



Open Space & Trails Commission

M I N U T E S

June 20, 2012
2nd Floor, Committee Room
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Draft

- Present:** Chairman Will Wilson, Vice-Chairman LaDawnna Summers, and Commissioners Toby Berla, Glen Bowles, Adam Brakenberry, Dan Clever, Anita Daniels-Kenney, Derwin Dubose, John Goebel, Artemas Holden, JoEllen Mason, Annette Montgomery, Deborah Morgan, Jason Nelson, Reynolds Smith, David Smudski, and Tom Stark
- Excused:** Commissioners Jeffery Bakalchuck, Kelly Bryant, Jr, Bo Glenn, and Steve Schewel
- Absent:** Commissioners Dan Clever, Ellen Reckhow, and Charlie Welch
- Staff Present:** Jennifer Buzun, John Cox, Paul Wiebke, and Helen Youngblood
- Guests Present:** Mike Shiflett and Jim Wise

I. Call to Order 7:07pm Chairman Will Wilson

II. Approval of Minutes

By unanimous consent, the minutes were approved.

III. Agenda Adjustments

None

IV. Announcements and Introductions

None

V. Presentations

Duke Diet and Fitness Wetland

Mr. Paul Wiebke, Stormwater Group Manager, presented the City’s concept plan to convert the former Duke Diet and Fitness Center property into a constructed wetland. It would “filter pollution out of the stormwater runoff that accumulates from the Trinity and Downtown basins, a 485-acre area of downtown Durham. The concept plan includes re-directing the tributary of South Ellerbe Creek into the new constructed wetland; constructing shallow marsh, deep marsh, and deep pool areas in the wetland with a variety of native vegetation; improving the vegetation and habitat conditions to the creek; re-aligning the South Ellerbe Creek Trail; and adding amenities, such as seating areas, for recreational and educational purposes.”

The conversion would necessitate the removal of the existing building. Commissioner Bowles, Chair of the Open Space Committee will attend a scheduled public meeting to see if the idea resonates with attendees to move the building to a different location on the site.

VI. Committees

Commissioner Bowles gave the report for the Open Space Committee.

Commissioner Nelson gave the report for the Education Committee. He requested volunteers for the Eno River Festival. Ms Youngblood said that she would email everyone the signup sheet as well.

Commissioner Montgomery gave the report for the Matching Grants Committee.

Commissioner Goebel gave the report for the Trails Committee.

Ms Youngblood and Commissioner Montgomery gave the report for the Development Review Committee. Commissioner Berla said that Commissioner Clever had written a guide to help the BPAC DRB representative review submittals. He will request a copy and send it to Ms Youngblood.

Vice-Chairman Summers gave the report for the Bylaws Committee. After discussion of the proposed changes, it was decided not to proceed with any proposed changes to the Interlocal Agreement.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Stark to revise the Bylaws as follows:

Section 2.1.2 To “support the provisioning of “ nature, pedestrian....

Section 3.1.2 delete Wards 4, 5, and 6; increase At Large to (5)

Section 3.1.5 add “d. County Open Space and Real Estate Administrator”

Section 3.2 In the first sentence, add “consecutive” before “years.” Delete the second sentence. Delete the next-to-last sentence.

Section 5.5.1 change 3 to 2

Section 5.5.2 change to “A member who missed 40% of regular Commission meetings within a one-year period of time counting both excused and unexcused absences .”

Section 5.5 in the last paragraph/sentence, add “or has violated the ethics or conflict of interest standard” before “the Chair of the Commission shall notify...”

Section 5.6 delete last paragraph

Section 6.4 add “Associate Committee Members do not have to reside in Durham County.”

MOTION CARRIED.

VII. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Adjournment

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared by Commissioner Morgan, Secretary

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