



Minutes for Greenway Committee

Regular Meeting

Police/Fire Training Room-4<sup>th</sup> Floor-Municipal Building

February 4, 2016

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**Attendees:** Mary Weber, Kim Williams, Jim Grode, Amy Van Heuval, Meredith Gregory, Stephanie Gillis  
David Nutter, John Ridout and Rich Lee.

**Absent:** Forrest Merithew, Sarah Goldman

**Visitors:** Geoff Kimmish, Bill Jones, Phyllis Stiles, Nina Veteto

1. Minutes were approved
2. Agenda was approved

New Business

Presentations:

- Bill Jones of Carolina Native Nursery: Spoke of the importance to use native plants for a healthy environment and a healthy symbiotic relationship with insects. He requests that greenways designs support the planting of native plants.
- Phyllis Stiles of Bee City USA: Spoke about the importance of having planting pollinator plants to create a healthy environment for insect including native bees and monarch butterflies. She requests that the Wilma Dykeman Trail (as well as all other greenways) have plenty of pollinators as a continuous habitat for bees.
- Nina Veteto – Monarch Rescue: She spoke of the rapidly diminishing monarch butterfly population. They might be a new addition to the endangered species list of FWLC. She requests that we plant milkweed along greenways in floral garden and meadowscapes.
- Recommendation for a plant palate and that future users/ of the greenway will be implemented in the future. Would it be possible to coordinate with the food council.

Discussion:

- Jim: Why is an invasive and establishing natives two separate elements. Greenways do not start from scratch.
- Kim suggest a working group to greenworks, to work together to start pilot projects.
- Note: Discussion about milkweed and right-of-way of utility for native corridors.
- Amy: Hominy Creek is looking at the spring for planting so it might be an opportunity. Amy: Topic could be a topic for the greenway retreat.
- Mary: Are we the right committee or should this be handled by the Tree Commission?
- David: Governmental problem to approach new ideas.
- Kim: might be useful for the parks and rec.



#### Staff Update (Lucy Crown):

- Access point on the east side of the French broad: Lucy Presenting. East-side Radtip
- Craven Street: Fish and Wildlife Comm. (Build) And Parks Dept (Maintain) plan to build a boat ramp and parking. Greenway will cross the boat ramp. IS there a surface treatment for the crossing?
- Lucy Crown: Jean Webb Park: Unofficial boat access. Improvements to current structures. Step access
- Amboy Bridge: Access point on the south side of the road. New lighted crosswalk and improvements to parking.
- Transportation List of project; French Broad River Drawings are approaching 75%. Expect to wrap up in March. Last public meeting in July 2015. Not a lot of public comment items. Final meeting in the spring. No date set.
- Any changes to Duke: We are doing a ground lease. 99 year ground lease. 40 acres for about \$1 a year. If we choose to do something we will still need to follow some guidelines. Cost of conveyance was too expensive. Ground lease was the fastest option.
- Greenway Maps. Began the conversation with the graphic designer but no major action.

Suggestion to staff: West French Broad Greenway - Haywood path to add a sign that legitimizes usage. Concern about taking use away with construction. Wish to civilize usage (set basic rules). Rich Lee motions to post signage indicating future greenway and basic rules of use. David Seconds. Passes unanimously.

#### Unfinished Business:

- Joint Orientation was successful. Schedule additional Beaucatcher trip. Tree commission will be hiking the area on Friday Feb. 12 at 2pm. Map of the Beaucatcher could be incorrect. Map shown this past Saturday was more feasible. Cost has increase.
- Recap discussions during orientation. Clarification about current projects, master planning process.
- Retreat: Discuss sidewalk, natural surface trails, goals, City Council policy, economic development, partnerships, urban trails, greenway is transportation vs parks. Perception for greenway users.