



Greenway Committee Minutes

**Regular Meeting
January 7, 2016**

Committee present: Meredith Gregory, Jim Grode, Kim Williams, Mary Weber (Chair), John Ridout, David Nutter, Stephanie Gillis

Committee Absent, Amy Vanden Heuvel, Sarah Goldman, Forrest Merithew, Rich Lee

Staff Present: Lucy Crown

Call to Order 3:30pm

- Agenda Approved with Addition (MPO Working Group Update): Kim moved, David seconded – Passed Unanimously
- Approved Minutes: Kim Moved, Jim Seconded – Passed Unanimously

New Business

- Hazel Mill Road/Craven St New Belgium Trailhead/Pocket Park –
 - Kim Williams (presenting on behalf of firm) Design Overview including a pavilion/covered structure, bike repair station and limited parking. Most parking across the street. No public access to the river. Includes interpretive signage as well as French Broad River history information. Funding is in place and the core project is set but some design changes are possible. David asked about further expansion north on the western bank of the FB River but no plans/activities the near future. Kim added that the park will be using the same design elements as existing greenways.
- Mary – Updates -MPO Complete Street and Greenway Working Group Meeting about regional greenways educational forum in 2017. Brainstormed about western greenways. FoCB might be doing a similar effort.
- Staff updates – Full-time Greenway Coordinator Lucy Crown.
 - Capital projects – Handout of status of major project.
 - Working with Duke about land transfer.
 - Cap project Town Branch and Clingman design. Site Design Studio to complete project design on loose ends.
 - Revisions to the TIP (Division 13)
 - Interesting Items: Bike Lanes including Broadway and Clingman Bridge
 - Mary: Asked about Merrimon and Weaver intersection improvement. Lucy stated it was for pedestrian safety. Bike Lane needs on Broadway. Lucy stated it was for pedestrian safety.
 - Questions: Bring larger print-off of drawing and designs at meetings and retreat.
- Unfinished Business W. French Broad Greenway

- Lucy: Under the bridge is the sticking point for the project.
 - Joint orientation: GC and FoCB: Save the date. (Jan. 30th) Have a history and orientation. Meet at Harvest House, walk Beaucatcher greenway that has public access.
 - Perception of Greenways: Mary: Comments online, few naysayers. Small amount of safety concerns and cost. Greenways may not be as useful for bike commuters. Overall comments were positive. Expand on the idea/presentation that the Committee can go out to the community and neighborhood groups. Focus on the positive.
- Retreat in March, normal standing date, starting at 1pm. Brainstorm ideas for the retreat. Review the goals from the previous retreat.
 - David sidewalk-connector between greenways. Something that gives the greenways a visible marker between trailheads. Unknown examples. Few Urban Connectors. Kim may have examples.
 - Kim- Natural Surface initiatives. Review City Council review of policy recommendations.
 - David-East Asheville Greenway. Creative Greenway development. Connecting Destinations.
 - Mary - Include Facilitator
 - David - Discuss Roles (included possibly in the orientation)
 - John – ID/Prioritize which greenways that connect to greenways outside the city within the larger network.
 - Kim: Ways that we want to be involved in the comprehensive planning process.

Updates:

- MMTC (Jim) No new updates (no meeting since last GW meeting).
 - Annual Report is upcoming.
 - AIM meeting - Created some good points but the Matrix suggested general treatments but lacked application back to Asheville. Waiting for the final report? What were the expectations? Wanted a vision and pathway to get to a combined multimodal planning goal. Not clear at this point. No additional activity before the final report. Public announcement seemed late but attendance was “ok”. Not sure what else can be done. David asked if he could get a copy of the report, but was unable.
- FoCB –(Kim) Next Brewing for Greenways at Urban Orchard. Date unavailable.
 - Brewing for Greenways goes to E. Asheville Greenway project. Lucy updated the raised total of about \$15,000 so far. Meeting Jan (??) for a strategic plan and how to coordinate with other groups.
- Asheville Parks and Recreation Foundation - Have not met. Invite to join retreat.
- Other
 - Kim asked if land/trailhead across from Hominy Creek has been obtained, Lucy confirmed that the city acquired the land.
 - Suggestion: have the master plan available to the public

Public Comment:

- Comment about Beaucatcher and the construction bid date and whether if the plans are complete. Greenway committee does not have any updates on the project. Designs are unknown to the committee.

Future Agenda Items

- Presentation on plantings, pollinators, edibles along greenways.
- Access points on the east side French Broad
- Solve acoustics issues for the room

Meeting Adjourned 4:45pm