



2020 Hampton St. • Room 3063A
P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 576-2082

Minutes

September 25, 2006
4:00 P.M.

Richland County Administration Building
3rd Floor Conference Room

Attendance

Eight members were present:

Gary Atkinson, Becky Bailey, Margaret DuBard, Sam Holland, Stuart Hope, Carol Kososki, Maxey Love and Mildred Myers.

Three members were absent:

Preston Holston, Frank Houston (work conflict) and Virginia Sanders.

Others Present:

Bill Clendenin, SC DNR, Jim Wilson, Richland County Environmental Program Manager; Michael Criss, Richland County Planning & Development, Ken Driggers and Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation; Hugh Caldwell, Richland SWCD.

Vice Chair Carol Kososki opened the meeting at 4:00 PM by declaring that a quorum is present.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 28th meeting were approved

Agenda: The agenda was approved without changes.

Jim Wilson introduced Bill Clendenin with SC DNR whose presentation was on the importance of having a Geologic Survey. He is seeking support and funds for completing a geologic survey for the Columbia Southwest and Ft. Jackson South Quads. The total cost would be approximately \$30,000. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed to put an item on the Agenda for the January meeting to consider requesting County Council to fund the Geologic Survey Project for FY-08 or other funding possibilities.

Committee Reports: Conservation Committee – Carol Kososki, Chair

Greenway Model Funding – The Executive Committee approved providing \$5,000 to help fund the Greenway Model Single Family development for Richland County.

Easement Signs – Two proposals presented – a 2x3 ft. sandblasted stone for \$400 each or metals for \$40 each. A motion was made, seconded and passed to authorize the Conservation Committee to spend up to \$1000 for purchase and installation of ten (10) metal signs for Conservation Easement boundaries.

Grants Announcement – the grants announcement for community grants has been distributed and is on the website. Deadline for the grant application is December 4th.

Historical Committee – Nancy Stone-Collum reported for Frank Houston.

Grants announcement has been distributed. Deadline for grant applications is October 15th.

Sesqui Log Cabin – A meeting was held on site with attendees from PRT, Historic Columbia, RCCC and others. The group discussed educational interpretation ideas, funding sources and suggestions for uses. This could lead to a grant application to RCCC. We hope to meet with a larger group to help move this project along.

Landmark Plaques have been ordered.

A field trip is being organized to Rock Hill in late October to visit the Carroll School which is an African American School House that has been restored. All York County 5th graders go through the school each year and learn about what happened there 100 years ago. Nancy is trying to get the people that should be involved in curriculum development for Monteith, Pine Grove and St. Phillips to attend the trip. Frank Houston has volunteered to cater lunch. All RCCC Members are invited to attend.

Finance Committee – Stuart Hope distributed and reviewed a spreadsheet indicating the total obligations of RCCC and current funds available to obligate. (A copy is attached to file minutes)

Capital Funds – Stuart Hope discussed the possibility of the Commission setting up a Capital Funds Account. This account would have to be approved by County Council at the request of RCCC. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the RCCC supports the establishment of a conservation land acquisition fund to be used for the cost of acquiring a property interest in land including conservation easements. The language for the ordinance for the establishment of this fund will be prepared by Palmetto Conservation Foundation and voted on by the RCCC Executive Board.

Program Manager's Report: Podell Easement has been cleared through County Legal Department and can move forward to Council. There are five other landowners that have expressed interest in conservation easements.

Maxey Love/Val Hutchinson are planning a public meeting probably in November. Maxey will be out of the country from October 10th to the first of November.

The Commission had a display at the Home Builders Association meeting at Seawell's.

The RCCC newsletter has been distributed. Each Commission Member was given a copy to mail to their Council Member with a personal note.

A letter has been drafted explaining the new tax incentives, which extend through 2007, available for easements. The letter will go to 40 rural landowners.

There will be a meeting on the Gills Creek Watershed in the Richland County Administrative Building on Tuesday, October 2nd from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

New Business: None

There was no public input.

The meeting ended at 5:30 PM.

Next meeting is October at 4 PM.

Upcoming Dates

October 11th – Staff Meeting – 10:00 AM

October 23rd – RCCC Meeting – 4:00 PM

Next Meeting

Monday, October 23, 2006, at 4:00 PM in the conference on the third floor of Richland County Administration Building.

Respectfully Submitted

Hugh Caldwell
Staff Support