

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

Minutes

February 22, 2010 4:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members present:

John Grego, Sam Holland, Frank Houston, Carol Kososki, Jim Lawracy, Glenice Pearson, Marcia Lucius, Virginia Sanders

Members absent: Mildred Myers, Becky Bailey, Gary Atkinson

Others Present:

Mary Jane Henderson, Richland SWCD Ken Driggers, Legal Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation Quinton Epps, RC Floodplain Coordinator

Chair Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM with a quorum present.

<u>Guests:</u> Jim Wilson introduced Quinton Epps who was recently hired as Flood Plain Coordinator with Richland County. He has vast experience in water quality, flood plain management, and wetlands/stream mitigation.

Minutes: The minutes of January 25, 2010 were approved. Carol provided a definition of entitled properties to be inserted under storm water ordinance.

Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Conservation Committee: Gary Atkinson, Chair, Absent. Virginia Sanders reporting. The 2011 Community Conservation Grants were recommended for approval. (Copy Attached). Virginia asked Jim Wilson to discuss the merits of each application and recommended funding level. A motion was made and passed to accept all as listed except # 5 and #11. A second motion was made to accept #5 and #11 as listed with a condition that the private land applicants provide the Commission a plan and commitment for public access. The Conservation Committee will review their grant criteria. The Green Development Grant application was presented from the Wall Development Group in Columbia, SC to re-develop an abandoned trailer park off Two Notch Road in the Gills Creek Watershed using The County Green Code as a design guide to reduce stormwater runoff and demonstrate green best management practices. The Grant will be a 50/50 match with the RC Neighborhood Improvement Council. Each group will allocate \$25,000.

Historic Committee: Frank Houston, Chair

The Historic Community Grants were presented for approval as listed. (See Attachment) Frank discussed the merits of each project and the review process with the applicants. The list included two existing projects in 2010 that will be increased from current budget of Historic Committee. (Barber House Tours and Museum under SERCO- \$7,000 and the PTA House under SC Parents and Teacher Association-\$10,780).

Frank reminded members of the historic web site release before County Council on March 16th at 6pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend. The Historic Committee will coordinate the event with County Council and provide a summary report to Council of all historic projects as a celebration of National Historic Month. A motion was made and approved as reflected on the project list.

The Historic Committee will continue to negotiate the Laurelwood Plantation property and report next meeting. Ken will provide a letter on behalf of the commission.

Publicity Committee: Sam Holland, Chair

Sam indicated that the Commission video is almost complete and he would show the draft as soon as it is completed. Sam coordinated field interviews with photographer. The historic web site will be released in March to Council as part of National Historic Month. Nancy will prepare the release. Approximately \$10,000 will be needed to buy TV time. This will be an item on the March agenda.

Extension: Motion was made, seconded, and carried to extend the meeting until 6:00pm.

Finance Committee: Virginia Sanders, Chair

The monthly financial report was reviewed. (A copy is attached to minutes on file. Jim will provide a detail report in March to evaluate 2010 funding obligations.

Program Manager's Report: Jim Wilson:

Jim updated the Commission on conservation easements pending. (Laurelwood and Haynes)

Gills Creek Watershed at Decker is seeking landowner partnership agreement.

The joint staffing plan has been approved by RCCC and RCD to move forward with administration in the Council budget process.

The Commission Tour is being planned for April or May. Dates and sites will be presented at the March meeting.

Other Business:

Jim and Ken discussed the County Greenway Plan proposal as requested by Mr. Pope, County Administrator, as a result of the Council Planning Retreat in January. The first phase of implementation would be funded with a county bond for greenways, of \$10M with a priority of acquisition in Hopkins from Hwy 378 to the Congaree Park and in the Crane Creek Watershed from I-20 north to Blythewood along the flood plain. Matching funds would be from mitigation and private sector. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to proceed with this plan. Ken will prepare a document for commission endorsement.

Public Input: None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM

Next Meeting:

March 22, 2010-4:00 PM – Richland County Administration Building, 4^{th} Floor Conference Room.

Submitted by: Mary Jane Henderson, RCD Staff Support