

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
2200 Camp Branch Road
Waynesville, NC 28786
March 29, 2023

Subject: Greenway, a.k.a. Needleway, Advisory Council Meeting - Greenway path now on GIS.

There was a meeting yesterday of the Haywood Greenway, a.k.a. Needleway, Advisory Council meeting yesterday, held at the Lake Junaluska Welcome Center, Ian Smith presiding. There were about thirty people that showed up. It looked like a typical evening meeting at the Buttered Biscuit.

Among other things, Kaitland Finkle, Maggie Valley Development Director, volunteered that the Greenway, a.k.a. Needleway, is now on the Haywood County GIS Maps system.

Instructions to see the current Needleway.

- Go to Haywood County GIS, <https://www.haywoodcountync.gov/>
- Select GIS Maps
- Check that you have read the fine print
- Select Go To Maps Online
- Select the upper left corner tab that says “Layers”
- Check box for Greenway

Voilà!

This was an animated meeting, with all manner of concerned citizens quizzing council members about the problems of -

- Needles
- Maintenance of the Greenway
- Homeless camps on Greenway
- People walking through farmland and destroying property
- Security and Safety
- Using Private Property and/or Right-of-Way for toilets.

A photo of a Greenway in Washington State showing a homeless camp on their greenway was presented by Joe Lipari, as an example of what might happen here.



Elizabeth Teague (Waynesville Development Director) displayed near hyperekplexia filled with righteous indignation, saying there are no homeless camps on any Greenway in Haywood County! The concern of people present, however, is that there were no safeguards being built into this project that would prevent the stream of homeless people from Asheville from migrating to Haywood County through the Greenway (and/or Rails to Trails), setting up homeless camps all along the way.

The following were the agenda and prior minutes handed out at this meeting.

Don't forget to review, on www.haywoodtp.net

[Original Greenways Agreement between NCDOT, The Town of Waynesville, and Haywood County, 4/23/2002. Town of Waynesville responsible, but failing, to keep Greenways path maintained. 4/23/2002. 3/24/2023...](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/230324WaynesvilleHaywoodNCDOT-GreenwayAgreement.pdf>

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.
Haywood County Taxpayer

MAR 28 2023

Haywood Greenway Advisory Council Meeting
March 28, 2023
2:00 – 3:30 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Review January 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes
3. Council Seats and Terms
4. Master Plan Updates
5. Greenway Volunteer Planning
6. Member Updates

2023 Meeting Schedule
4th Tuesday, Bi-Monthly, 2:00 – 3:30 pm
Lake Junaluska Welcome Center
January 24
March 28
May 23
July 25
September 26
November 28

1. Call to Order – Ian Smith called the meeting to order at 2 pm. In attendance were Kathy Odvody, Hannah Bagli, Rob Roland, Megan Hauser, Jan Grossman, David Nicholson, Kay Kirkman, Ryan Manning, Kaitland Finkle, Preston Jacobsen, Elizabeth Teague, Ben Williams and Matt Settlemyer.
2. Review of November 22, 2023 Minutes – The minutes were presented for review. There was one correction needed, the removal of 7(e). With that correction, Jan motioned for approval of the minute; it was seconded by David and approved by all members present.
3. Master Plan Updates -
Ian explained the final draft of the Greenway Master Plan will be presented for adoption at the February 6 County Commissioners meeting. There will be a presentation and all Greenway members are welcome to attend.
4. Waynesville Greenway Update –
Ian stated there is a 20 year agreement between the Town of Waynesville and the County to maintain the part of the greenway from Howell Mill Rd , through the industrial park to Dellwood Rd. There were 8 or 9 trees removed which presented a safety hazard, a culvert is being replaced and part-time Recreation employee Doug Garner has been clearing back the overgrowth.
5. Greenway Volunteering Planning –
Ian stated an organized cleanup program utilizing Greenway volunteers can be scheduled 3 times annually with the assistance from Haywood County Recreation to coordinate the area to be worked on and the work required. Rob, Kay, Elizabeth, Kathy, and Preston volunteered to help get the program started and Preston stated any area adjacent to waterways Haywood Waterways Association would manage. Kathy, who is part of the Environmental Action Community of WNC, offered their assistance in planning and partnering with the Greenway Council on upcoming cleanups. There was discussion of possibly beginning the cleanup program on March 11, the Lake Junaluska cleanup day.
6. Member Updates –
Ian Smith – The youth basketball program is underway; a bike repair day is being planned for this spring; hikes are being planned for NC Year of the Trail.
Jodie Ferguson – the County is in the final stages of flood recovery and grant funds.
Elizabeth Teague – Work has been completed on Russ Ave & W Marshall by the “BI-LO Apartments”. The Town is working with Tourism and Development and the apartment’s developer on connection point with the greenway; the dedication for the greenway bridge will be in March; the Town is working on design a loop trail on the other side of the bridge this summer.
David Nicholson – The culvert repairs at the lake are scheduled to begin February 22 and be completed by April 5; the DOT will be creating a 4-way stop by the crosswalk across from the school; there will also be one installed in Clyde on US 23.

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Haywood Greenway Advisory Council Meeting

January 24, 2023

Ben Williams – Canton is working on the recovery of Camp Hope from flood damage; the Polar Plunge is scheduled at the Canton Rec Park on February 11.

Hannah Bagli– The urbanized areas in the master plan have been revised and the Asheville area has been separated from Canton and Waynesville; there will be a Greenway Regional Forum in August or September.

Jan Grossman – An Earth Day presentation is being planned and more information will be shared as it becomes finalized.

Kathy Odvody – The EAC, an outdoor mission and climate action commission will be having a stream clean-up and are partnering with Wal-Mart to focus on the nearby Hazelwood area.

Megan Houser – FYI to riders, First Baptist Church on Main St has a bike repair station in their parking lot.

Preston Jacobsen – There will be a Hominy Creek clean-up at Chestnut Mountain Bike Park; reminder to participate in the Polar Plunge fundraiser on February 11.

With no other updates, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.