



2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A
P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 576-2083

Minutes March 19, 2018

Attendance:

Members present: Carol Kososki, John Grego, Sam Holland, Lee Rambo, Margaret DuBard, and Jim Thomas via telephone

Absent: Jennifer Carter, Charles Weber, Virginia Sanders, Glenice Pearson

Vacant: District 7

Others present:

Quinton Epps, Conservation Division

Nancy Stone-Collum, Conservation Division

Charlie Fisher, Conservation Division

Ken Driggers, Legal Counsel

Tracy Hegler, Community Planning & Development (CP&D) Department

Meghan Sullivan, Community Planning & Development Department

Chair Carol Kososki welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm with a quorum.

Report of the Chair

Carol said the vigorous meeting last month generated the need to better understand parliamentary procedure, in particular, calling for the question. Nancy explained that for someone to call for the question (end debate) he/she must have the floor; the motion takes precedence, must be seconded, is not debatable, and requires a two-thirds vote. If the motion succeeds, then a vote is taken on the main motion that generated the discussion.

Treasurer's Report

Nancy referred everyone to the new financial format listing encumbrances and fund sources. There has been very little change on the grants but grantees have been notified their projects must be completed and inspected by June 30 or they will not be reimbursed.

Community Planning & Development Director's Report

Tracy Hegler said she needed to discuss issues concerning contractual matters at Pinewood Lake Park. Margaret DuBard made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a contract with Pinewood Lake Park Foundation (PLPF). John Grego seconded the motion.

Margaret moved to come out of Executive Session which was seconded by Sam Holland and approved. No actions were taken in Executive Session.

John stated he was making two motions. The first one was to inform County Council that RCCC has not been successful in executing an agreement with PLPF for \$75,000 in Hospitality Tax funding. Sam seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

John then moved to inform council that RCCC was not successful in executing a cooperative agreement with PLPF to manage the facility and RCCC plans to commence operations as a solely public facility under the Statement of Operations adopted in February. Sam seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Ken Driggers suggested staff develop language to execute the motions.

Tracy mentioned that Councilman Norman Jackson's motion from Council's February 5 meeting for RCCC to manage county-owned historic and conservation properties would be coming up at the Development and Services Committee meeting on March 27. Nancy prepared a list for Council of county-owned properties divided into Historic & Cultural, Natural/Recreation, and Natural/Conservation categories and who had management responsibility. Quinton reminded the members a similar issue was voted on last year (April 17, 2017) concerning the Columbia Rowing Center and Historic Columbia. The Woodrow Wilson House and Hampton-Preston Mansion properties are well run and do not need RCCC oversight whereas the Rowing Center welcomes county involvement. Ken and John said RCCC management would be handled through contract; Quinton said that would mean administering Hospitality Tax funding which RCCC has said is not their role. Carol stated RCCC does not have staff to manage these properties and it adds another layer of bureaucracy. No further comment to Council was offered at this time.

FY19 Grant Recommendations

Community Conservation Grants

John gave a brief description of the four applications received and explained the recommended funding levels for a total of \$42,100. Because there was a balance of \$37,900 not allocated, the Conservation Committee advised the Historic Committee that amount was available for historic grants. The committee motion for approval carried unanimously.

Historic Preservation Grants

Sam discussed the 18 applications received and the Historic Committee's award recommendations for a total of \$207,900. The committee motion for approval carried unanimously.

Ad Hoc Conservation Land Management Committee Report

Ken Driggers referred members to their draft copy of the Conservation Lands Management Manual. He explained the four land classifications, three stewardship principals, the administration components, management models, and a conservation lands capital improvement plan.

John made a motion to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes and was seconded by Margaret. Motion carried.

Carol requested members take the draft land management plan home to review for consideration at the April meeting. Ken stated his opinion that the number one item on the political agenda is to ensure that revenue generated from conservation lands goes back to the RCCC program, not the county's general fund.

Conservation Manager's Report

Proposals for the Walden Pond project were due in Procurement March 6. An evaluation team that includes Jim Thomas and Nancy will then review and score the proposals.

A decision has been made for the Land Program Planner and an offer will be made to the selected applicant. It should be filled by the end of April.

Conservation Coordinator's Report

Lower Richland Tourism Plan

Nancy reported Councilman Norman Jackson recently requested a several page summary of the Lower Richland Tourism Plan for one of his community meetings so it is included in the packet. The final plan from Asakura Robinson should be available for review at the April meeting.

Code Rewrite

John has spent considerable time reviewing and commenting on the assessment for the Code Rewrite; Nancy will make additional comments before it is available to RCCC for review. The consultants' timeframe is about a year and a half to draft the new Land Development Code and zoning map.

Strategic Plan

The final version of the Strategic Plan has been provided for members to add to their notebook for frequent reference. The plan will be the basis for future decision making. Committees will meet to complete the implementation plans. The last page of the plan is the basic roles and responsibilities of each Commission member. A signed copy needs to be returned to Nancy.

Historical Markers

Several historic markers are in the pipeline for the McCord House, Benjamin Mack House, Broad River Bridge, and Blythewood School.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Fisher, Administrative Assistant