



Town of
INDIAN TRAIL
north carolina
PARKS, TREE AND GREENWAY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

April 4, 2012- No Quorum
6:00 PM

Members Present

Roger Fish
Brian Olin
Justin King
David Grant

Staff Present

Joe Fivas
Shelley DeHart
Rox Burhans
Hillary Pace
Susan Didier

Call to Order: Chairman Fish called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Alex Rohleder, Nydia Morales, Ed Dubisz and Kim Nicholson were absent. Committee did not have quorum.

Discussion items:

Metrolina Christian Academy Planting Plan Modification

Reverend Rick Calloway spoke on behalf of Metrolina Academy regarding a modification to the Metrolina Athletic Fields Alternative Planting Plan. Rev. Calloway spoke to three main changes to the planting plan:

1. Shifting of planting locations within the field area.
 - a. Rev. Calloway ensured that the species and size of all trees approved on the original alternative planting plan would remain. The planting locations would change due to the placement of some athletic field equipment.
2. Planting of 12-15 red maples along length of the buffer inside of the fence line. The red maple trees are approximately 2 inch caliper trees and will replace the seedlings previously called for within the Phase 1 buffer area outside the fence line.

- a. Rev. Calloway explained that the red maples he would like to plant are a result of a donation to the athletic fields. He also explained that the buffer area is growing well with natural growth at this time.
3. Plant red maples around the perimeter of the parking lot. The approved alternative plan calls for hardwood trees.
 - a. Rev. Calloway also explained that the red maples will also take the place of any pine trees that were identified to be relocated as they did not survive the past summer's heat.

The Committee inquired about the brush pile located within the buffer area. Rev. Calloway responded that the brush pile will be burned within the next couple of months. David Grant added that he had conducted a site visit with Rev. Calloway and said the buffer area contains chest-high "volunteer trees" that will eventually reach maturity. He also stated that he was OK with the plans to relocate trees within the athletic fields to accommodate equipment.

Justin King asked if there would be any differences if maples were planted versus hardwoods in the parking area. David Grant responded that the red maples should do just fine on the perimeter of the parking area and explained the Red Maple is a hardwood and that it has a high tolerance to heat. Given proper soil space it will flourish.

The Committee came to a general consensus that the changes to the previously approved alternative planting plan are acceptable. Chairman Fish explained that without quorum the committee would not be making any decisions. He advised the committee that this meeting would be for discussion of items only. Committee will review all information and make recommendations at their next meeting.

Mayor's Tree Initiative

Town Manager, Joe Fivas, spoke to the committee about the Mayor's Tree Education Initiative and its importance in expanding the Town's presence within the schools. He expressed the benefits the committee's expanded "tree resume" could bring to the program and asked the committee members to consider volunteering for one or more sessions.

Planning Director Shelley DeHart gave an outline of the program to the committee. She discussed that there would be two components, both outdoor and indoor, and that the initiative would be presented in the form of a challenge.

Hillary Pace mentioned there are 510 4th grade students that are participating in the program from four area elementary schools: Antioch, Porter Ridge, Indian Trail, and Shiloh Elementary. Each school will receive 2 Maple Trees from the Town, which will be planted during the outdoor session of the program. Each student will be given a seedling to plant and if documented with a photo the student will receive a certificate. Each school will post the pictures of the children with their tree planted on the school's Challenge Tree. The Mayor has issued a challenge between the elementary schools for most seedlings planted.

Earth Day Arbor Day

Committee was briefed by Hillary Pace, as to their on their role at the Earth Day Arbor Day event. The Committee will assist children with a mural being created for the Town. She presented to the committee the mural created last year.

She also informed the Committee that they will assist David Grant with his tree education classes/crafts at his booth. Members discussed their plans for attendance to the festival.

Community Planting Day

Hillary asked the committee for assistance planting several trees and hedges at Crossing Paths Park. Ms. Pace told the committee that aside from aesthetics, the plantings will help to create a natural buffer area that is needed within the park. She mentioned last year's planting and asked that members consider volunteer for this year's event.

Committee members were given a sign up sheet for all upcoming events.

Nominations for Crossing Paths Park

Following Town Manager's discussion about a Crossing Paths Park subcommittee from last meeting, Chairman Fish gave an overview of what the committee would look to achieve. He introduced two members of the Arts and Historical Society that were present in the audience. Mr. Fish suggested it would be beneficial to establish committee prior to Town's budget adoption.

The subcommittee would include 2 members of the PTG committee and 2 members of the Historical Society. A discussion of the potential nominees from the PTG committee ensued with Members Justin King and Roger Fish volunteering for the subcommittee.

Don Moore spoke to the committee on behalf of the IT Arts and Historical Society. He said they already had their list of nominees.

Due to lack of quorum no nominations could be made. The formal nominations will be made at the May meeting of the committee, with the meeting of the subcommittee following shortly.

Committee Reappointments

Hillary Pace informed the Committee that the reappointments will be discussed and determined at the next Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

Topics for next meeting

Hillary Pace stated that the meeting will recap all the hard work from the month's list of events in addition to the Committee's formal recommendation on the Metrolina Alternative Planting Plan revision and the nominations for the Crossing Paths Park subcommittee.