

## **Timson, Beth**

---

**From:** Timson, Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 8:10 AM  
**To:** Voorhees, Ted  
**Subject:** FW: Next meeting date for Old North Durham Park planning

Bounced back with "Ted" as the address.

---

**From:** Timson, Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 8:08 AM  
**To:** 'John Heffernan'; Bonfield, Thomas; Parker, Rhonda; dsellers@durhamcountync.gov; CHUCK DAVIS; Dr. B. A. Burch Sr.; Woodard, Mike; Eugene Brown; katherine gill; Peter Katz; Kathryn Meyers; Bell, William; Readlaw@aol.com; Mary Anne McDonald; Stephen Hopkins; Julio Cesar Olmos; procha@elcentronc.org; Cole-McFadden, Cora; Catotti, Diane; Ali, Farad; ted.vorhees@durhamnc.gov; Clement, Howard; Wendy Albano; Kipp, Ian; Wilbur, Sandra  
**Subject:** RE: Next meeting date for Old North Durham Park planning

Thanks, all, for the continued interest in the improvement of this park. Rhonda is out of town this week, so I am responding to the emails below. She and I met with representatives from the Durham Coalition for Urban Justice (DCUJ) and discussed how we might co-sponsor some discussion of the park's proposed development, one that had the potential to give a different viewpoint on the site. We forwarded information on that meeting and discussion to the City Manager, and he felt that another public meeting—co-sponsored by DPR and DCUJ—could serve to bring to light any issues that had not been covered in all the other public meetings on the park. We are currently working with DCUJ to find the best date, time, and location for that meeting.

Meanwhile, Public Works/Storm Water Services has received funding to make the much-needed stormwater drainage upgrades in the park. They anticipate doing that work in spring, 2012, and it will make possible future park improvements when development funding becomes available.

Beth Timson

---

**From:** John Heffernan [mailto:john@cpsfc.org]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 10:16 AM  
**To:** Bonfield, Thomas; Timson, Beth; Parker, Rhonda; dsellers@durhamcountync.gov; CHUCK DAVIS; Dr. B. A. Burch Sr.; Woodard, Mike; Eugene Brown; katherine gill; Peter Katz; Kathryn Meyers; Bell, William; Readlaw@aol.com; Mary Anne McDonald; Stephen Hopkins; Julio Cesar Olmos; procha@elcentronc.org; Cole-McFadden, Cora; Catotti, Diane; Ali, Farad; ted.vorhees@durhamnc.gov; Clement, Howard; Wendy Albano; Kipp, Ian; Wilbur, Sandra  
**Subject:** Re: Next meeting date for Old North Durham Park planning

Great idea. I definitely will take some photos and video of how Old North Durham Park is currently used as a multi-use, multi-cultural park. I was thinking the same thing.

Several nights this spring and summer have really captured the vibrancy and the inclusive feeling of a multi-use downtown park that includes sports, passive recreation, animals, young kids on play equipment, and moms running while their kids play soccer. It really is something that the city doesn't have downtown. With the partnership of the African American Dance Ensemble, SEEDS, El Centro, DDI, local kid soccer leagues like the Y, County Extension programming, TROSA, etc...you're talking about the support of people and community groups who have stood up and delivered on improving Durham for decades.

I was talking with Kevin McDonald the other day and he reminisced about the prostitution, drug and gang

activity that existed in the park when he purchased his North Street property eighteen or so years ago, and how far it's come. That being said one of my first graders handled me a crack pipe she found in park the other day, and my after school counselors keep our kids in the afternoon away from folks drinking in the park on a regular basis. When we first talked about eighteen months ago, you described how tricky a location OLND is as a pocket park, but with the stability TROSA and Central Park School has offered over the last two decades (us for just one) and with the wave of redevelopment and various stabilizing efforts (new police substation, investment in DAP, Farmers' Market, Central Park,... in the neighborhood, the possibilities expressed within the plan that was submitted in October to council would place the City in a position to be a catalyst for recreational programming for all of the neighborhoods' community members. Not to mention if done right with the partners I listed, ONDP has the potential from a storm water/science, Multi-cultural/multi-use urban planning, and recreational programming perspective to a Durham City Parks and Recreation model nationwide for urban park re-development!

Eighteen months ago, you asked all the NAs and civic groups to become constructively engaged in the Old North Durham Park redevelopment and we have delivered on your request alongside the support and guidance of your Parks and Rec Dept., Stormwater Department and your assistant city manager. We are all ready to help the process move forward just let us know again how we can be helpful.

Yours,  
John

On Saturday, July 30, 2011, Bonfield, Thomas <Tom.Bonfield@durhamnc.gov> wrote:

> Thanks John. It occurs to me that it might be useful to take photos or videos of the multi use activity for use down the road.

>

> Tom

>

> From: John Heffernan [mailto:john@cpsfc.org]

> Sent: Saturday, July 30, 2011 04:42 PM

> To: Timson, Beth; Parker, Rhonda; Bonfield, Thomas; ted.voorhees@durhamnc.gov

<ted.voorhees@durhamnc.gov>; katherine gill <katherinegill@earthlink.net>; Julio Cesar Olmos

<jolmos@elcentronc.org>; Mary Anne McDonald <maryanne.mcdonald@mindspring.com>; Peter Katz

<peter.katz@duke.edu>; Stephen Hopkins <stephenhopkins48@yahoo.com>; dsellars@durhamcountync.gov

<dsellars@durhamcountync.gov>; CHUCK DAVIS <ngcdnw@msn.com>; Bell, William; Catotti, Diane; Cole-

McFadden, Cora; Eugene Brown <teton@earthlink.net>; Dr. B. A. Burch Sr. <drbaburchsr@gmail.com>; Ali,

Farad; Clement, Howard; Woodard, Mike; Ian Kipp <iankipp@yahoo.com>; Readlaw@aol.com

<Readlaw@aol.com>

> Subject: Next meeting date for Old North Durham Park planning

>

> Hi Beth,

>

> I hope all is well in parks and planning. I was checking in to see if you had decided on a date for the next Old North Durham Park meeting? If you have any ideas as for the agenda, I would love to make the four neighborhood associations (Old Five Points, Duke Park, Old North Durham and Trinity Park) and the ten or more civic groups (El Centro, DDI, SEEDS, African American Dance Ensemble, Central Park District, Durham County Extension including Welcome Baby and 4 H, etc...) that supported the park redevelopment plan you brought before council in October aware of the meeting and see if their presence would be helpful.

>

> On a positive note, it continues to amaze me that people from Durham use ONDP every night as a multi-use community park. Kids are playing soccer on a field that is smaller than in the plans we all brought to council and about five other recreational activities from dog walking, baseball, moms running, kids playing and

neighbors hanging out at picnic tables fill the park from corner to corner. The 85 or so ideas everyone came up with in the last three meetings (minus huge soccer field idea that really makes park planning a mute point as a huge field leaves no room for anything else) and the way it is used now seem pretty darn close to what was brought before council. I have to say given the overwhelming community support (minus El Kilombo, it' soccer loving ringers, and Duke and Carolina undergrads and grad students which is about 80 percent of their make up), all the ideas that came from the first three meetings seem to parallel the initial plans brought to council in October, and given the way the park is used currently the issue of how the park should be redevelopment seems to be falling in place.

>

> I spoke with Tom Bonfield the other day and he said that RAC and DPR would be making recommendations on the issues. I am happy to hear that, as you all have the larger community planning needs and vision in mind. If it does get placed on the agenda for RAC in September which would make sense, I am sure the neighborhood presidents from the four NAs, and the Chairs of all the civic groups would love to make their pitch (sorry for the soccer pun) for a multiple use, multi-cultural community park that fulfills the community's needs as community unifier. In many ways, the community's vision for the redesign of ONDP would create an outdoor Community Center, something Anita Keith Faust has wanted in the neighborhood for years.

>

> Don't hesitate to give me or any of the other folks that have shown their support of the plan you submitted to council in October a call or email to check in prior to the next ONDP meeting. As Ted Voorhees expressed to me last November...be patient, this process of community meetings is just the final steps to dot our i's and cross our t's...and if El Kilombo attempts to be obstructionist or not part of the process that that will display their ability or non-ability to be a partner in the redesign process. If Ted's words are true, this is one of the final i's and t's and boy oh boy has El Kilombo showed its ironically anti-community colors. I think we all knew El Kilombo would hold up meetings (meeting #1), not show up and have their own press conference (see meeting #3) and now make demands to be the sole power broker rather than a member of the community (meeting #4) but thanks for being a calm force at the center.

>

> Yours,

> John

>

>

>

>

> On Friday, April 1, 2011, Timson, Beth <[Beth.Timson@durhamnc.gov](mailto:Beth.Timson@durhamnc.gov)> wrote:

>> Have you been able to hand-deliver one more flier to the El Kilombo

>> office? Are the signs, even if a bit wet!, still posted at both park

>> entrances?

>> You know that we will be questioned about this "letter of the law"

>> adherence.

>> Thanks!

>> Beth

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Parker, Rhonda

>> Sent: Friday, April 01, 2011 9:29 AM

>> To: Timson, Beth; Guy, Joy

>> Cc: Kozar, Lynda

>> Subject: OND

>>

>> Send Lynda everything done for this last meeting: posting in park,

>> delivery to El Kilombo, etc. Thanks everyone. Also Lynda sent

>> certified mail to El Kilombo on Tuesday. Rhonda

>>

>

> --

> \*\*\*\*\*

>

> John Heffernan

> Director

> Central Park School for Children

> 724 Foster Street

> Durham, NC 27701

> 919-682-1200 <tel:919-682-1200>

> [www.cpscnc.org](http://www.cpscnc.org)

>

>

--

\*\*\*\*\*

John Heffernan

Director

Central Park School for Children

724 Foster Street

Durham, NC 27701

919-682-1200

[www.cpscnc.org](http://www.cpscnc.org)