

MINUTES  
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD

May 16, 1996  
Columbia, S. C.

Members Present

Dr. Whit Gibbons (Chairman)  
Dr. Terry Ferguson (Vice-Chairman)  
Dr. John Dean  
Mr. Tony Merck  
Mr. Bruce Sahlman  
Mr. Joe Mills (for Hugh Ryan)  
Mr. Cary Chamblee  
Dr. Bruce RippetEAU  
Dr. George Vogt  
Mr. R. Benjamin Scott, III  
Mr. Billy McTeer (for Joe Edens)  
Dr. James Timmerman  
Mr. Mike Foley (for Grace McKown)  
Mr. Jim Knight (for Tony Ganong)

Others Present

Mr. Stuart Greeter  
Mr. Steve Bennett  
Dr. Bert Pittman  
Mr. Tom Kohlsaar  
Mr. Mike McKenzie  
Mr. Mike Prevost  
Mr. Johnny Stowe  
Mr. Ken Prosser  
Mr. Greg Lucas  
Mr. Fritz Hamer  
Mr. Larry Cartee

Members Absent

Mr. Jack Lunn

Dr. Gibbons called the meeting to order and called the roll.

Approval of February 15 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the February 15, 1996 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

Comments from the Director

In Dr. Timmerman's absence, Larry Cartee stated there were no comments to report. He added that Dr. Timmerman would try to attend the meeting after the DNR Board meeting is adjourned.

Other Business

S.C. Conservation Easement Act: Dr. Dean stated that the act calls for HTAB to play a role. However, in the interest of time, he said this topic could be deferred to a future meeting. Dr. Dean did encourage all members to read the conservation act.

### Cultural Areas Committee

Dr. Vogt reported that the committee had several budget items to present to the board in executive session. The items include Mitchelville, the second B.F. Landrum pottery site, and Ft. Frederick.

Dr. Vogt also reported that he and Dr. Dean attended the dedication ceremony of the Gopher Branch Heritage Preserve. He said there was good community participation for the event and added that this type of public forum involving the dedication of heritage trust preserves should be conducted as often as possible in the future.

### Natural Areas Committee

Dr. Dean reported that the committee discussed four items:

1. South Fork of the Edisto: Steve Bennett gave a report on this white cedar swamp site that was identified on the South Edisto River by Cindy Aulbach-Smith. He said that although white cedar is quite rare, two sites have been protected in the state. Steve added that this is the largest white cedar swamp in South Carolina and it is not associated with a man-altered system.

Dr. Dean said the committee recommends as a motion, approval of white cedar swamp as a protection project. The motion was approved.

Dr. Dean also said the committee recommends as a motion that staff conduct further studies in the planning zone of this area and develop a long-range plan for future acquisitions to this potential preserve. The motion was approved.

2. Waccamaw River Management Plan: Dr. Dean reported that Johnny Stowe had presented members with a draft of the management plan and has asked for approval to move forward with a public hearing in June. Dr. Dean said the committee recommends as a motion, approval to receive public comment on the draft management plan. The motion was approved.
3. Peter's Creek Hexastylis Site: Dr. Dean stated this project was previously approved by the Natural Areas Committee and now requires budgetary approval. Dr. Dean said the committee, in the form of a motion, would like to reaffirm its recommendation of support for Peter's Creek as a mitigation site for Piedmont streams. The motion was approved.
4. North Williman Island: Mike McKenzie described the area as approximately 10,000 acres of South Atlantic inland maritime forest. He stated that the island is at the upper end of the ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve and it is one of seven islands within the ACE Basin Reserve. Mike said he has heard a rumor of plans to develop the island into a weekend golf resort. In view of this, he feels its critical to preserve the island. Steve added that the ACE Basin is the third highest ranked large area for HTAB. Dr. Dean stated that the committee recommends, as a motion, approval of North Williman Island as a protection project. The motion was approved.

## Budget Committee

HTAB entered executive session and Stuart Greeter presented the budget. HTAB returned to regular session and a motion was made to approve the budget as presented with the Crescent property tagged as a priority assignment. The motion was approved.

Next, a motion was made for the HTAB chairman to appoint an ad hoc committee to develop criteria for prioritizing protection projects. The motion was approved.

Finally, Stuart Greeter asked HTAB as a group to consider possibilities for increasing revenues to the Heritage Land Trust Fund. Tom Kohlsaas asked members to look at creative ways to fund all projects.

## Other Business

In regard to the section's operating budget, Dr. Timmerman stated that when the check-off began, approximately \$370,000 was received annually. As other check-offs began to emerge, Dr. Timmerman said the amount of incoming funds declined. As a result, approximately \$70,000 will be received this year. Dr. Timmerman said that while the Senate has approved \$200,000 in operating expenses for Heritage Trust in their current budget bill, the House has not approved any operating funds. He said the budget bill has now gone to a conference committee and the House budget conferees include Henry Brown, Billy Boan and Al Robinson. Senate conferees are John Drummond, Verne Smith and Ty Courtney. Dr. Timmerman asked all HTAB members to urge conferees to support the Senate version of this amendment.

The next HTAB meeting is August 22 in Columbia.

Adjourn

Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures: May 9, 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 (33,551 spent)	(163,000) (+113,000)
Computer Upgrade	(7,501)
	(420,501)

Total Cash Available in 1996:	2,560,712
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Less Commitments:

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)
Daws Island	Beaufort	(369,000)
LPD River-Woodbury	Marion	(2,224,000)
Watson HP Addn.	Greenville	(13,000)
Crescent Resources-Tract 1	Pickens	(53,000) (+11,000)
		(3,501,000)

Proposed Additions (5-9-96):

Crescent Resources-Tract 2	(22,000)
Peters Creek	(19,000)
North Williman Is.	(14,000)
Mitchelville	(750,000)
B. F. Landrum	(450,000)
Fort Frederick	(43,000)
	(1,298,000)

Pending Additions (8-22-96):

Crescent Resources-Tract 1	(1,000,000)
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CURRENT ESTIMATED BALANCE ON January 1, 1997	(3,238,288)
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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
Cathedral Bay Addn.	Bamberg	44,000
Aiken Gopher Tortoise HP Addn.	Aiken	292,000
Ford's Shell Ring	Beaufort	397,000
	TOTAL:	<u>6,786,000</u>

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