

New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee

Minutes of November 9, 2006

Location: Forest View Elementary School (Durham)

Present: Hildegard Ryals, John Kent, Bill Olive, Charlie Welch, Floyd Bridgwater, Jane Korest and Rich Shaw.

Ryals (acting chair) called the meeting to order, noting that Bob Healy could not attend this meeting due to another engagement.

- (1) **Trammell Crow development proposal.** Welch updated the committee on the status of a proposed residential development along Garrett Road. The site is being considered for a re-zoning by the Durham City/County Planning Department. The western half of the site is bottomland that will likely be protected as open space, although it is uncertain whether it would remain in private ownership (homeowners association) or conveyed to Durham County. Durham County already owns adjoining open space land to the north and south of that area. Welch reported that he and Bob Healy were exploring the possibility of a public trail easement running along the northern property boundary. The trail would provide access to the open space from Garrett Road, consistent with trail corridor envisioned by the New Hope Corridor Open Space Master Plan. Korest suggested that Welch contact Beth Timson (Durham Park Planning/Development Division) to coordinate their ideas and recommendations for this project. There was no further action needed by the committee at this time.
- (2) **Hollow Rock Area Park Planning.** Korest and Shaw provided information about a new committee being established to help plan/design a future park near the intersection of Erwin Road and Pickett Road. The park will be on land jointly acquired by Durham County, Orange County, Chapel Hill and City of Durham. The local governments are soliciting 11 volunteers to serve on this committee. NHCCAC members and others may apply to be considered by contacting the appropriate local government offices. For Orange County appointments (4) people may contact Monica Evans at 919/245-2125 or apply on line at <http://www.co.orange.nc.us/boards/volmain.asp#apply>. For the Durham County appointments (4) people may contact the clerk to the Durham County board of commissioners. People may also contact Town of Chapel Hill (2 appointments) and City of Durham (1 appointment) to be considered for the committee.
- (3) **Environmental Education Facility Needs.** Ryals announced that there would be a meeting on November 29 to discuss the potential for a collaborative environmental education facility somewhere in the Triangle region. The meeting will be held at the Irwin Holmes Recreation Center at Campus Hills (2000 S. Alton Ave.) in Durham. Committee members discussed this idea and suggested some names of people who might be interested in attending this meeting.

(4) **History of New Hope Creek.** Bill Olive updated the committee on his efforts to develop a written history of New Hope Creek corridor. He and Joe Blackley will be meeting with representatives from the US Army Corps of Engineers. Olive would welcome other contributors to this effort. Sally Robertson has offered to include some of the materials on the NHCCAC web site.

Ryals adjourned the meeting at about 6:00 pm.

Next meeting: Thurs., December 14th at 5 pm, Forest View Elementary School