



PARKS AND RECREATION  
Town of Chapel Hill  
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## TENNIS COURT STAKEHOLDER MEETING SUMMARY

**Date:** August 25, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

### **Attendees:**

#### **Parks and Recreation Department**

Phil Fleischmann, Parks and Recreation Director, Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent  
Marcia Purvis, Parks and Recreation Senior Planner, Nikiya Cherry, Recreation Manager, Mike Troutman,  
Interim Athletics Supervisor and MaryLee Tyndall, Administrative Assistant

#### **Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission**

Renuka Soll, Commission Chair

#### **Tennis Community Representatives**

Jerry Edwards, Diane Willis, Sue Balog, Tiger Zong, Elizabeth Heetderks, East Chapel Hill High JV Tennis coach and Kim Roberts, Executive Director of Eno Community Tennis Association

**Meeting Purposes:** To identify strategies for court maintenance, enhance communication, and provide updates to the tennis community

**Update - Cedar Falls and Ephesus Parks Courts (Temporary Repairs and Improvements) – Kevin Robinson, Park Maintenance Superintendent and Mike Troutman, Interim Athletics Supervisor**

#### **Ephesus Park Tennis Courts Repairs**

- The large crack on the Ephesus Park courts has been repaired. It is a temporary fix.
- The net is back up and the court is open
- Other crack repairs will be done after staff meets with Tennis Community Representatives in September 2021
- New nets ordered and will be adjusted by September 2021
- New benches ordered. Mix up with the supplier (delivered wrong benches). New benches to be installed by September 2021
- Back gate is unlocked for ball retrieval by September 2021 and will be left unlocked
- Staff are looking at a sound reduction screen through Acoustiblok. Acoustiblok has been contacted regarding a product called Acoustifence. Staff will ask company to send a representative who can do a site visit to advise on what would be best at this location
- Concerns regarding lighting were raised. Staff will schedule and meet with tennis representatives at Ephesus Park to review issues with lights in September 2021

- Feedback was provided on the desired location of a new backboard. Staff anticipates constructing backboard in Fall 2021
- A meeting for Parks and Tennis Community team members is scheduled for Wednesday, September 8 at 5:30 pm at Ephesus Park.

#### Ephesus Park Courts - Geotechnical Engineering Assessment and Report

- Geotechnical Engineering Contract Awarded in July 2021
- 8-10 soil borings were taken in August
- Preliminary findings indicate moisture underneath
- Geotechnical Engineers Assessment and Report outlining repairs needed and cost estimate for repairs by September/October 2021
- Updates will be provided to Tennis & Pickleball Court Stakeholders regarding options and cost of repairs after assessment/report is complete

#### Cedar Falls Park Tennis Courts Repairs

- Tennis representative reports lights are not working correctly (facing the wrong way and coming on during the day)
- Staff believes the timer needs to be replaced and will make plans to replace timer.
- One surface tear on Court 5 is temporarily repaired at Cedar Falls Park. Is the repair acceptable to Tennis Community and do we continue to repair/fix or leave other cracks?
  - Tennis Community wants all cracks to be temporarily repaired
  - Tennis Community are confused about why Court 6 is closed since damage is outside the play area. When court lights were repaired the equipment used to make the repairs damaged the corner of Court 6. Staff believed those damaged areas make playing on Court 6 unsafe to use without a complete repair
  - Tennis representative offered to review the Court 6 damage and provide P&R staff with her feedback
  - Parks and Recreation is trying to find a repair company and has contacted Court One, Raleigh Paving, North State Resurfacing, Americourt, Sportcourt Carolina, Carolina Courtworks, and Deluxe Athletics, but these companies have been unavailable to assist
- Tennis Community asked about funding specifically grants from United States Tennis Association (USTA) and mentioned that work at Cedar Falls may be eligible for a grant. Parks and Recreation does not currently have any applications with USTA. Staff will investigate possible funding opportunities including those for tennis court repairs

#### **Update - Cedar Falls Park Tennis Courts Project (Planning, Design, Public Engagement and Construction of new courts) - Marcia Purvis, Parks and Recreation Senior Planner**

- Staff are finishing the planning and design contract with Withers-Ravenel and are getting the contract approved. Their scope of work includes public engagement.
- A public meeting will be held this fall and an online survey will be conducted to receive feedback on design options (3 options are being proposed)
  - Six full-size tennis courts with junior lines painted on the courts
  - Five full-size tennis courts and 4-36' junior courts in place of a sixth court, same design as was presented at public meeting in January 2020
  - Third option to be determined before public meeting, but would likely be a phased plan showing an expansion option
- Attendees expressed that Tennis community are concerned and does not support losing any full-size courts for junior courts

- Tennis community offered to help find a contractor
- Construction to begin next year, after completion of public engagement and any additional design work and permitting this fall

\*All community engagement communications will be through signs with QR Code, TOCH website, [www.ChapelHillTennis.org](http://www.ChapelHillTennis.org), e-news, media release and email list. Please share any ideas for additional ways to effectively communicate this information.

**Update - Hargraves Park Tennis Courts Project (Renovation of existing courts, installation of new LED lights) - Marcia**

- Staff are finishing getting the design contract approved. It is the same landscape architecture firm as Cedar Falls Park Tennis Courts Project (Withers-Ravenel) September 2021
- Planning and Preliminary Design Phase Fall/ Winter 2021 & 2022
- Final Design, Permitting & Constructions Documents Phase in 2022
- Construction Phase (staggered to not coincide with Cedar Falls Tennis Courts construction) - 2022
- By bundling Cedar Falls and Hargraves Park Tennis Court construction projects together (thus large dollar amount) may attract contractors in other parts of North Carolina and out of state

**Updates on Other Actions:**

- A review of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools (CHCCS) Tennis court inventory was provided. Parks and Recreation Department is exploring a joint-use agreement with the schools as arrangements involving tennis have expired.
- Tennis Stakeholders have created a new website, [www.ChapelHillTennis.org](http://www.ChapelHillTennis.org), to share information and updates directly with those interested in tennis happenings. Attendees were invited to share feedback on the new website and to provide content for it. Contact Jerry Edwards for more information.
- Parks and Recreation will request a re-occurring budget line item for court maintenance to allow courts to be resurfaced every 3-5 years (industry standard)
- Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission will continue to support and advocate for tennis needs
- Parks and Recreation Department and Tennis Community Representatives will host monthly meetings this fall to continue moving forward with the actions and projects noted and to keep open communication between Tennis Community and Parks and Recreation:

**Upcoming meeting dates:**

Monday September 27 1:00 pm  
 Monday, October 25 at 1:00 pm  
 Monday November 22 at 1:00 pm