

New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting of April 8, 2010

(Present: Goebel, Healy, Kent, Welch, Jane Korest, Jeff Fisher, Greg Schuster)

(1) We have reserved a table at Piedmont Wildlife Festival, at Leigh Farm, May 15 12:30-6 pm. Healy will be out of town, so someone else will have to set up and (wo)man the table. Healy has table, chair, banner, copies of Weinstein book and Hollow Rock CD. We are allowed to sell the latter two.

- (2) Goebel noted that there were 14 volunteers at the March 20 Sandy Creek workday and a great deal of cleanup was done. Unfortunately, we were unable to move a large cement culvert to improve drainage nor shore up two more. Welch has staked out a nice unpaved trail from Garrett Rd. to the sewer pond. Along it would be a great spot for wildlife observation. Goebel tried hard to publicize the event among park neighbors, but with little response. During the cleanup, Ken found an interesting little Cambrian rock outcrop. He found rusty brown iridescent soil markings in the creek bed and speculated about their biological/microbial origins. Healy will check the Duke Archives on the history of the sewer plant.
- (3) Fisher said that Rich Shaw had told him that Orange County Commission would consider the Hollow Rock master plan April 20. He said the HR website is almost done and it would include a video interview with Bill Olive, who has known HR since childhood. Said about 10K would be required to restore the store and provide owners with a replacement building before it could be moved. Kent suggested REI sporting goods as a possible funder. A site plan is needed (in more detail than the current plan) before a parking lot could be built. Kent said we should push for such a plan. Question was raised as to whether a site plan would be drawn up by Orange County staff or whether a consultant was needed.
- (4) Healy said he had an email interchange with Durham city/county transportation planner Dale McKeel regarding how we can best coordinate trails with planned bike/ped routes, especially north of Old Chapel Hill Road.
- (5) Kent said that NCDOT has moved the temporary bridge at 15-501/New Hope Creek crossing. Healy said he would ask McKeel whether any provision would be made at the new bridge for bike/ped crossing. Questions were asked about the exact location of the future TTA transportation corridor and how it might affect the New Hope.
- (6) Kent encouraged Friends of New Hope Creek to seek independent 501(c)3 status so that it could “grow up into a real organization” rather than depend on other groups to hold any funds that it raises. Healy suggested that we consider pros and cons and perhaps start with a (non-deductible) nominal membership fee to build up an official membership base. Fisher said Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation was

interested in possible organizational collaboration. He said that we might meet at his house to discuss this.

**Next meeting, Thursday, May 13 at 5 pm at Garrett
Farms Recreation Center**