

SOUTH CAROLINA HERITAGE TRUST PROGRAM
Thursday, December 13, 1979
Table Rock, S.C.

MEMBERS PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Sid Gauthreaux
Mr. Benjamin F. Williamson, Chairman
Mr. Fred Brinkman
Mr. Walter Ahearn
Mrs. Ethel Jane Bunting, Vice Chairman
Mr. Richard Statser
(Representing Mr. John Parris)
Dr. Robert L. Stephenson
Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr.
Mr. Tom Kohlsaat
(Representing Mr. Sam Boykin)
Representative Sam Manning
Mr. Rudy Mancke
(Representing Mr. David C. Sennema)

Ms. Brusi Alexander, S.C. Nature Conservancy
Mr. Mac Flood, S. C. Wildlife Department
Dr. Carl Walsh
Mr. Horace Craig, Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Mr. Sam Phillips, S. C. Heritage Trust
Mr. Jim Sorrow, S. C. Heritage Trust
Dr. Douglas A. Rayner, S. C. Heritage Trust
Mr. Stuart E. Greeter, Jr., S. C. Heritage Trust
Ms. Jan Mewborn, S. C. Heritage Trust
Mrs. Ann Williamson

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williamson. The minutes of the June 7 meeting were approved with a correction to the boundary description of Ashley River Road project so as to read as follows: "Dr. Stephenson made a motion to declare the Ashley River Conservation District boundaries as 200' to the South side of Ashley River Road to 200' beyond the North bank of the Ashley River, from Church Creek to and including Dorchester State Park."

Visitors were then introduced. Dr. Timmerman acknowledged the achievements of the Heritage Trust Board to date and stressed the importance of the involvement of Board members. Dr. Timmerman agreed to look into the problem of some members who have consistently been unable to attend meetings.

Tom Kohlsaat reported on the Heritage Trust Land Protection Workshop held September 11. The area of most interest to the participants was the discussion of tax consequences of gifts of land. The Workshop drew favorable comments and we hope to plan more in the future. Handouts which were used for this meeting will be sent to the board members for their information.

Dr. Gauthreaux inquired about the Endangered Species Symposium proceedings and Mr. Kohlsaat said they should be available in a few months.

There was some discussion on getting projects before the Board. Dr. Stephenson moved that we create a procedure for giving Staff tentative approval for proceeding on projects prior to the completion of plans and legal documents. The motion was seconded by Representative Manning and unanimously agreed to by the Board.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Dr. Doug Rayner reported on the following projects on the agenda.

- 1) Greenville-Spartanburg Airport
On the motion of Dr. Timmerman the Board voted to accept the proposal as information and authorized the staff to continue with negotiations and mail findings to the Board for its approval.
- 2) Sagittaria fasciculata
Dr. Timmerman moved that the staff continue negotiations for a registration project. The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to by the Board.

3) 40-Acre Rock

Mr. Brinkman reported that funds were allocated to the Recreation Land Trust fund for PRT to acquire the property. PRT has decided not to pursue acquisition, but to make the funds available to the Wildlife Department for this purpose.

Dr. Timmerman moved that Staff proceed to negotiate with the Canal Timber Company and other property owners on 40-Acre Rock and develop a suitable management plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brinkman and unanimously agreed to by the Board.

4) Camassia Flats

Representative Manning moved that the Advisory Board recommend to the Wildlife Commission that the Registration Agreement on Camassia Flats be approved. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gauthreaux and unanimously agreed to by the Board.

NEW PROJECTS

1) Auldbrass Plantation

Mr. Kohlsaas read a Resolution submitted by the Beaufort County Council requesting the Advisory Board look into the possibility of public ownership. It was moved that Chairman Williamson write a letter to the Chairman of the Beaufort County Council embodying the ideas of private ownership for Auldbrass or preservation by covenants held by Heritage Trust or the National Trust for Historic Preservation, emphasizing that it be open to the public a minimum of 7 days per year. The motion was seconded and unanimously agreed to by the Board. Representative Manning agreed to review the draft letter to assure that it reflects the Board's intent. He also requested that Beaufort County look into the possibility of property tax relief in order to attract a suitable buyer.

2) Raven Cliff Falls

After a presentation and discussion, the Board approved a motion by Representative Manning as follows: The Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommends to the Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission and the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Commission that the necessary funding be sought through the PRT Recreation Land Trust Fund to provide the State's matching share for the acquisition of Raven Cliff Falls in Greenville County. The Heritage Trust Advisory Board also offers its cooperation to the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department and PRT in seeking legislative support for authorizing the trust fund money for the Raven Cliff Falls acquisition. Staff was authorized to add language indicating the need for prompt action.

Due to the late hour, the meeting was adjourned and Board members were supplied with documentation on eight additional projects and a voting ballot. Members were to vote for approval or disapproval of further work on those projects by January 15, 1980.

The next regularly scheduled Heritage Trust Advisory Board meeting is March 6, 1980. This follows the accepted practice of meeting on the first Thursday of every third month.