

MINUTES
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD
AUGUST 2, 2001
COLUMBIA, SC

Members Present

Terry Ferguson (Chair)
Julia Krebs (Vice-Chair)

Richard Porcher
Rodger Stroup
Joel Felder (for Bob Showalter)
Charles Bradford
Paul Sandifer
Freddy Vang
Charles Harrison (for John Durst)
Malloy McEachin
John Frierson
John Tucker
Jim Knight

Members Absent

Bonnie Ammons

Others Present

Tom Kohlsaat
Gil Newberry
Jon Leader

Stuart Greeter
Ken Prosser
Steve Bennett
Johnny Stowe
Chris Judge
Jamie Dozier
Breck Carmichael
Mike Foley
Greg Lucas
Bert Pittman
Kathy McGee
Chester Sansbury
Dan Dobbins

Terry Ferguson called the meeting to order and called the roll. He recognized Kathy McGee and Chester Sansbury from Forest Watch.

Approval of May 3 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the May 3, 2001 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

Comments from the Director

Dr. Paul Sandifer commended members and staff for their work on two recently completed projects: Childsbury and Congaree Creek. He noted that a press conference will be held for Congaree Bluffs on August 10, 2001. Dr. Sandifer also reported that he and Dr. Rodger Stroup recently attended a reception for Childsbury at Mepkin Abbey. On behalf of HTAB, Dr. Ferguson thanked Dr. Sandifer for his assistance with these acquisitions.

Cultural Areas Committee

1. Caw Caw Fort Registration Agreement: Chris Judge explained the agreement with Westvaco to register this Civil War fortification and the committee as a motion recommended approval. The motion was approved.

2. Childsbury Registration Agreements: Mr. Judge explained one agreement with Westvaco and another with Mepkin Abbey to register the remaining parts of Childsbury that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The committee as a motion recommended approval of each agreement. The motion was approved.

3. Parkers Ferry Registration Agreement: Dr. Stroup reported that this item was tabled until the next meeting.

Dr. Stroup announced a tentative date of October 14, 2001 for a dedication ceremony for Childsbury.

Natural Areas Committee

1. Slater Gopher Tortoise Registration Agreement: Steve Bennett explained the agreement with Westvaco to register this site and the committee as a motion recommended approval. The motion was approved.

2. Laurel Fork Management Plan: Mary Bunch explained the plan and the committee as a motion recommended approval. The motion was approved.

3. Element List: Dr. Julia Krebs stated the committee as a motion requests that staff regularly update the list of all state elements of concern. The motion was approved. Dr. Ferguson asked staff to compile a CD of the elements and show them to HTAB at the next meeting.

Other Business

1. PR: Dr. Ferguson distributed news items, annual reports and brochures about the Heritage Trust Program. He also gave out posters commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the program.

2. Forest Legacy Program: John Frampton gave an overview of this federal program and stated that the goal is to protect environmentally important forest lands that are threatened by conversion to other purposes. He added that funds come from budget line-items and competitive grants and they require a 25 percent match. Dr. Ferguson said that he would like to keep the lines of communication open in hopes of working together on future projects.

3. Stewardship: Johnny Stowe and Mr. Judge updated members on heritage preserve stewardship activities and explained problems with vandalism. Regarding emergency regulations, Dr. Ferguson requested a summary of the approval process and pledged the support of HTAB to get the regulations ratified. Also, he asked that staff investigate the possibility of including Heritage Trust into the DNR Educational Outreach Program.

4. Strategic Planning: John Frierson updated members on plans to meet with conservation groups to discuss cooperative efforts in protecting significant natural and cultural areas in the state. He suggested the state be divided into four regions and that a meeting be held in each region. Dr. Krebs requested a member of HTAB chair each meeting. Dr. Stroup said he and his staff would work with Heritage Trust regarding the initial planning stage. Dr. Ferguson requested a status report at the next meeting.

5. Committee Appointment: Dr. Ferguson recommended that Chad Long, an archaeologist at the Department of Archives and History, be appointed to the Cultural Areas Committee. A motion was made to approve the appointment. It was seconded and the motion was approved.

Budget Committee

HTAB entered Executive Session to discuss budget issues. They returned to regular session and voted to approve the Heritage Land Trust Fund budget, including the preserve management and capital improvement budgets. Also, expenditures were approved for additions to Bunched Arrowhead, Tillman Sand Ridge and Little Pee Dee Heritage Preserves.

The next meeting will be October 31- November 1 at Huntington Beach State Park.

Adjourn.