

MINUTES  
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 10:30 AM  
S. C. MUSEUM, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

Members Present

Sid Gauthreaux (Chairman)  
Bruce Rippeteau (Vice Chairman)  
James A. Timmerman  
Fran Eargle  
Michael A. Ray  
Christie Z. Fant  
John F. Hassell, III  
Wade Batson  
Claudette Cureton  
Robert J. Gould  
Joe F. Watson  
E. D. Foxworth, Jr.  
Nell W. Smith

Members Absent

Edwin B. Drane  
Charles L. Compton

Other Attendees

Tom Kohlsaat  
Stuart Greeter  
John Cely  
Brock Conrad  
Albert C. Goodyear  
Steve Bennett  
John Nelson  
Doug Rayner  
Langdon Edmunds  
Jeff Allen  
Zach Corontzes  
Steve Smith  
LaBruce Alexander  
Roger Jones  
Roger Stroup

Chairman Gauthreaux called the February 5 meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) to order. Dr. Gauthreaux welcomed Representative Eugene Foxworth and Senator Nell Smith as new members to the Board and thanked them for their participation. The November 13 minutes were approved as written.

Budget Committee

Tom Kohlsaat passed out current budgets for the Heritage Land Trust Fund and the Check for Wildlife Fund. The Heritage Land Trust Fund budget listed protection projects the Board had previously approved for potential expenditures. The estimated expenditure through the remainder of the 1987 calendar year is \$965,000. The current balance in the Check for Wildlife Fund is \$129,227. Mr. Kohlsaat also passed out a report to the legislature on Heritage Land Trust Fund expenditures in 1986. Those expenditures totalled \$384,000.

Cultural Areas Committee

Christie Fant described the Nipper Creek Archaeological Site and reported that the Committee had obtained an option to purchase 66 acres at \$600 per acre. A motion was passed recommending that the Wildlife Commission purchase Nipper Creek.

Auldbrass Plantation was transferred to the Beaufort Open Land Trust who sold it to a private owner with an easement that protects the interior and exterior of the house. The owner will restore the house according to Frank Lloyd Wright's original plans.

Mrs. Fant distributed copies of the proposed easement legislation. A motion was passed that Heritage Trust proceed with introduction of the proposed easement legislation incorporating comments from the legal section of the Wildlife Department.

#### Natural Areas Committee

Dr. Batson explained the significance of Shiloh Savannah-Flatwoods which harbors four (4) rare plant species. This area was approved as a protection project.

#### Protection Projects Update

Stuart Greeter reported that properties at Savage Bay, Bennett's Bay, Cartwheel Bay and Flat Creek Natural Area had been purchased since the last HTAB meeting. The current situation with the Pee Dee Islands project was described. The Nature Conservancy had obtained an option on one tract and purchase of that property is contingent on getting options on two other tracts. Commitment to this project could mean an expenditure of a total of \$540,800 in three phases. The Board passed a motion to authorize expenditure of Heritage Land Trust Funds on Phase I of this project.

A plat to Cathedral Bay was passed out to Board members. Mr. Greeter described existing easements on the property and the existing oil and gas lease for subsurface activities on a part of the property. The Board passed a motion to purchase the property and not dedicate it until the oil and gas lease expired in four years.

An application has been made to the Land and Water Conservation fund and the Recreation Land Trust Fund to purchase property at two areas that are approved protection projects. The Heritage Land Trust Fund is intended to be used for half the cost. The properties are a Carolina bay adjacent to Little Pee Dee State Park and the sand rim at Woods Bay State Park. It is envisioned that the properties will be dedicated as Heritage Preserves and will be managed by the S. C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. The Board passed a motion to proceed with these projects with whatever 50% matching fund sources might be available.

#### Revised Project Priority System

Doug Rayner described a draft system for ranking protection projects. The entire system is based on three methods of segregating protection projects. The first division is species or elements that are classified to be of national significance and those that are of statewide significance. Secondly, the system lowers the importance of a project if it already has a substantial number of protected examples. Thirdly, within a particular project type, individual areas are listed in order of importance based on potential viability of the site. Project priority is also determined by threat, availability of the land, and availability of funds. The document also lists partially protected examples. Dr. Rayner pointed out that information listed in the document is confidential. In the future, Board members will know the rank of a particular project when new projects are presented.

### Savannah River Bluffs Management Plan

Tom Kohlsaet described the Savannah River Bluffs Management Plan which was mailed out prior to the last HTAB meeting. The Board passed a motion recommending the management plan to the Wildlife Commission for its approval.

### Other Business

Tom Kohlsaet called everyone's attention to the Carolina Bay display that was prepared by Steve Bennett.

The next HTAB meeting was scheduled for 10:00 AM on Tuesday, May 12, in the Rembert Dennis Building in Columbia.

Chairman Gauthreaux thanked Michael Ray, Roger Stroup and Dr. Ganong for hosting the Board meeting. The meeting was adjourned for lunch and a tour of the new Museum Commission Building.