

AGENDA

HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD

JUNE 8, 1978

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1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of March 2 meeting
3. Report of the Bylaws Committee
4. Project Proposal
  - Angel Oak Proposal
  - Mountain Bridge Proposal
5. Project Status Report
6. Presentation of Inventory Methodology

DRAFT

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD

10:00 am Thursday, June 8, 1978

1116 Bankers Trust Tower

Columbia, S. C.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Walter T. Ahearn  
(Representing Mr. John Tiller)  
Dr. Wade T. Batson  
Mr. Fred Brinkman  
Mrs. Ethel Jane Bunting  
Mr. Philip Edwards  
Mr. Henry P. Fulmer  
(Representing Mr. John Parris)  
Mr. Charles Lee  
Mr. David C. Sennema  
Dr. Robert Stephenson  
Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr.  
Mr. Ben Williamson

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. LaBruce Alexander  
Dr. H. Wayne Beam  
Mr. Stu Greeter  
Mr. Tom Kohlsaat  
Ms. Julie Lumpkin  
Ms. Elizabeth F. Mallin  
Ms. Jan Mewborn  
Dr. Doug Rayner  
Mr. Fred Zeigler

Vice-Chairman Ben Williamson called the meeting to order.

Mr. Kohlsaat made a clarification in the minutes regarding the motion on the Angel Oak, making it clear that the action was intended to provide the Board with more information and not to go ahead with negotiations. The Board approved this addition to the minutes. The minutes of the March 2, 1978 meeting were then approved.

Mr. Fred Zeigler, Attorney for the Wildlife Department, reported that an eleemosynary corporation could not be considered an alternative for providing a reserve for contributions, donations, etc. as State law does not provide for this type of fund. However, there is a new provision in the Fiscal Year 1979 Appropriations Bill (Section 131) which provides for creation of special accounts for contributions. Staff will report on feasibility of using this instrument after passage of the Appropriations Bill.

The next item on the Agenda was REPORT ON THE BYLAWS. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Ahearn moved that the Bylaws be accepted with amendments. The motion was seconded by Dr. Batson and unanimously agreed to by the Board. The following amendments were made to the third draft.

SECTION IV-A-Quorum. The presence of nine (9) Board members or their designated proxy at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION VIII-Voting by Mail. Deletion of the word "majority".

SECTION X-Amendments. Deletion of the word "majority".

It was pointed out that if members of the Board cannot attend a meeting, they should take advantage of the proxy provision in the Bylaws. A copy of the approved Bylaws is attached.



The next item on the Agenda was PROJECT PROPOSALS.

Angel Oak - Mr. Kohlsaas presented Mr. Felkel's preliminary site plan for the Angel Oak and reported on a meeting he and Mrs. Bunting had with Mr. Mitch Rodgers. They also met with representatives of the Sea Island Health Care Corporation, the adjacent landowner.

Mr. Kohlsaas also corresponded with the Director of the Charleston County Planning Commission and was informed of the zoning procedure which would apply in this case. It essentially states that to do this kind of development the property would have to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places or be a registered National Natural Landmark. Either act requires involvement of the National Park Service. Mr. Rodgers said they plan to apply to the Charleston County Zoning Commission for a variance requiring instead that the Oak be registered under the S. C. Heritage Trust. It was agreed that the Board faces two separate issues: 1) whether the tree is significant enough to warrant registration, and 2) if so, how to make sure development is appropriate to the intent of the Heritage Trust.

After some discussion, Mr. Williamson recommended approving the Angel Oak as a Heritage Preserve and proceeding with negotiations to preserve the Oak. Dr. Stephenson moved to approve the Angel Oak as significant and worthy for dedication as a Heritage Preserve and to authorize the staff to proceed with negotiations with the owner and report its findings to the Board by mail. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Mountain Bridge - The staff reported that the four properties of most significance from a natural areas and wildlife management standpoint are the Watson property, Table Rock Reservoir Watershed, Table Rock State Park, and Jones Gap State Park. Since all but one of these properties are in public ownership, protection would be relatively inexpensive.

Dr. Beam reported that the Governor has endorsed Mr. Wyche's proposal to fund the project by applying to the Secretary of the Interior for contingency funds.

The next item on the Agenda was PROJECT STATUS REPORT.

Eastatoc Creek - The matter with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has now been cleared up, and Duke's license has been amended. The Nature Conservancy is proceeding to work with Duke Power to acquire the property and hold it for the Heritage Trust until projects using funds obtained using the property as a match can be approved. At that time Eastatoc Creek will be passed to the State.

Shealy's Pond - This is an area which is planned for purchase with the Eastatoc Creek matching monies. Ms. Alexander, the South Carolina Nature Conservancy Representative, has entered into negotiations with the landowners around Shealy's Pond. Ms. Alexander and Dr. Rayner have met with the leaders of the St. David's Lutheran Church, the owner of the larger part of the property.

Ashley River Road & River Easements - Mr. Kohlsaas had a meeting with the staff of the Water Resources Commission, who had been pursuing protecting the Ashley under the State Scenic Rivers System. It was felt that a better approach might be to pursue some kind of private trust, where the landowners would not be giving easements to the state but rather to each other.



The Staff recommended that since Mr. Williamson has accumulated some experience with such an approach for the Black Creek Protection Association, we can let it serve as a precedent for the Ashley project. Mr. Lee pointed out that the Archives & History Department is securing easements on the road with the assistance of Hartzog, Lader & Richards.

Dr. Stephenson suggested having a representative from the Highway Department at the Advisory Board meetings. It was decided to invite a representative whenever it was appropriate.

The next item on the Agenda was PRESENTATION OF INVENTORY METHODOLOGY.

Following a lengthy presentation and discussion, the Board approved the Staff's procedures for obtaining and managing natural areas data and establishing protection priorities for recommendation to the Board.

A motion was passed requesting Mr. Lee and Dr. Stephenson to present the inventory and evaluation processes of their respective preservation programs at the next meeting. Mr. Lee noted that a method is needed to jointly evaluate sites having both cultural and natural value.

It was agreed that the next Advisory Board meeting will be September 7. The following is a list of meeting dates occurring the first Thursday of every 3rd month through 1979:

December 7, 1978

March, 1, 1979

June 7, 1979

September 6, 1979

December 6, 1979

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.