New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee Minutes of Meeting of Thursday, May 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order by John Goebel, substituting for Chairman Healy. Members in attendance were Charlie Welch, John Kent, Howard Lineberger, Brendan Moore, Helen Youngblood and Bo Howes. Helen and Stan Bukowski, residents of the Garrett Road neighborhood were present as well.

Goebel gave a status report on Sandy Creek Park, including the recent Cub Scout project which included properly mounding the mulch and planting a few more trees and plants. Helen reported on a group of Croasdaile residents who came by bus to observe birds and butterflies.

Lineberger reported on the Senior Project that the Durham Academy students were planning for the park. They hope to gather information about the different habitats in the park and build a kiosk to display results. Howard was seeking permission to build and place the kiosk near the bird mailbox. Goebel said that he would put Lineberger in touch with Rosetta Radtke to obtain permission. Moore and Howes shared design plans for kiosks that are in the New Hope Open Space and the Johnson Mill Preserve.

Welch reported that he, Wendy Jacobs and Jane Korest are planning to speak to the Downtown Rotary about the Hollow Rock Store. We discussed the closing of Pickett Road. It seems that Durham County would like Orange County to move in concert with them on the road closing. Youngblood will keep us posted on any progress on the road closing. We also discussed the trails in the Preserve and what it would take to open the trails to the public. Moore mentioned that several expensive bridges need to be designed and built on the Durham County section. Lineberger reported that he had joined Healy at the Central Carolina Mineral Society Meeting to discuss displaying their collections at Hollow Rock, perhaps in the Store.

This year's Piedmont Wildlife Festival is upon us and no plans were made to man a table at the festival this year. In years past, few people who attended the festival seemed to be interested in how Leigh Farm fit into the greater New Hope Plan. We hoped that we would have more detailed maps for a display after last year's festival, but we still do not have these maps.

We noted the additions to the April Minutes that John Kent submitted concerning the TTA Light Rail proposal. There was no other discussion on the matter except to bring the Bukowskis up to date on the proposal.

John Kent shared with the committee the websites with real-time flow data for the New Hope and its feeder streams, notable, Sandy Creek. He also mentioned the CO₂ release date (a Duke project?) and suggested that links to these should be included on the New Hope website.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05, just as the heavy rains stopped.