

New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee Meeting of February 11, 2010

Summary minutes courtesy of John Goebel, who chaired the meeting in Bob Healy's absence.

(1) Sandy Creek. Goebel reported that he had recently been down to the park and that the wetlands project is complete. There are wetlands shrubs planted everywhere (from containers) and it looks like the area has been seeded. Greg Schuster said he had a list of all the planting materials they used. We agreed again that the idea of a mini-management plan, as Jane Korest had suggested at our last meeting, was a good idea and that we should pursue that soon. We then discussed a cleanup on March 20th, but agreed that we would do this on our own, without direct collaboration with the Haw River Association but on the same day as their creek cleanup. Goebel agreed to work with Dorothea Pierce of Keep Durham Beautiful to get supplies for the day and Goebel and Healy will work on publicity for the event, including sending a message to our email list and posting on the New Hope website.

(2) No one knew anything about the new nursing home on Mt. Sinai and Kerley Rd., but we all recalled that the plan for Hollow Rock does (eventually) include an ADA path. Bill Olive had suggested in an email to Healy that there might be future intergenerational activities involving nursing home residents and the students at Forest View.

(3) Helen Youngblood gave John Kent the Report (on a CD) on the 15-501 bridge underpass. We asked John to look at it and pass it on to others. John and Greg gave a short summary of the progress on the bridges.

(4) Greg reported that the Githens Trail is extremely wet and that he would be out of town for the March 20th date (so we decided on Sandy Creek). He did report that his intern (Katie Rose Levin) is working hard on interpretive material for the trail in anticipation of the new city park on Old Chapel Hill Road. We agreed again that education about the wetland nature of the trail was important and that it should be labeled as a "good weather trail". Greg also reported that he has been to Githens Middle School to talk to the 7th and 8th grade science teachers about some environmental education programs in the wetland and that the 8th grade teachers in particular were very excited about this.

(5) We agreed that Healy should get us a table at the Piedmont Wildlife Festival and that we all needed to help staff the table.

(6) Chris Berndt reported that the Hollow Rock plan is moving (slowly) through the CH Parks and Greenways Committees. It was mentioned that as soon as all 4 governmental entities approve the plan, Orange County wants to convene a meeting of the 4 to discuss future action. Chris also invited us to go on a hike on the Dry Creek Trail with their Trails Committee on Wed, Feb. 17th at noon. If going, you should contact Bill Webster (968-2819) as he is arranging a shuttle.