

New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting of October 13, 2005

Present: Bill Olive, Bill Hutchins, Hildegard Ryals, Bo Glenn, Walter Fowler, John Kent, Charlie Welch (resident of Garrett Farms), 3 Nicholas School students, Bob Healy (chair/scribe)

The Committee met at Sandy Creek Park so we could get an idea of what a developed access area and trail along the New Hope might look like.

Bill Olive presented a revised and expanded outline for his history of efforts to protect New Hope Creek. He requests help from anyone who might have information about this topic, or who personally participated in various events, starting in the 1970s.

Walter Fowler reported that it was too late to meet the deadline for placing a notice of a fall Friends of New Hope Creek event in the Triangle Land Conservancy's forthcoming newsletter. He will plan for an early spring event.

Bo Glenn expressed concern that the Committee might be seen as taking activist stands on development proposals that might better be taken by the Friends of New Hope Creek. Healy noted that the Committee has over the years been careful to either vote on the content of its development reviews or, if time was very short, to specifically empower one or more members to make such a written review and/or to offer testimony on behalf of the Committee. Healy said that in giving recent testimony before City Council on the CENTEX development he identified himself as a professor of land use policy, not as a representative of the NHCCAC.

Bo Glenn reported that Carol Benitis (sp?) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has approached DOST for input to possible development of a portion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail along 25 miles bordering Falls Lake south of Pennys Bend. NHCCAC members expressed an interest in seeing if the Corps might also collaborate in trail access in the New Hope to Jordan Lake corridor.

The committee asked Charlie Welch, who lives in Garrett Farms and has expressed an interest in the New Hope trails, to consider being an interim occupant of one of the "Durham County landowner" positions on the committee. All appointments to the committee, including the chair, will be finalized as soon as Friends of New Hope Creek, which makes two appointments, has been reorganized.

The next NHCCAC meeting will take place Thursday, Nov. 10 at 5 pm at Forest View Elementary. We will try to coordinate this meeting with the Duke Forest Gathering, at 6 pm the same day, at the New Hope Improvement Assn.

Additions or corrections to these minutes are welcome!