# MINUTES HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD AUGUST 2, 2006 SC DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY COLUMBIA, SC

### **Members Present**

Campbell Coxe (Vice-Chair)

Mike McShane Rodger Stroup Jake Rasor

States Clawson (for Joe Taylor)

Freddy Vang Henry Fair Elizabeth Grace

Fritz Hamer (for William Calloway)

Jon Leader

Darryl Jones (for Bob Schowalter)
Irvin Pitts (for Chad Prosser)

#### Members Absent

Julia Krebs (Chair) Sonny King

#### Others Present

Tom Kohlsaat Chris Kueny Ken Prosser Kay Daniels Brian Long Val Nash

Breck Carmichael

Tim Ivey
Rick Huffman
Ann Darr
Bert Pittman
Barry Beasley
Hank Stallworth
Kathy Boyle
Joey Holleman
Bob Perry
Eric Poplin
Skip Johnson

Mitchell Metts Patrick Tyndall Bob Perry Sam Chappelear

Jamie Dozier
Paul League
Ed Duncan
Mary Edmonds
Bud Badr

Brett Moule Scott Harder

# Call to Order

Campbell Coxe called the meeting to order and called the roll.

## Approval of May 3 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2006 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

#### Comments from the Director

Barry Beasley recognized Chris Kueny for his stewardship efforts at Congaree Creek Heritage Preserve. He also recognized Tom Kohlsaat, who established the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources' (SCDNR) Heritage Trust Program and who recently retired.

Dr. Beasley reviewed Heritage Trust revenues and stated fiscal year 2006 was the best year on record since the program's inception.

#### I-73 Overview

Mitchell Metts from the South Carolina Department of Transportation, and Skip Johnson from the LPA Group discussed the Interstate 73 project and stated it was first proposed in 1982 to connect Detroit to Charleston, but was changed in 1991 to link Interstate 95 to Myrtle Beach. They explained the new highway would benefit residents, promote economic development, aid hurricane evacuation, and relieve local traffic congestion. Mr. Johnson stated the proposed route would encroach on the Little Pee Dee Heritage Preserve at the bridge crossing Highway 917 and impact approximately 37 acres of SCDNR land. He requested the board consider the proposal and added that sites are needed for mitigation.

#### Hamilton Ridge Lodge

Dr. Stroup updated members on the historical significance of the lodge and stated it was built prior to 1860 and was one of four buildings to escape the burning of General Sherman. He said many changes have been made to the lodge and reported that the roof is in good condition. Dr. Stroup suggested eliminating access to the structure until a decision can be made regarding its long-term use.

#### **Active Projects**

Ken Prosser reported on active projects and stated the SCDNR recently received title to a Revolutionary War battle site along the Broad River in Chester County known as Fish Dam Ford. This site is mitigation for the new bridge across the Broad River upstream of the battlefield site.

#### **Bond Process**

Dr. Beasley reported that \$20 million in revenue bonds would be sold for the purchase of Hamilton Ridge and Woodbury instead of the original amount of \$32 million. He said the money should be received by August 16, 2006. Dr. Beasley added that the State Conservation Bank approved \$10 million in funding and approximately \$22 million is expected in federal funding. He stated annual debt service to the Heritage Land Trust Fund for repayment would be approximately \$1.8 million per year for the next 15 years, with the option of paying off the entire balance after 10 years.

Elizabeth Grace made a motion for HTAB to enter Executive Session to discuss contractual matters. The motion was seconded by Henry Fair and approved.

HTAB returned to regular session and a motion was made to approve \$100,000 as part of a partnership to acquire an addition to the Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve in Aiken County. The motion was approved. A motion was made for staff to obtain all pertinent information regarding Interstate 73, including optional routes and impacts to the Little Pee Dee Heritage Preserve. The motion was approved.

## Hydrology at Ditch Pond Heritage Preserve

Dr. Bud Badr gave a presentation on a hydrology study at Ditch Pond and explained that ten monitoring wells and three automated water recorders have been installed to aid in analyzing water levels and how they affect a Carolina Bay on the preserve.

# Yawkey Wildlife Center Management Plan

Jamie Dozier reviewed the proposed management plan for the Yawkey Center, which was dedicated as a heritage preserve in 1977. A motion was made to approve the plan. The motion was approved.

# Next HTAB Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 1, 2006, at the Wildlife Action Education Center in Mullins, SC. A field trip to the Woodbury tract will be on Thursday, November 2. The February 2007 meeting is tentatively scheduled for the Yawkey Center.

Adjourn.

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