

MINUTES  
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD  
FEBRUARY 20, 1992, COLUMBIA, SC

Members Present

Mr. Ed Drane (Chairman)  
Dr. Whit Gibbons (Vice Chairman)  
Dr. Jim Timmerman  
Mr. Hugh Ryan  
Dr. George Vogt  
Mr. Jim Crawford  
Ms. Isabel Hill  
Mr. Billy McTeer  
Ms. Wendy Parks  
Dr. Overton Ganong  
Dr. John Mark Dean  
Mr. Bill Lawrence  
Dr. Bruce Rippeteau

Other Present

Mr. Stuart Greeter  
Mr. Tom Kohlsaas  
Dr. Wade Batson  
Mr. Chris Judge  
Mr. Tracy Power  
Ms. Mary Edmonds  
Mr. Joe Watson  
Mr. Donnie Barker  
Mr. Leighton McLendon  
Mr. Lee Tippet  
Mr. Michael Ray  
Mr. Glenn Oeland  
Mr. Greg Lucas  
Ms. Francis Bolin

Members Absent

Mr. Wallace Pate  
Ms. Claudette Cureton

Chairman Rippeteau called the February 20 meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board to order and recognized guests and new members. A motion was adopted to approve the November 7, 1991 meeting minutes as submitted. Dr. Dean made a motion to approve Ed Drane as Chairman and Dr. Gibbons as Vice Chairman by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Dr. George Vogt and approved unanimously.

Ed Drane presented Ms. Francis Bolin with a registration certificate and thanked her for preserving a Carolina bay on her property. Ed Drane presented Dr. Wade Batson with a plaque and a black skimmer print thanking him for his service as a founding member of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. Chairman Drane said that he would be appointing members and chairmen to the Cultural Areas, Natural Areas, and Budget Committees. A list of committee memberships will be available at the next HTAB meeting.

Comments from the Executive Director

Dr. Timmerman reported that this is a very tight budget year and he was lucky enough to get the Federal Government to budget \$10 million, through the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, for land acquisition in the Savannah River Basin. The State Wildlife Department budget has been cut by 8% and the Department is losing a number of positions. Revenue sources under the Heritage Trust Program have been a life saver during tight budget times.

### Strategic Plan

Tom Kohlsaas reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had set four goals which are as follows: 1) determine the status and protection needs of rare species; 2) get all conservation groups to protect an additional 250,000 acres within the next 10 years; 3) protect 12 large areas to prevent wildlife species from becoming endangered; and 4) make all Heritage Preserves available for public recreation and education. Tom indicated that another checkoff may appear on the state tax form next year, which would reduce our revenues. We are currently trying to double revenues to the Heritage Land Trust Fund. Dr. Dean indicated that he would like to see the strategic plan include something on mitigation policy and the evaluation for geologic sites. Dr. Timmerman reported that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service looked at all wildlife agencies in the United States and chose the S. C. Wildlife Department as one of the top nine.

### Annual Report

Stuart Greeter passed out a current list of Heritage Preserves and several newspaper articles on the Heritage Trust Program. With regard to land protection, last year was the best year the Heritage Trust Program has had since the implementation of the Heritage Land Trust Fund. In calendar year 1991 the Heritage Trust Program protected 9,385 acres at a total cost of \$2,189,000 or a cost of \$233 per acre. Over the last six years, the Heritage Trust Program has spent roughly \$8.5 million to protect just under 24,000 acres of property. The average cost has been \$367 per acre with roughly one-third of all property value being donated.

### Dargan Heritage Preserve Management Plan

Leighton McLendon summarized the management plan for the 1,652 acre Dargan Heritage Preserve in Marion County. Dr. Timmerman made a motion to approve the Dargan Heritage Preserve Management Plan. Dr. Dean seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Stuart Greeter asked the Advisory Board to approve hunting and road work on the Vaughn property in Horry County and the McCall property in Darlington County. Bruce Rippeteau made a motion to approve those activities on those Heritage Preserves. Hugh Ryan seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

### Other Business

Dr. Vogt reported that a date will be set in April for the members of the General Assembly and other interested individuals to visit Auldbrass Plantation. He also mentioned that House bill 4245 is being proposed to protect state owned historic structures and archaeological sites.

### Cultural Areas Committee

Ed Drane reported that the new statewide archaeological survey and evaluation had been completed and mailed out to Advisory Board members for their review. The report included a list of the 100 most significant archaeological sites which are being proposed as additions to the approved projects list of the Heritage Trust Program. Bruce Rippeteau made a motion to adopt the list of 100 sites as approved projects. John Dean seconded that motion and the motion passed. Chris Judge reported that the Cultural Areas Committee is discussing a proposed water line easement on the Nipper Creek Heritage Preserve in Richland County. That group should have a recommendation for the HTAB at their next meeting. Nipper Creek Heritage Preserve has been dedicated and placed under the corpus of the Heritage Trust.

### Natural Areas Committee

Dr. Gibbons asked to defer discussion on Medway Plantation and Mary's Island Plantation to Executive Session.

### Budget Committee

Bruce Rippeteau made a motion, which was seconded by Whit Gibbons, to move to Executive Session to discuss additions to the proposed Heritage Land Trust Fund budget. The motion was passed. Upon returning from Executive Session, the Heritage Trust Advisory voted to approve the 1-27-92 Heritage Land Trust Fund budget, which is attached to the minutes on file. Approved additions to that budget included the Spartanburg Soapstone Outcrops, Little Pee Dee River-Townsend property, and Lynchburg Savanna.

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board is scheduled for May 21, 1992. Ed Drane suggested scheduling committee meetings on that date in the morning and the HTAB meeting in the afternoon.

The meeting was adjourned.

## **HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

### **NATURAL AREAS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Whit Gibbons, Chairman  
Dr. John Dean  
Ms. Wendy Parks  
Mr. Joe Watson  
Mr. Michael Ray  
Dr. John Nelson  
Mr. Wallace Pate

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hugh Ryan, Chairman  
Ms. Isabelle Hill  
Dr. Jim Timmerman  
Mr. Chuck Compton  
Mr. Jim Crawford  
Mr. Bill Jennings

### **CULTURAL AREAS COMMITTEE**

Dr. George Vogt, Chairman  
Dr. Bruce Rippeteau  
Ms. Mary Edmonds  
Mr. Don Barker  
Mr. Chris Judge  
Dr. Overton Ganong

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Tom Kohlsaas, Chairman  
Dr. Whit Gibbons  
Mr. Hugh Ryan  
Dr. George Vogt



Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures-1992 1-27-92

Project Name	County	Expenditure
1991 Expenditures		
Savage Bay Addn. (McPhatter)	Kershaw	19,000
		-----
		19,000
1991 Commitments		
Benne c's Bay Addition	Clarendon	80,000
Cartwheel Bay Addition	Horry	145,000
Sandhills Bay	Clarendon	159,000
Saluda County Highponds	Saluda	54,000
LPD River Addn. (Ward)	Marion	107,000
Ashe & Beet Islands	Colleton	6,000
Black Creek	Darlington	37,000
Steven's Creek Addn. (FPB)	McCormick	141,000
LPD River Addn. (GP)	Marion	5,275,000
LPD River Addn. (Huggins)	Horry	250,000
Blackwell Bunched Arrowhead	Greenville	22,000
Glassy Mountain Addition-Hendricks	Pickens	86,000
Fort Lamar	Charleston	120,000
Richardson Plt. (Marys Island)	Colleton	2,168,000
Statewide Archeaol. Survey II	Statewide	15,000
Nipper Creek HP Gates	Richland	1,000
		-----
	TOTAL	8,666,000
Proposed Additions:		
Spartanburg Soapstone Outcrops	Spartanburg	234,000
LPDR Townsend	Horry	66,000
Lynchburg Savannah	Lee	126,000
		-----
		426,000
Approx. Jan. 1992 Cash Balance:		3,617,000
Anticipated Revenue in 1992:		2,400,000
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Total Cash Available in 1992:		6,017,000

HLTF Budget summary, page 2

Approved Expenditures - No Time Frame

Dukes Bay	Hampton	363,000
Long Branch Bay	Barnwell	80,000
Savannah River Bluffs Addn.	Aiken	332,000
York Subdivision Outcrop	York	30,000
Branchville Bay	Orangeburg	50,000
Dalzell Bay	Sumter	50,000
Halfway Gut Branch Bay	Dorchester	30,000
Reevsville Bay	Dorchester	20,000
Fish Haul Creek	Beaufort	100,000
Barton Bay	Allendale	255,000
* Mt. Pleasant Church Bay	Lee	82,000
* Lewis Ocean Bay Addition	Horry	793,000
* Hazel Lake	Aiken	939,000
		-----
		3,124,000

NOTE: All expenditures must meet State approval requirements and accounting standards.

# HLTF PROJECTED BUDGET

1-27-92

January 1, 1992 Balance:		3,617,000
Expenditures to Date:		
Savage Bay Addn. (McPhatter)	19,000	
	-----	
	19,000	(19,000)
Definite Commitments:		
LPD River Addn. (Ward)	107,000	
Ashe & Beet Is.	6,000	
Black Creek Property	37,000	
LPD River (Huggins)	250,000	
Richardson Plt. (Mary's Is.)	2,168,000	
Fort Lamar	120,000	
Glassy Mtn. Addn. (Hendricks)	86,000	
Blackwell Bunched Arrowhead	22,000	
Stevens Creek Addn. (FPB)	141,000	
Facilities and Plans	30,000	
	-----	
	2,967,000	(2,967,000)
Under Negotiation		
Sav. Riv. Bluffs (parking)	20,000	
Glassy Mtn. Addn. (Findley)	300,000	
	-----	
	320,000	(320,000)
Revenues Expected by Dec. 30, 1992		2,400,000
Projected Balance, Dec. 30, 1992		2,711,000
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Potential Large Area Projects		
LPD River Addn. (GP)*, 20,546 Ac.	7,500,000	
F. Beidler Forest Addn., 13,500 Ac.	5,000,000	
Pocotaligo Swamp, 12,000 Ac.	2,500,000	
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	15,000,000	(15,000,000)
Additional Funds Needed:		12,289,000
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301 Gervais Street, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214

April 27, 1992

Mr. Stuart Greeter  
Wildlife And Marine Resources Dept.  
P.O. Box 167  
Columbia, S.C. 29202

Dear Mr. Greeter:

Please find outlined below an explanation as to the procedure which was used that created an overpayment to the Heritage Trust Fund by the Tax Commission.

In 1986 an additional documentary stamp tax of ten cents for each \$500 of face value was added to transfers of real estate for the calculation of documentary stamp. In 1986 the Tax Commission was in the process of phasing out the documentary stamp tax on notes and mortgages as a result of a 1984 Act passed by the General Assembly. The only way that the Tax Commission could determine the amount of stamp tax to be attributed to the Heritage Trust Fund was to obtain information from the county clerk of courts or register mesne conveyance. The information which was submitted to the Tax Commission was based on the amount of documentary tax which is allowed to be imposed at the local level on transfers of real property. Local governments are allowed to collect at the rate of 50 cents per \$500 of face value. The Tax Commission used the information local governments submitted extrapolated off of state documentary stamp tax collections to determine the amount attributable to the Heritage Trust Fund. The calculation was correct for the first year of implementation.

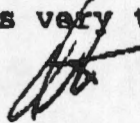
However in the second year, the last portion of the phase-out of the documentary stamp tax on notes and mortgages was completed therefore the tax applied only to transfers of deeds of realty at the state level. There was no need for the Tax Commission to continue to receive information from local governments on the amount of stamps used on real estate transfers. At this point and time the confusion of the conversion occurred. The Tax Commission continued to base its calculation on ten cents for each \$500 of face value as calculated on the local rate of fifty cents per \$500 of face value rather than ten cents per face value at the state rate of \$1.10 per \$500 of face value.



In essence the application resulted in about twice the amount of revenue being deposited to the credit of the Heritage Trust Fund.

If I can be of any further assistance, please advise.

Yours very truly,



Otis B. Rawl, Jr.  
Tax Manager

OBR:jr:dcn