committees

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Montgomery to forego committee reports.

MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. Unfinished Business

None

IX. New Business

None

X. Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Stark at 9:00pm to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared by Commissioner Morgan, Secretary

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