

HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD
TENTATIVE BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA
10:00 a.m. - June 5, 1981
Room 335 - Rembert Dennis Bldg.
1000 Assembly Street - Columbia

- I. Introduction of new members
- II. Approval of March 6th Meeting Minutes
- III. New Business
 - A. Eastatoe Creek Management Plan
 - B. Public relations effort on non-game checkoff legislation
 - C. Ranking archaeological sites
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Heritage Trust Program 5-Year review report
 - B. Capers Island Deer Hunt
 - C. Information manual for new Board Members
 - D. Proposed projects:
 - 1) Woods Bay
 - 2) Granite Flatrocks
 - E. Project Updates
 - 1) Coleman Sagittaria site
 - 2) Protection Projects Status Report
 - 3) Other projects

S.C. HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD
Friday, June 5, 1981
Rembert Dennis Building, Columbia

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Walter T. Ahearn
(representing Mr. Leonard A. Kilian, Jr.)
Dr. Wade T. Batson
Mr. Fred P. Brinkman
Mrs. Ethel Jane Bunting, VICE CHAIRMAN
Mr. Ed Burgess
(representing Mr. Robert Leak)
Mr. John Clonts
(representing Mr. David C. Sennema)
Mrs. Christie Fant
(representing Mr. Charles E. Lee)
Dr. Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Jr. CHAIRMAN
Senator Arthur Ravenel
Dr. Robert L. Stephenson
Mr. Pat Walker
(representing Mr. John Parris)
Mr. Dan Dobbins
(representing Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr.)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mrs. Claudette Cureton
Mr. Henry Savage
Mr. Gurdon Tarbox
Dr. Robert Lumpkin
Rep. Daniel Winstead

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Brusi Alexander, S. C. Nature Conservancy
Mr. Steve Bennett, HT Staff
Mr. Dan Dobbins, HT Staff
Ms. Langdon Edmunds
Mr. Stuart Greeter, HT Staff
Mr. Tom Kohlsaas, HT Staff
Dr. Doug Rayner, HT Staff
Mr. Jim Sorrow, HT Staff

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gauthreaux. The minutes of the March 6 meeting were approved, after which a suggestion was made that the minutes be sent out with the information package for each meeting rather than as a separate mailing as soon as they are completed. Following a brief discussion, the Chairman found a consensus in favor of sending out minutes with the notice of the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Eastatoe Creek Management Plan. Jim Sorrow presented a draft management plan for the Board's approval. In response to a question by Dr. Batson, Mr. Sorrow explained that trail locations shown on the map in the management plan were conceptual and that actual trail locations would be determined on the ground. On the motion of Dr. Batson and second by Mrs. Bunting the management plan was approved.

The Public Relations Effort on Nongame Checkoff Legislation. Mr. Kohlsaas briefly explained the plans for the public relations campaign and presented a sketch of the proposed logo. Dr. Stephenson pointed out that the slogan "A check for wildlife" was ambiguous. Several suggestions were made for changing the logo. Mr. Kohlsaas then reviewed problems relating to getting information on the checkoff included in the state tax form instructions.

Ranking Archaeological Sites - Dr. Stephenson reported that the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology is installing a new computer system which will be used to keep track of information on archaeological sites. The system is intended to be compatible with the Wildlife Department's natural areas data base. With this system, natural areas data and archaeological areas data can be combined on a single map. This will make it possible to adjust potential natural area boundaries to include archaeological sites and to select potential heritage preserves based on both archaeological and natural values. The Board commended Dr. Stephenson for taking this step.

Mrs. Fant reported on an idea under consideration at Archives & History to tie in the activities of the Heritage Trust with their work on the National Register of Historic Places. She suggested that it may be possible to register areas which are already on the National Register with Heritage Trust, and perhaps modify the Heritage Trust Act to provide some additional protection or tax benefits. She recommended that Archives & History and Wildlife Department staff meet to discuss this possibility. The Chairman urged the staffs of the two agencies to follow up on this idea.

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Heritage Trust Program 5-Year Report

Dr. Stephenson and the staff distributed the following items:

- a summary report prepared by Chairman Gauthreaux and revised by Dr. Stephenson,
- 3 attachments containing the original questions directed to the Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission, the Advisory Board and the staff, together with the responses.

Dr. Gauthreaux noted that the report was considerably behind schedule and asked what needs to be done to convey the findings of the Review Committee to the Commission and other interested parties. Mr. Kohlsaas noted that the documents just distributed revealed several unresolved issues and requested some discussion of these. He noted that the summary report seems to indicate that additional staff is needed to assist with acquisition of culturally significant areas and he pointed out that this was not feasible from the Wildlife Department's standpoint. Mrs. Fant pointed out that the Archives & History Department takes a dim view of acquisition of cultural areas as a rule, and concurred with a recommendation in the Wildlife Department's report suggesting that the two agencies agree on their mutual responsibilities under the Heritage Trust Act. Several other comments were made by staff and Ms. Brusi Alexander on the summary report and Chairman Gauthreaux agreed that these points needed to be addressed before a final report is issued. Mr. Kohlsaas also pointed out that the summary report seems to define a new category of land of interest to the Heritage Trust, loosely defined as "large areas". Mr. Kohlsaas explained that the staff has considered the need for development of such projects in the past but has not been able to come up with suitable definitions or criteria. He expressed the hope that the Chairman will promptly appoint the committees suggested in the summary report and that these committees would begin to deal with this problem. Following a brief discussion on ways of revising and distributing the report the Chairman requested staff to assist him in obtaining approval from the Board of a final report with a mail ballot in approximately one month.

Capers Island Deer Hunt - Mr. Kohlsaas read the motion adopted by the Board at the March 6 meeting which is repeated below:

"The Heritage Trust Advisory Board recommends that the Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission and staff develop a management plan for Capers Island that would permit the thinning of deer and hog populations through special hunts and present this plan to the Heritage Trust Advisory Board for approval."

He reported that Dr. Lumpkin had conveyed the Board's feelings to the Commission at its March meeting. Recognizing the Board's concerns but noting that it was necessary to take prompt action if the hunt was to be held in the fall the Commission adopted a proposal to conduct an archery hunt on Capers Island on a one-year trial basis for the two weeks originally proposed, limiting participation to 40 hunters and 20 campsites. Mr. Kohlsaas also reported that he had been unable to obtain a consensus from people he had consulted concerning the possible need for a deer hunt on Capers to control the size of the deer herd. He requested more time to study this matter and distributed a set of proposed management objectives for the Board's consideration.

There ensued considerable discussion on the pros and cons of permitting a deer hunt on Capers Island. The Board informally agreed that there was no problem in a limited hunt for one season only in order to obtain information on the size and condition of the herd, however considerable concern was expressed over the precedent of this hunt and the future potential of public requests for increased deer management and hunting opportunities.

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Several members also had serious reservations about introducing turkey and fox squirrels to the island. The Board's authority concerning rules and regulations governing the use of Heritage Preserves was questioned, and it was suggested that the Board express its concerns to the legislature since the Commission had acted contrary to the Board's wishes.

Mr. Kohlsaas pointed out that according to the Heritage Trust Act the Board was limited to a purely advisory role in amendment of management plans and recommendations. In the course of discussion it was discovered that the Department's proposed rule and regulation instituting the hunt apparently did not limit the hunt to one year. Mr. Dobbins agreed to investigate this matter and see that the regulation was corrected before it went to the legislature.

Mrs. Bunting reiterated her opposition to any form of hunting on the island or to instituting ferry service and pointed out that the island presently provides a unique opportunity for Charlestonians to visit an undisturbed barrier island by boat. Mr. Kohlsaas reported that staff would proceed to draw up a management plan taking the Board's concerns into account, a job that would probably take at least 6 months. Several members requested copies of the current management plan entitled "A Conceptual Use Plan for Capers Island".

No further action was taken.

Information Manual for new Board Members - Mr. Greeter presented a single copy of a loose leaf notebook containing background information for new Advisory Board members. The Board requested Mr. Greeter to make such a book available to all board members.

Proposed Projects

1) Woods Bay. Mr. Greeter referred to the material which was mailed to Board members and gave a brief summary of the significance of Woods Bay. Mr. Clonts added that the PRT considers Woods Bay to be a significant natural area and affirmed PRT's intention to register the area. Following a brief discussion the Board agreed to add Wood's Bay to the list of approved projects.

2) Granite flatrocks. Referring to material distributed prior to the meeting, Dr. Rayner explained that he had completed his granite flatrock inventory and had three sites to recommend as approved projects: York Subdivision, Lorick, and Liberty Hill flatrocks. Following a brief discussion the Board acted to place these three sites on the list of approved projects.

Project Updates

1) Coleman Sagittaria site - Mr. Greeter explained that the registration agreement for this site had been cancelled because the property which was held in trust had been sold over Mrs. Coleman's objections. He reported that negotiations with the new owner are proceeding and that staff is investigating other suitable Sagittaria sites. He also advised that, given the rapid pace of land development in northern Greenville County, acquisition of some properties will be considered.

2) Protection Projects Status Report - Mr. Greeter called the Board's attention to the status report which had been distributed prior to the meeting. Chairman Gauthreaux noted that the list should be changed to reflect the new status of the Coleman Sagittaria site. The Board had no further comments or questions.

3) Other Projects

Georgetown Refinery. Mr. Kohlsaas reported that a revised environmental assessment had been received for the Corps of Engineers permit application for a pipeline under the Sampit River in connection with the proposed Georgetown refinery. He reported that the environmental assessment was inadequate from the Wildlife Department and Commission's standpoint,

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and that since the Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center may be adversely affected by the refinery, some action by the Board may be needed. Mr. Kohlsaas requested that, due to the length of the meeting, he be able to brief the Chairman at his earliest convenience and that the Chairman be authorized to correspond with the Corps of Engineers on behalf of the Board. The Chairman agreed to meet with staff as soon as possible and the Board authorized the Chairman to issue any correspondence he deemed necessary.

Ashley River Road - Mrs. Fant reported that the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments had completed its report on the Ashley River Conservation District and commended the report to Board members. She pointed out that several problems exist in the Ashley River Road area and gave as an example the serious riverbank erosion problem caused by boats. She added that no agency appears to have authority to control this problem. Mr. Dobbins suggested that it may be possible to institute regulations to control wakes on the Ashley River as has been done in other parts of the State.

Historic Preservation Fund - Dr. Stephenson and Mrs. Fant advised the Board that the Historic Preservation Fund administered by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior was about to be deleted from the Federal budget. They stressed that this would have a devastating effect on S. C.'s historic preservation program and that much ground would be lost. The Board authorized the Chairman to write on its behalf to the appropriate Congressional committees and administrative authorities in support of continued funding for the historic preservation fund. Mrs. Fant agreed to provide the Chairman with draft letters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.