

SOUTH CAROLINA HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD

10:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 19, 1977

1116 Bankers Trust Tower

Columbia, South Carolina

The first meeting of the South Carolina Heritage Trust Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Wayne Beam. At this time, members of the Board were introduced.

Members present were:

Dr. Wade T. Batson
Mr. Fred P. Brinkman
Mrs. Ethel Jane Bunting
Ms. Christie Fant (Representing Mr. Charles Lee)
Mr. Henry Fulmer (Representing Mr. John Parris)
Dr. Sid Gauthreaux
Mr. Joseph W. Hudson
Mr. Robert E. Leak
Representative Sam P. Manning
Mr. David C. Sennema
Dr. Robert Stephenson
Mr. John R Tiller
Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr.
Mr. Benjamin F. Williamson

Others present were:

Dr. H. Wayne Beam
Mr. Stuart Greeter
Mr. Buddy Jennings
Mr. Thomas S. Kohlsaas
Ms. Julie Lumpkin
Ms. Jan Mewborn
Dr. Doug Rayner
Mr. Clark Surratt

Those unable to attend were Senator Thomas F. Hartnett, Mr. Philip L. Edwards, and Mrs. Constance Armitage.

The first order of business was election of the Chairman of the Advisory Board. Mr. Fred Brinkman moved that Mr. Joseph Hudson be named Chairman. Representative Manning seconded the motion and it was unanimously agreed by the Board.

The program was then turned over to Mr. Tom Kohlsaas who provided background information on the Heritage Trust Program to the new members. He informed the members of the program's basic concern with natural, historic and cultural areas of statewide significance, as stated in the legislation creating the Trust. Mr. Kohlsaas further discussed the reasons for protection of natural areas in the State. Mr. Kohlsaas explained the systematic survey used in the natural areas inventory to identify areas most worthy of preservation. He emphasized that it was basically the responsibility of the Advisory Board to determine an area's significance. Of course, the Heritage Trust Program Staff is to support the Board by collecting the necessary information upon which the decision will be based.

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A list of priority areas was distributed for the Board to review. Dr. Beam emphasized the seriousness of putting significant areas into the Trust. Mr. Hudson pointed out that because a property goes into the Trust, it does not necessarily mean that the Wildlife Department manages that property. Dr. Timmerman emphasized the importance of being selective in receiving property so as not to put an undue burden on any agency in managing property. Mr. Brinkman recommended that Jones Gap be added to the priority list. Mr. Brinkman said that the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation of the Department of Interior may make future monies available for management of property such as that donated to the Trust.

Mr. Kohlsaet further explained what was meant by putting areas into the Trust and described the techniques involved.

Representative Manning asked the Board's sanction to pursue the naming of a part of North Island, such as one of the inlets, after Lafayette, who landed at North Island on June 13, 1777. It was moved by Dr. Batson for Mr. Manning to investigate the naming of the proper inlet after Lafayette. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bunting and unanimously agreed upon by the Board. Mr. Hudson expressed his appreciation for Representative Manning's assistance and for his being so instrumental in obtaining the Heritage Trust legislation.

Mrs. Bunting asked what procedure an individual Board Member would use in presenting new areas for preservation. Mr. Hudson explained that the Member would contact the Heritage Staff in order that they might do the groundwork and fact finding to satisfy the Advisory Board Members of the area's significance. Dr. Stephenson suggested that Board Members receive a set of guidelines or check list of the steps to take in presenting areas for preservation to the Board.

Dr. Stephenson asked how the South Carolina Heritage Trust relates to the Nature Conservancy. Mr. Kohlsaet explained that the Nature Conservancy was a national conservation organization which has advised and assisted the Heritage Trust Staff with acquisitions and the Heritage Trust was partly funded by the Conservancy for inventory work.

Mr. Hudson added that since Heritage Trust legislation has been passed in South Carolina, we have had several states use our Act as a model and that the Department of Interior was in the process of setting up a national heritage trust. In addition, Mr. Hudson said that work was underway for an international heritage trust that would come under the auspices of the United Nations. Dr. Batson mentioned that the national heritage trust might incorporate certain state Heritage Trust areas.

Dr. Sennema asked how we related to the Department of Archives and History and PRT in regard to historical and cultural areas. Dr. Beam stated that Archives & History had a large inventory of historical and cultural sites and that that Department would be heavily relied upon for its recommendations to the Board on these sites. He also stated that his Staff had worked very closely with PRT in the past on the Heritage Trust Program. Mr. Hudson explained that the Wildlife Department concentrated more on natural areas and has focused its attention on working up an inventory on these areas.

After some discussion, Mr. Hudson recommended that the area known as Stevens Creek Natural Area in McCormick County be placed into the Heritage Trust. Mr. Fulmer moved that Stevens Creek Natural Area be placed into the Heritage Trust. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bunting and unanimously agreed upon by the Board.

After some discussion on Capers Island, Dr. Gauthreaux moved that Capers be included into the Heritage Trust. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bunting and unanimously agreed upon by the Board. Dr. Gauthreaux expressed an interest in the Board's receiving a copy of the Capers Island Management Plan. A summary of the Management Plan will be mailed to the Board Members. The entire Capers Island Management Plan will be available for review at the Heritage Trust office. Mrs. Bunting suggested that the sign at Capers Island be replaced with one which would lend more dignity to the Area. Dr. Timmerman explained that the sign presently at Capers was a temporary one and that a more appropriate sign will be erected.

Mrs. Fant of the Department of Archives & History expressed her appreciation of the Heritage Trust and stated that she would be happy to provide information on existing historical sites. Mrs. Fant also expressed a desire for assistance from the Wildlife Department in obtaining information on some natural areas.

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board will take place in approximately two months. A meeting notice will be mailed to the members in ample time to plan for the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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