

SOUTH CAROLINA HERITAGE TRUST PROGRAM
Thursday, January 18, 1979
Columbia, S. C.

*Special Mtg
on Criteria
(no Agenda)*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. William H. Abbott
(rep. Mr. Robert E. Leak)
Mr. Walter T. Ahearn
(rep. Mr. Leonard A. Kilian, Jr.)
Dr. Wade T. Batson
Mrs. Ethel Jane Bunting
Mr. Larry D. Cartee
(rep. Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr.)
Mr. Henry P. Fulmer
(rep. Mr. John W. Parris)
Dr. Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Jr.
Mr. Charles E. Lee
Mr. David C. Sennema
Dr. Robert M. Stephenson, Jr.
Mr. Benjamin F. Williamson, Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. John E. Cely, Heritage Trust Staff
Ms. Marilyn Chubb, The Nature Conservancy
Mr. Stu Greeter, Heritage Trust Staff
Mr. Thomas S. Kohlsaat, Heritage Trust Staff
Ms. Julie Lumpkin, Heritage Trust Staff
Ms. Jan Mewborn, Heritage Trust Staff
Mr. Sam Phillips, Heritage Trust Staff
Dr. Douglas A. Rayner, Heritage Trust Staff

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williamson. The minutes of the November 30 meeting were approved with the following change: Mr. Rudy Mancke of the Museum Commission represented Mr. David Sennema.

Dr. William Abbott, Staff Geologist for the State Development Board and Mr. Larry Cartee, Executive Assistant for the Wildlife Department, were introduced.

Since there was no formal set of agenda, the discussion was wide-ranging, dealing mostly with the goals and objectives of the Heritage Trust Program and the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. At the end of the discussion it was agreed that progress had been made in addressing several fundamental concerns. In order to more clearly set forth the key points raised, the record of discussion is organized below under several subject headings, rather than in chronological order. Items requiring action are underlined.

CRITERIA FOR CULTURAL AREAS—

The concepts of rarity, significance, and degree of endangerment were endorsed with some reservations concerning their applicability to cultural areas in the form presented by staff. Mr. Lee mentioned that the National Register of Historic Places and other existing programs afford adequate protection to most historic buildings, but the Heritage Trust is the only means of protecting culturally significant open space, such as the Ashely River Road corridor. As a first step in sharpening the focus on cultural areas, Mr. Lee and Dr. Stephenson agreed to submit lists of proposed priority projects at the next meeting. Dr. Abbott also agreed to submit such a list for geological areas. Staff agreed to update the proposed list of natural area projects.

It was also recognized that cultural protection projects have not been advanced as energetically as natural projects due to a lack of expertise in cultural subjects within the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department. To correct this situation, staff is to investigate the possibility of securing federal funds for added staff for the appropriate agencies.

THE ROLE OF THE ADVISORY BOARD—

There was strong agreement that the Board should take an active role in advancing the goals of the Heritage Trust and should actively pursue the protection of priority areas.

Several activities to increase the Board's involvement were suggested:

1. More active communication with the legislature, Governor, and Commissions of various state agencies. A presentation to each Commission represented on the Advisory Board was suggested. Agencies represented on the Board were asked to submit the name of a staff person to serve as liaison to the Wildlife Department Staff. The Board agreed that an annual report to the Governor should be prepared, separate from the Wildlife Department's report.

2. Find local avenues of support for priority projects. For example:
- a) U.S. Soil Conservation Service, through its Resource Conservation and Development Projects
 - b) The Historic Preservation Officers in each regional planning agency and the S. C. Federation of Local Historical Societies.
 - c) The S. C. Archeological Society
 - d) College faculty.

The feeling also was expressed that Advisory Board recognition of priority areas could stimulate local action to protect them.

3. Public Information Projects:
- a) a party
 - b) public meetings
 - c) a land preservation workshop

4. A fund raising campaign. Dr. Gauthreaux agreed to check on the details of the current Clemson campaign.

Staff is to evaluate these suggestions and advise the Board on their feasibility with respect to time and expense.

ASHLEY RIVER ROAD PROJECT—

After some discussion, Mr. Ahearn reviewed the minutes of past minutes and reported that the Board has not acted on the project. Mr. Lee agreed to mail a proposal and ballot to Board members.

Note: Mr. Lee and Mr. Kohlsaas have subsequently determined that it will not be possible to save time by preparing such a mailing, given that the next meeting is scheduled for March 1. A proposal will be presented at that meeting.

TECHNICAL DEFINITIONS—

Following a presentation by Mr. Kohlsaas some additional questions were raised requiring the assistance of legal counsel. Mr. Kohlsaas is to consult the Attorney General's staff and report back to the Board.

The next meeting dates for the Advisory Board were set for March 1 and June 7.

Adjournment.