



New Bern Housing Authority and the City of New Bern

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANT
Trent Court/Craven Terrace/Greater Five Points Neighborhood

Recreation & Green Spaces Working Group
Tuesday, April 21 at 1:30 pm at Stanley White Recreation Center

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Thurman Hardison (lead), Kevin Robinson (facilitator), Kathy Adolph, Mike Avery, Nancy Gray, Paul Mills, Jennifer Knight, Mickey Miller, Pam Minor, Eric Cunningham, Elijah Brown*, Jesse Mars*, Grace Hudson*, Debbie Hodges

Handouts: Minutes, Sign-in sheet

1. Introductions: Welcomed new members from grant area community* and Debbie Hodges from Craven County School District.

2. Review of meeting minutes: No corrections noted.

3. Review: Review of SWOT from last meeting to bring new members up to date.

4. Values and Priorities: Thurman Hardison opened by discussing the importance of identifying the community's values to ensure that goals and strategies are in line with residents' priorities and values. Mickey Miller provided input from the surveys and anecdotal input gathered from resident meetings, and the working group brain-stormed additional ideas:

- Connectivity – both physical and social
- Communication (interpersonal)
- Community pride
- Family wellness and support
- Heritage and pride in history
- Common community green spaces
- Preservation – preserving community resources and historical resources

5. Headlines exercise: Kevin Robinson compiled the headlines that everyone emailed in. See below. Discussion followed about common themes and how headlines represent visions for future of community.

6. Vision Statement Development: From the values and the headlines, group was asked to develop their vision statements for the community. Three teams were formed; each developed their vision statement:

- “The transformation of our study area into a connected network of green spaces that honors and embraces heritage, community pride, connectivity, and diversity for family wellness and support.”

- “A family-oriented community, rooted in its heritage, with better connectivity, access to facilities and services, healthy foods, and safe recreational spaces and facilities for families.”
- “To maximize available greenspace to promote wellness and community connectedness.”

HEADLINE EXERCISE:

New Bern Sun Journal

Tuesday April 7 2016

- Youth from local schools learns basic Horticulture from donated Green Space Garden.
- Craven’s Par 3 brings Retiree’s and local community youth in the swing of things.
- Choice Neighborhood Implimentation Grant to Build Greenway Trails
- CNI Plan transforms acres of Duffyfield Flood Plain into an urban forest with connected walks, benches, landscape and ...a 9 hole golf course!
- Outside in New Bern...Undeveloped Land Becomes Community Building Magnet.

New Bern Sun Journal

Tuesday April 7 2026

- Local youth grows a thriving Green Space Garden; sells produce at New Bern’s Farmer Market.
- Craven’s Par 3 contest winner scores trip to the PGA Masters
- Network of Greenway and Bike Trails Expanded
- Children from all over New Bern sign up for summer golf courses!
- New Bern Boasts Healthy Living, Fellowship and A Safe Haven for Children on Land Once Thought Unusable.

New Bern Sun Journal

Tuesday April 7 2036

- Learn It, Eat It and Live It! Craven County Board of Education induct Horticulture course in Traditional school curriculum.
- Product of Craven’s Par 3 takes PGA Masters
- Electric Shuttles Serve the Entire Greenway Network
- Tawana Bryant, New Bern, NC Native, wins Masters!!!
- Duffest Celebrates Its ____ Year With a Season of Family Friendly Activities in "The Swamp"

8. Next Steps:

- **Refine the vision statement** – Kevin & Mickey will merge the vision statements and propose a final version for the group.
- **Goals/Objectives.** From the vision statements we determined that our four broad goal areas will involve connectivity, community, heritage, and wellness. These will form the basis for our matrix.
- **Build the matrix** -- identify objectives for each of the overarching goal areas. From them develop specific strategies or methods for accomplishing the objectives.
- **How to measure success?** What metrics are needed to measure whether our strategies are effective?
- **Will it work?** Identify partners, resources, and obstacles for implementation, areas of overlap with other groups, and modifications needed.

9. Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 5, 10 am
Stanley White Recreation Center

10. Upcoming Events:

- Recreation & Green spaces meet w/ EJP May 7, 10 am
- "Save the Date": Choice Community Day June 4