

**Henderson County
RAIL-TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

The RTAC held a regularly called meeting on December 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the King Street Meeting Room and via Microsoft Teams. Voting members present online are denoted with the letter “O”.

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Chris Burns, Chair	X	
Selena Einwechter, Vice Chair	X	
Douglas Moon, at-large	X	
Patrick Kennedy, at-large		X
Bart Salvaggio, at-large	X	
Ken Shelton, at-large	X	
Brent Detwiler, City of Hendersonville	X	
Nancy McKinley, Town of Laurel Park		X
Mike Egan, Conserving Carolina	X	

Also present: Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; Austin Parks, Planner II.

Call to Order

Chairman Chris Burns called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment

None.

Adjustment of Agenda

None.

Meeting Summary Approval

No changes were noted.

Updates

Friends of Ecusta Trail (FOET)

Ms. Lynn Huffman, with FOET, stated that Mark Tooley was joining remotely, but she would provide an update from FOET. She stated that FOET held its branding review and have been working with Mast General Store in Hendersonville to have the T-shirts available for sale in the store.

City of Brevard

No one from the City of Brevard was available for updates.

Helene Update and Project Status

Mr. Chris Burns stated that he had spoken with Mr. Marcus Jones, County Engineer, and the damages from Helene were lower than expected. It has been slow getting the work started. The County is also looking at the next phase and assessing the damage into the design.

Trail Etiquette/Rules:

Ms. Autumn Radcliff stated that RTAC discussed the trail etiquette/rules that were distributed at the November meeting. The RTAC discussed each rule and compared to the language on FOET website. The RTAC made several changes and simplified the trail etiquette/rule list. Representatives of the FOET that were present agreed with the changes. The RTAC stated the importance of having one list of rules. Ms. Radcliff stated that she would make the changes to the list and send to Ms. Huffman at FOET to review. She also stated that she provides updates to the Recreation Advisory Board and will present the final copy to them for review. The RTAC will make a formal recommendation and approval of the Ecusta trail etiquette/rules at its next meeting.

Ecusta Trail Overlay and Parking

Ms. Radcliff introduced Austin Parks, Planner II with the County and the Property Addressing Coordinator. Mr. Parks had worked on maps that the RTAC had requested looking at the parking options along the trail. The maps were based on discussion from the Trail Partners meetings and information that the Watermark on possible parking locations. It was noted that the parking options had not been secured, but it give the committee an understanding of how much parking may be needed to access if commercial parking should be allowed along the trail corridor or in designated areas. The RTAC had a thorough discussion and noted some items that were not represented on the maps that should be added. The RTAC asked staff to come back at a later meeting with some recommendations for parking and an overlay district.

RAISE Grant Letter of Support

Mr. Brent Detwiller with the City of Hendersonville provided an updated to the RTAC on the City's Above the Mud project. This project would provide a connection from the Ecusta Trail to the Oklawaha Greenway/Jackson Park and 7th Avenue. The city is applying for a RAISE grant application and is requesting letter of supports from various groups. Ms. Selena Einwechter made a motion that the Chair send a letter of support to the city for the Above the Mud RAISE grant application. Mr. Ken Shelton seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Other Business

The RTAC briefly discussed the status of the MOU with the municipalities and the need for an event policy for the trail. It was recommended that staff look at the Swamp Rabbit event policy. The Chair requested that this be added to a future meeting for discussion.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

This meeting was recorded, and the MP4 file can be made available upon request. Please contact County staff.