

**MINUTES
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD
FEBRUARY 5, 1996
COLUMBIA, SC**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Whit Gibbons (Chairman)
Mr. Chris Judge (for Terry Ferguson)
Dr. John Dean
Mr. Jack Lunn
Mr. Tony Merck
Mr. Bruce Sahlman
Dr. Bruce Rippeteau
Ms. Mary Edmonds (for George Vogt)
Mr. Joe Mills (for Hugh Ryan)
Mr. Billy McTeer (for Joe Edens)
Mr. Tom Kohlsaas (for Jim Timmerman)
Mr. Irvin Pitts (for Grace Young)
Mr. R. Benjamin Scott, III

Members Absent

Dr. Overton Ganong

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Stuart Greeter
Mr. Greg Lucas
Mr. John Cely
Mr. Steve Bennett
Mr. Ken Prosser
Mr. Johnny Stowe
Mr. Paul League
Ms. Sylvia Murray
Mr. John Evans
Mr. Frank Chapman
Mr. Tom Murphy

Dr. Gibbons called the meeting to order and introduced Johnny Stowe as the new heritage preserve manager. He also recognized John Evans and Frank Chapman from Hilton Head Island.

Approval of November 2 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 2, 1995 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

Comments from the Director

In Dr. Timmerman's absence, Tom Kohlsaas stated there were no comments to report.

Other Business

Hilton Head Island Conservation Easement: Dr. Dean stated that when a governing body proposes to convey a conservation easement to another entity, a public hearing must be held on the issue by the Heritage Trust Program.

In accordance with this law, Dr. Dean said that he and Ken Prosser went to Hilton Head several weeks ago and conducted a public hearing on the proposed conveyance of property from the Town of Hilton Head to the Hilton Head Open Land Trust. He noted that the properties in question were explained in the information packet that was given out. Dr. Dean added that this was discussed by the Natural Areas Committee, which recommends approval of the easement.

Mr. John Evans spoke on behalf of the Hilton Head Open Land Trust and expressed his desire for approval of the conservation easement, as did Frank Chapman, former Mayor of Hilton Head Island.

Dr. Dean made a motion to approve the Hilton Head Island conservation easement. The motion was seconded and approved.

Reports and News Releases: Stuart Greeter distributed copies of the annual report for 1995, an updated heritage preserve list and several newspaper articles about the program. Stuart noted that more rare elements were protected in 1995 than in any other year in the history of the program. He added that the total acreage protected now exceeds 69,000 acres.

Natural Areas Committee

Dr. Dean reported that the committee discussed five items:

1. **Swallow Savanna:** Steve Bennett gave a report on this Carolina bay that is projected for restoration. In regard to this project, Dr. Dean said the committee discussed the principles and policy issues of mitigation, mitigation bank sites, management costs and the fact that there are no state guidelines for the mitigation process. Dr. Dean stated that once these issues become clear, the committee would like to discuss this topic again.
2. **Waccamaw River Management Plan:** An overview of the plan was given by Johnny Stowe. Dr. Dean noted that the plan is now in draft stage, but will be submitted to the Board in its final form. Johnny also discussed results of a survey conducted at the Myrtle Beach Wildlife Exposition.
3. **Duke Power Property:** A report was heard from Tom Kohlsaas on this site as

information to the committee.

4. **Oil Creek Headwaters:** Identified several years ago as an outstanding plant habitat area, Dr. Dean described the area as a rocky outcrop that contains a pitcher plant community in the middle of PRT Trail 20. He gave a brief presentation on the property and stated that the committee recommends as a motion that Heritage Trust work with PRT for registration of the plant community and stream associated with it for relocation and also work for relocation of the trail. The motion was seconded and approved.
5. **Dungannon Plantation:** Tom Murphy give a presentation on the background and management strategy of the Dungannon Plantation area. Dr. Dean said the committee recommends as a motion, approval at a project 1 level, acquisition of properties adjacent to Dungannon Plantation. The motion was seconded and approved.

Cultural Areas Committee

In Dr. Vogt's absence, Mary Edmonds reported that the committee had one action item.

Mary stated that the committee recommends, as a motion, that Heritage Trust purchase 1,781 acres of marsh and 100 acres of highland on Daws Island in Point Royal Sound. This includes four shell rings listed on the registry of 100 most significant archaeological sites in South Carolina.

Mary reminded the Board that a presentation on Daws Island was seen in August, 1995. At that time, she said the Board approved purchase of a portion of the island. Now, the committee recommends acquisition of the entire island.

Bruce Sahlman inquired about the potential of closing the island, as stated in the proposal submitted by Chris Judge. Chris responded that closing a heritage preserve is an option under the Heritage Trust Act and he inserted that language because looting has occurred on the island in the past. However, Chris stated that difficult access, along with assistance from Law Enforcement, should hopefully deter looters and prevent closure of the property to the public.

The motion to acquire Daws Island was approved.

Budget Committee

HTAB entered executive session and Stuart presented the budget. HTAB returned to regular session and a motion was made to approve the budget as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.

In regard to the Hitchcock Woods easement, a motion was made to authorize the HTAB Chairman to appoint a committee of three to negotiate with the Hitchcock Woods Foundation on behalf of the HTAB and to seek resolution of the easement by mid-March. The Committee would also be authorized to execute the easement. Otherwise, the document will return to the Board. The motion was seconded and approved.

Finally, an article about ecosystem management was distributed to Board members as information and as a possible future agenda item.

Adjourn.

Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures:

Feb. 8, 1996

Approx. January 1, 1996 Cash Balance:

2,536,794

Revenues Expected by December 30, 1996:

1,800,000

4,336,794

Less:

1996 Expenditures and Obligations:

Brasstown Creek

Oconee

(472,581)

Dargan HP Addn.-IP

Horry

(883,000)

(1,355,581)

Fixed Costs:

Preserve Management

(180,000)

Land Protection

(70,000)

Capital Improvements

(50,000)

Computer Upgrade

(7,501)

(307,501)

Total Cash Available in 1996:

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2,673,712

Less Commitments:

Cathedral Bay Addn.

Bamberg

(44,000) (+11,000)

Captain Cannons Sheep Pasture

Darlington

(89,000)

Hitchcock Woods

Aiken

(6,000)

Lynchburg Savannah-Clark

Lee

(585,000)

Old Island-TNC

Beaufort

0

Rock Hill Blackjacks-Marshall

York

(162,000)

Aiken Gopher Tortoise HP Addn.

Aiken

(292,000)

Daws Island

Beaufort

(369,000) (+303,000)

Ford's Shell Ring

Beaufort

(397,000)

LPD River-Woodbury

Marion

(2,224,000)

Fixed Costs:

Segars HP Footbridge

Darlington

(30,000)

(4,198,000)

Proposed Additions (2-8-96):

Watson HP Addn.

(13,000)

Duke Power Co.

(42,000)

(55,000)

CURRENT ESTIMATED BALANCE ON January 1, 1997

(1,579,288)

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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
Reevesville Bay	Dorchester	20,000
Barton Bay	Allendale	255,000
Mt. Pleasant Church Bay	Lee	82,000
Hazel Lake	Aiken	939,000
Sandhills Bay	Clarendon	159,000
Saluda County Highponds	Saluda	54,000
Cartwheel Bay Addn.	Horry	145,000
Glassy Mountain Addn.	Pickens	395,000
Fort Lamar	Charleston	318,000
Little Pee Dee River-IP	Marion	2,546,000
Fish Haul Creek	Beaufort	100,000
Henderson HP Addn.-Boyleston	Aiken	(57,000)
LPDHP Addn.-White	Horry	(48,000)

	TOTAL:	5,843,000

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

Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures:

Feb. 8, 1996

Approx. January 1, 1996 Cash Balance:

2,536,794

Revenues Expected by December 30, 1996:

1,800,000 (+300,000)

Less:

4,336,794

1995 Expenditures and Obligations:

Craig Pond Conserv. Ease.	Aiken	0
Rock Hill Blackjacks-Albright	York	(167,000)
Waccamaw River Addn.-Burroughs	Horry	(7,000)
Waccamaw River Addn.-Schultz	Horry	(411,000)
Aiken Co. Gopher Tortoise	Aiken	(213,000)
Dungannon Plantation	Charleston	(528,000)
Rock Hill Blackjacks Addn.-City	York	(9,000)
Buzzard Roost Addn.-Radar	Oconee	(122,000)
John Landrum Pottery Site	Aiken	(20,000)

Fixed Costs:

Preserve Management (\$160,000 approved)	(60,000)
Archaeology Contract	(35,000)
Land Protection Asst.	(35,000)
Roadwork, Gates and Signs (\$54,000 approved)	(23,000) (+9,000)

(1,630,000)

Total Cash Available in 1995:

2,706,794

Less Commitments:

Cathedral Bay Addn.	Bamberg	(33,000)
Stoney Creek Battery	Beaufort	(28,000)
South Williman Island	Beaufort	0
Captain Cannons Sheep Pasture	Darlington	(89,000) (-174,000)
Hitchcock Woods	Aiken	(6,000) (-9,000)
Henderson HP Addn.-Boyleston	Aiken	(57,000)
LPDHP Addn.-White	Horry	(48,000)
Dargan HP Addn.-IP	Horry	(883,000) (-17,000)
Lynchburg Savannah-Clark	Lee	(585,000) (-40,000)
Old Island-TNC	Beaufort	0
Rock Hill Blackjacks-Marshall	York	(162,000)
Aiken Gopher Tortoise HP Addn.	Aiken	(292,000) (-64,000)
Brasstown Creek	Oconee	(481,000)
Daws Island	Beaufort	(66,000)

Fixed Costs:

Segars HP Footbridge	Darlington	(30,000) (+15,000)
Bennett's Bay Reforestation	Clarendon	(15,000)

(2,775,000)

Proposed Additions (11-2-95):

Ford's Shell Ring	Beaufort	(397,000)
LPD River-Woodbury	Marion	(2,224,000)
Computer Upgrade	Statewide	(13,000)

(2,634,000)

CURRENT ESTIMATED BALANCE ON January 1, 1997

(2,702,206)

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
Reevesville Bay	Dorchester	20,000
Barton Bay	Allendale	255,000
Mt. Pleasant Church Bay	Lee	82,000
Hazel Lake	Aiken	939,000
Sandhills Bay	Clarendon	159,000
Saluda County Highponds	Saluda	54,000
Cartwheel Bay Addn.	Horry	145,000
Glassy Mountain Addn.	Pickens	395,000
Fort Lamar	Charleston	318,000
Little Pee Dee River-IP	Marion	2,546,000
Fish Haul Creek	Beaufort	100,000
	TOTAL:	5,948,000

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