

New Hope Creek Corridor Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting of March 8, 2012

(Present: Edeburn, Goebel, Healy, Kent, Welch, Helen Youngblood, Bo Howes, Helen Fischer, Stan Bukowski)

- (1) Chris Berndt said (via email) that Chapel Hill Greenways Commission would have a booth at CH Earth Day Celebration, April 14 12-5 pm Southern Community Park, CH
- (2) Welch said Cressett Academy has a signed trail system on its property (a mature hardwood forest) near corner of Garrett Rd. and Pickett Rd. It now makes a loop. We might want to check their interest in making a connection to Sandy Creek trail.
- (3) Goebel met with Leon Myers of Myers Construction, which has its headquarters near Sandy Creek Park. Myers took John's plans for the observation platform to an architect, who made one minor change and signed them officially. Dan Jewell has offered to help get plan through the City of Durham approval process, aided by the plan for Sandy Creek Park. It will cost \$1040 to submit the site plan, of which \$600 is available from our city grant, leaving us \$440 to raise among ourselves.
- (4) Healy passed out Creek Week (March 17-24) posters. Sandy Creek stream cleanup March 17 is posted on Facebook. Goebel will pick up bags, gloves, etc. from city. Healy will check about posting event to Meetup groups. He will also send the PDF of the poster to the New Hope listserv. Healy will also check with Alex Johnson re promised tree planting. Edeburn said Duke forest has 20-30 small willow oaks that we could have. Fischer and Bukowski said they would work on a geology/Native American exhibit for our March 24 Bird and Butterfly Festival.
- (5) Sandy Creek Bridge naming. Healy said that we will submit application for "Kenneth R. Coulter Sandy Creek Bridge" on April 1. He has secured a letter from the Coulter family. We need a letter from the nearest neighborhood. The attached naming resolution was passed unanimously.
- (6) Fowler had brought our attention to erosion sediment flowing into the creek below the Oosting Natural Area of Duke Forest (water from the natural area is very clear). Howes said he had seen this as well. They traced this to a Harris Teeter settling pond, probably affected by construction upstream. The sediment proved to be a temporary phenomenon. It is a situation worth monitoring in the future and reporting to Orange County Erosion Control as needed.

- (7) Kent said that TTA will hold environmental impact scoping meetings soon. [Latest check of TTA web site indicates that scoping meetings for Durham-Chapel Hill LRT are scheduled for April 9-13.]
- (8) Goebel said there was work going on at Leigh Farm. Youngblood said she thought this was development of the park's parking lot. She said there is a new development proposal for finishing the office project next to Leigh Farm. Dan Jewell would like to make a presentation to us on the proposed development.
- (9) Howes said that TLC has been talking to Orange County about sale of its small property near Hollow Rock, which contains a rented house and a barn that might be part of future exhibit space/visitor center. TLC paid about \$100K for the property and would like to recycle the funds.

Resolution to Name the Bridge in Sandy Creek Park in Honor of Kenneth R. Coulter

Whereas, Kenneth R. Coulter was for four decades a prominent landscape architect and planner in Durham;

Whereas, Kenneth Coulter had been named a "Fellow" of the American Association of Landscape Architects, a national recognition for his work;

Whereas Kenneth Coulter was the principal author of the 1992 New Hope Creek Corridor Plan and played a major role in the first decade of its implementation, including persuading the City of Durham to set aside surplus land as Sandy Creek Park;

Whereas Kenneth Coulter and his associates prepared the plan for Sandy Creek Park and this park was one of the proudest accomplishments of his later career;

Whereas Kenneth Coulter was honored in 2007 for his overall body of work by the North Carolina Association of Landscape Architects as a "North Carolina Pioneer of Landscape Architecture" (one of three persons so named) and, during an interview filmed as part of this designation, spoke at length about his work at Sandy Creek Park;

Whereas Kenneth Coulter passed away in December 2009;

Whereas this resolution has the support of Mr. Coulter’s family (see attached letter);

Whereas the bridge, which was formerly a truck bridge but recently completely reconstructed as a pedestrian bridge, does not have an official name nor signage but is referred to colloquially by park users as “Sandy Creek Bridge;”

Whereas the proposed name of the bridge retains the name of the geographic feature (it is the only bridge in the park over Sandy Creek), while adding the name of the park designer;

Therefore let it be resolved that the pedestrian bridge over Sandy Creek, within the boundaries of the Park and connecting the two major sections of the Park, be named “Kenneth R. Coulter Sandy Creek Bridge” and appropriate signage installed and maintained.