

Minutes
Heritage Trust Advisory Board
Belfast Plantation
Laurens County
August 2, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

Campbell Coxe (Chairman)
Steven Tully
Kevin Hunter
Sonny King
States Clawson (for Bobby Hitt)
Terry Hurley (for Duane Parrish)
Emily Cope (for Alvin Taylor)
Ken Rentiers
Norman Pulliam
Jonathan Leader
Chisolm Beckham (for Tom Patton)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Julia Krebs
Julien Springs
Elizabeth Johnson
Eric Emerson
Bobby Hitt
Duane Parish
Phil Gaines
Alvin Taylor
Darryl Jones
Scott Phillips
Tom Patton
Steve Smith
Dave Cicimurri
William Calloway

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Kesler (DNR-WFF)
Billy Dukes (DNR-WFF)
David Lucas (DNR-OMO)
Dawn Beaver (DNR-LWC)
Edward Kinney (City of Greenville)
Herrick Brown (DNR-LWC)
Jake Rasor (DNR-Board of Directors)
Mike Pitts (City of Greenville)
Pamela Barber (Upstate Forever)
Phil Maier (DNR-MRD)
Sean Taylor (DNR-LWC)
Tom Swaynham (DNR-WFF)
Van Whitehead (DNR-Executive Office)

Call to Order

Chairman Campbell Coxe called the meeting to order. There was a sign-in sheet, so no roll call of attendance was needed. Mr. Coxe recognized today's guests, Norman Pulliam and Jake Rasor from the SCDNR Board of Directors.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Cox asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2018 meeting of the HTAB. A question was raised about the names of the people making and seconding motions not being noted, and didn't we do that in the past. Dawn Beaver addressed the Board that this was an error on her part because the recorder did not capture the meeting, and she had not made a notation of the names. *Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

An issue with the agenda was brought up because the action and information items were not separated. *Mr. King read a motion to amend the agenda. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

Board Information Items

Cultural Heritage Trust Program Update:

- Sean Taylor presented an update of the Pockoy Island Shell Ring excavation since the Board's visit in May. The excavation team only accomplished about one third of what they had planned; they hope to go back to Pockoy in December 2018. Sean shared that they had processed shell until they were sick of shell, and that they unearthed a lot of pottery. The Botany Bay staff gave tours of the excavation site, and people also came up from the beach to talk to them. Sean said that dates came back at 4400 years old; Spanish Mount is a couple of hundred years younger.
- October is Archaeology Month. Staff had planned to hold a grand opening for the Parker Annex Archaeology Center, but they have pushed it to January 2019.

Board Action Items

- Cultural Preserve Management Budget Review:

Sean Taylor presented. The program currently has 12 on staff, 4 FTE positions to fill, and are hoping for 6 interns. Parker Annex is struggling with their phone lines, and just received an estimate of \$1300 per month. The cost of the rental house and food for the Pockoy Island Shell Ring Excavation was \$20,000. The requested FY2020 Budget was \$1,947,000.00, which was a 30.0% increase over the FY2019 Budget. *Mr. King made a motion to pass the budget as it stands. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

- Habitat Protection Budget Review:
 Ken Rentiers presented. There are 5 FTE employees. The requested FY2020 Budget was \$ 403,320.00, which was a 3.3% increase over the FY2019 Budget. *Mr. King made a motion to pass the budget as it stands. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*
- Natural Area Heritage Preserve Management Budget Review:
 Billy Dukes presented. There are 11 FTE employees, a temporary hourly employee, and 1 intern for each region. Region 4 is the largest, most complex area with 220 miles of coastline. The requested FY20120 Budget was \$1,965,000.00, which was a 4.0% increase over the FY2019 Budget. *Mr. King made a motion to pass the budget as it stands. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*
- Marine Resources Division (Coastal Preserves) Budget Review:
 Phil Maier presented. A question was raised about the gasoline expense. Phil said that it's minor and is incorporated into others. The requested FY2020 Budget was \$86,526.00, which was unchanged from the FY2019 Budget. *Mr. King made a motion to pass the budget as it stands. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*
- Conservation Easement in downtown Greenville:
 Pam Barber from Upstate Forever, Mike Pitts, City Attorney for the City of Greenville, and Edward Kinney, City of Greenville were present. Upstate Forever and the City of Greenville are working towards finalizing a conservation easement for a city-owned parcel, about .5 acres in size, in downtown Greenville. This parcel serves as access to the Reedy River and to Falls Park, an iconic downtown park space. *Mr. Jonathan Leader made a motion to approve the easement. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*
- Potential Property Acquisition in Dillon County:
 Ken Rentiers presented a request for approval to investigate the potential acquisition of approximately 295 acres known as Page's Millpond. Ken Prosser, Sean Taylor, and Van Whitehead will look at the property. There is concern over dam safety and the liabilities. The dam may not be a part of the property because there is a state road going across. *Mr. Clawson made a motion to approve the request. Mr. King seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

Other Items

Updates and Comments

Ken Rentiers, Deputy Director of DNR's Land, Water and Conservation Division

- Meg Gaillard, the LWCD Employee of the Year, was selected as the Agency Employee of the Year.
- Poinsett Bridge has some structural issues, which need to be addressed in the next couple of years so that it doesn't degrade.

Norman Pulliam, SC DNR Board Member

- Thank you to all Board members for volunteering.
- Lunch was covered by the Harry Hampton Fund.
- Trying to clean up terms of all Advisory Board members.

Time and Location of the Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2018, location to be determined.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, Mr. Coxe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Christie Beaver

Administrative Assistant

SC Department of Natural Resources – Land, Water and Conservation Division