

MINUTES

City Council Parks, Trails, & Recreation Committee

Wednesday, October 20, 2021, 3:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present: Mac Morrow, Chair, Council Member
Maureen Copelof, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Paul Ray, Planning Director
David Lutz, Public Works Director
Nancy DePippo, Citizen Member
Howie Granat, Citizen Member
Tim Robinson, Citizen Member (via Zoom)

Absent: Matt Christian, Citizen Member
Ryan Olson, At-Large Member

Staff Present: Phil Harris, Public Safety Director
Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

Guests: Kevin Jones, Citizen

Media: Jeremiah Reed, *The Transylvania Times*

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chair Mac Morrow welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

B. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Copelof, seconded by Ms. DePippo to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of September 21, 2021 Meeting

Motion by Ms. Copelof, seconded by Ms. DePippo to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Public Facilities/Parks & Trail Safety – Phil Harris

In his new role as Public Safety Director, Phil Harris briefed the committee on ways to think about safety at our public facilities, parks and trails. His presentation included possible preventive elements, intervention techniques and response strategies. A copy of his presentation is attached.

Mr. Harris said he is currently looking into camera monitoring systems for our facilities. He said there are two different ways to look at a camera system; the cameras could be hidden, or they could be out in the open to make people think twice before committing a crime.

F. Update re Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan

Mr. Ray reported that we have had 3 stakeholder meetings that were well attended. The consultants are using that input and the steering committee's input to create the final draft recommendation maps. Those maps will be available for the public input session to be held on October 27th from 4 to 6pm at the Depot. The maps will also be posted to the City's website for people to look at beforehand and send comments electronically. Following the input session, Alta will draft the actual plan which will go through the normal process of the Planning Board and City Council for adoption.

G. Update re Ecusta Trail

Ms. DePippo reported that according to the latest update from Conserving Carolina, they have raised slightly over 50% of the \$6.5M goal for our matching area. On the Hendersonville side, they have been working on another grant for \$3M that will hopefully fund the planning and design and engineering for the entire corridor. Henderson County and Conserving Carolina are already working on their lease agreement.

She said an extraordinary amount of track has already been pulled out. Henderson County is excited to get people walking on it as soon as possible, so they have pulled up everything all the way past Laurel Park and are doing a pretty nice job just running a roller down the corridor and making it fairly available.

Ms. DePippo said one thing that everyone is anxious about is the trestle on Davidson River Road. Conserving Carolina is hoping to get some disaster funds from FEMA since it was related to the flood. She said the last we understand is that they are going to take it down.

She said that Henderson County is creating an Ecusta Trail Advisory Committee that will report to their Board of Commissioners. Mr. Fatland said we would do that here as well.

H. Other Project Updates

Mr. Lutz reported that someone drove across the pedestrian bridge and down the bike path to the other side of the Depot. To prevent that from happening again, Public Works has installed a split rail fence at the start of the trail by the bridge.

Mr. Fatland gave an update on the continuation of the trail along Railroad Avenue. We awarded the contract to build from the Depot to West Main Street and the contractor is in the process of ordering materials for the stormwater improvements. He said we should see construction starting soon, with stormwater going in first.

Additional Comments:

Mr. Fatland reported that the Community Focus Foundation got a grant from Dogwood Trust on behalf of the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center. The grant award was \$259,000 to cover furnishings, kitchen equipment and programming at the community center.

Mr. Ray said he and Aaron Bland have started looking at possible locations for a parking trailhead for Ecusta Trail.

I. Set Date for Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 3:30 PM.

J. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

X 

Mac Morrow,
Chair, Council Member

Minutes Approved: November 17, 2021

X 

Denise Hodsdon
Executive Assistant



SAFETY FOR FACILITIES, PARKS AND TRAILS

CITY OF BREVARD

THE COST OF CRIME

- **Victim costs**-Direct economic losses suffered by crime victims, including medical care costs, lost earnings, and property loss/damage.
- **Criminal justice system costs**
Local, state, and federal government funds spent on police protection, legal and adjudication services, and corrections programs, including incarceration.
- **Crime career costs**
Opportunity costs associated with the criminal's choice to engage in illegal rather than legal and productive activities.
- **Intangible costs**
Indirect losses suffered by crime victims, including pain and suffering, decreased quality of life, and psychological distress.

CURRENT CITY FACILITIES

- CITY HALL
- POLICE
- FIRE
- PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE AND ANNEX
- WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT
- WATER TREATMENT PLANT
- FRENCH BROAD COMMUNITY CENTER
- THE DEPOT
- SILVERSTEEN PLAYGROUND AND COURT
- MARY C. JENKINS CENTER
- TANNERY SKATE PARK
- REC CENTER SKATE PARK
- DOG PARK
- VARIOUS POCKET PARKS AND ALLEYS DOWNTOWN
- CITY PARKING LOTS
- BRACKEN MOUNTAIN TRAIL
- ESTATOE AND ECUSTA BIKE/HIKE TRAILS

SOON-TO-COME CITY FACILITIES

- **RAILS-TO-TRAILS FROM ECUSTA TO HENDERSON COUNTY**
- **COMPLETION OF CITY TRAILS**
- **CLEMSON PARK**
- **ADDITIONAL CITY PARKING LOTS**

THE CYCLE OF POLICE SERVICES

- **PREVENTION**- DOING WHAT YOU ARE ABLE TO PREVENT THE ENVIRONMENT, POTENTIAL VICTIMS AND POTENTIAL CRIMINALS FROM CONVERGING AT THE WRONG TIME
- **INTERVENTION**- PERCEIVING THAT CONVERGENCE AND INTERRUPTING THE ULTIMATE ACTS WE ARE TRYING TO PREVENT
- **RESPONSE**- GETTING THERE AFTER THE FACT AND INVESTIGATING TO FIND THE SUSPECT. CYCLE OF PREVENTION BEGINS AGAIN

PREVENTION

- **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**
 - **Natural Surveillance**
 - **Natural Access Control**
 - **Natural Territorial Reinforcement**
 - **Activity generation**
 - **Periodic maintenance**
 - **Target Hardening**
- **Monitoring through patrols, camera system**

CPTED ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER

- **LANDSCAPING**
 - **WELL-CONCEIVED**
 - **OPEN**
 - **FEELS SAFE**
 - **NO SCARY TUNNELS**
 - **MAKE CRIMINALS FEEL UNSAFE**
 - **WELL-MAINTAINED**
 - **CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT**

PREVENTIVE ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER

- **LIVE CAMERA MONITORING IN COMMUNICATIONS, POLICE, OTHER CITY STAFF**
- **PREVENTIVE PATROL IN CARS, BIKES, OTHER VEHICLES, FOOT**
- **NETWORK FOR REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**
 - **CALL BOXES**
 - **CELL PHONE COVERAGE**

INTERVENTION TECHNIQUES

- **RESPONSE TO CALLS, UNUSUAL ACTIVITY**
- **SOUND SYSTEM (THINK “RING”)**
- **STAFFING THAT ALLOWS QUICKER RESPONSE**
- **VOLUNTEER PATROLS**

RESPONSE

- **PLAN BEST RESPONSE BY:**
 - **TRAINING STAFF (Fire, LE, Parks-
CONSIDER HYBRID)**
 - **STRATEGIC LOCATION OF FACILITIES**
 - **HIGHLIGHT PRESENCE- VISIBLE**
 - **STAFFED**
 - **PROPERLY EQUIPPED**
 - **ACTIVITY-GENERATION**

QUESTIONS?

