



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

Minutes April 22, 2013

Attendance:

Members present: Carol Kososki, Ann Furr, Sam Holland, Becky Bailey, John Grego, Glenice Pearson

Absent: Virginia Sanders, Mildred Myers, Gary Atkinson, Margaret DuBard, Jim Lawracy

Others present:

Nancy Stone-Collum, Conservation Department
Chanda Cooper, Conservation Department
Charlie Fisher, Conservation Department
Ken Driggers, Contract Legal Counsel
Julie Anne Dixon, Richland County Council

Chair Carol Kososki welcomed Julie Anne Dixon from Richland County Council and called the meeting to order at 4:10pm with a quorum present. Carol briefed everyone on Buddy Atkins' recovery from knee surgery.

Agenda: John Grego made a motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by Becky Bailey. Motion carried.

Minutes: A motion was made by Becky and seconded by Ann Furr to approve the minutes of March 25, 2013 as written. Motion carried.

Report of the Chair

Carol explained RCCC has endeavored to develop a Jackson Creek Mitigation Bank over the last three years. Having mitigation bank credits available in Richland County will assist with the development of future projects when wetlands are impacted. An appraisal on the Palmer parcels should be submitted within the week. A recent complication has developed with interest by Richland School District No. 2 in purchasing the Palmer and Kahn tracts for a new school.

Nancy Stone-Collum reported the Development with Open Space Design Standards was presented in a work session of the Planning Commission earlier in the day. Tracy Hegler, Richland County Planning & Development Services Director, reviewed the substantial changes

the Development Round Table had developed to replace the Green Code. Tracy will make additional changes based on questions/comments from the work session, which will then go to the Planning Commission for its May 6 meeting. When approved, the new standards will go to County Council and could receive third reading by the middle of June.

Treasurer's Report

Nancy referred everyone to their copy of the current budget.

Committee Reports

Conservation Committee

Carol explained the Executive Committee and staff met with Ken Driggers, Legal Counsel, to strategize a plan to determine the public's attitude toward conservation, how to build support, and what language/message works. Developing a conservation vision for Richland County should include historic preservation and greenways and needs to use a universal message. The Committee recommends engaging a public opinion survey through a Memorandum of Understanding with USC – Institute of Public Service and Policy Research. Glenice requested advance notice of Executive Committee recommendations that require a vote of the Commission. Ann moved to authorize \$6,000 - \$8,000 be allocated for the survey. Glenice seconded the motion and all approved.

Historic Committee

Sam Holland reported Margaret DuBard, Jim Lawracy, Nancy and he attended the SC Historic Preservation Conference last Tuesday. Ann and Nancy attended the Laurelwood event hosted by Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation on Saturday the 20th to see the restored cabin and the early work done on the main house.

Glenice met with Dr. Bobby Donaldson regarding a history initiative in Lower Richland. A forum will be convened for all those working on Lower Richland history to determine what has been produced to date, where the gaps are, and who could tackle the gaps. John suggested including Congaree National Park who funded Dr. Jim Williams to record oral histories.

Outreach Committee

Becky reported Dr. Donaldson and Historic Columbia will have an exhibit at Eau Claire Fest on May 11 to highlight Columbia SC 63 - Our Story Matters. North Columbia should be the next area after Lower Richland for historical research. Becky suggested deferring development of marketing strategies until after the opinion survey is completed. Sam and Glenice agreed to serve on the committee.

Conservation Coordinator's Report

Seven companies responded to the Request for Qualification for the Owens Field project and the evaluations were turned into Procurement. The two finalists need to be interviewed which should be scheduled within the next two weeks. Nancy referred everyone to their updated copy of Historic and Conservation Grants. Most of the Historic Grants are finished with the exception of Randolph Cemetery. Nancy attended the day long cemetery restoration workshop at Randolph and pictures have been posted on Facebook.

On April 18, ETV aired videos on 701 Whaley and Historic Columbia's 50th anniversary, both funded by RCCC. The request to reallocate funds for Phase Two of the cemetery survey by Chicora will be presented to the D & S Committee tomorrow.

Gills Creek Watershed Association has retained Woods + Partners to develop the Middle Watershed Plan. A stakeholder meeting will be held on April 30. Friends of Harbison State Forest will have their trail opening on Thursday, April 25. Spring Valley is not able to accept the FY14 grant award of \$3,000 because the balance needed for the trail plan is too great for their budget. The funds were reallocated to the Belser Arboretum.

Nancy pointed out the next meeting would be on May 20, a week earlier than usual due to the Memorial Day Holiday.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Submitted by Charlie Fisher, Administrative Assistant