

Minutes
SC Heritage Trust Advisory Board
November 3, 1994
Columbia, SC

Members Present

Dr. Whit Gibbons (Chairman)
Dr. Terry Ferguson (Vice-Chairman)
Dr. Jim Timmerman
Mr. Ed Drane (for Marion Burnside)
Dr. John Mark Dean
Mr. Russ McKoy
Mr. Chip Berry (for Cary Chamblee)
Mr. Jeff Baughman (for Joe Mills)
Dr. George Vogt
Mr. Steve Smith (for Dr. Rippeteau)
Mr. Buddy Jennings (for Grace McKown)
Mr. Tony Merck

Others Present

Mr. Tom Kohlsaat
Mr. Steve Bennett
Dr. Bert Pittman
Mr. Stuart Greeter
Mr. John Cely
Mr. Chris Judge
Mr. Ken Prosser
Ms. Sally Murphy
Mr. Tim Ivey
Mr. Greg Lucas
Mr. Ken Driggers
Mr. Mike Foley
Ms. Mary Edmonds
Mr. Bill Baughman
Mr. Jeff McLemore
Mr. Jack Walker

Members Absent

Mr. Jack Lunn
Dr. Overton Ganong
District 5 Seat Vacant

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

Approval of August 25 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the August 25, 1994 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

Comments from the Executive Director

Dr. Timmerman stated that all divisions within the DNR are working well together and that many activities are underway. Dr. Timmerman said that Land Resources and the CEC section have combined to offer an educational program to teachers. He said an agreement was recently signed with the state Department of Education. Dr. Timmerman also stated that a water resources plan for the state is currently under development.

In regard to restructuring, Dr. Timmerman stated that the name of the Nongame and Heritage Trust Section would be changed to Wildlife Diversity and the Game Section would be changed to the Wildlife Management Section. Dr. Timmerman said the changes should promote

more efficient and effective operations.

Next, Dr. Timmerman commented on the fact that excise taxes on hunting and fishing gear play an important role in funding game and fish activities. Dr. Timmerman stated that there needs to be a similar funding source for the Wildlife Diversity Section. Dr. Timmerman said a number of his people are in Atlanta looking at ways to establish just such a funding source.

Focus Areas

Tim Ivey began by stating that the North American Waterfowl Management Plan was started to improve conservation of migratory birds and wetland habitat. He stated that the major objective was to bring continental waterfowl populations back up to 1970 levels. The signing of the management plan in 1986 set the stage for a wide range of conservation agreements.

As an example, Tim said in 1988, SC Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy met to discuss a strategy to protect and preserve the ACE Basin. The US Fish and wildlife Service and private landowners also got involved which resulted in formation of the ACE Basin Task Force.

Tim stated that the mission of the Task Force was to identify critical habitats in need of protection. A boundary was set up that covered 350,000 acres. This defined area serves as the focus, or geographic area for habitat protection.

At the present time, Tim said a private lands initiative is now underway. This is a cooperative agreement between state, local and federal agencies established for the benefit of landowners in the ACE that want technical assistance.

Tim said that all purchases in the ACE have been through willing sellers. He said the initial goal of the task force was to protect 90,000 out of 350,000 acres. Currently, over 105,000 acres are now protected with a new goal of 200,000 acres by the year 2000.

In summary, Tim stated there are now nine task forces across the state. He gave out copies of a report outlining the focus areas and added there is still a lot to be accomplished.

Bunched Arrowhead Management Plan

Stuart Greeter stated that a copy of the plan had been mailed to all board members. Stuart displayed a map of the property and said the site contains the best population of bunched arrowhead that anyone knows of today.

Stuart briefly discussed the plan and reported that dove hunting and horse riding are no longer allowed on the preserve. He added

that the pond on the property will be managed for wading birds. Stuart also said that a stewardship committee formed by Jim Sorrow is actively working on improvements to the preserve.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve Management Plan. The plan was approved.

Conservation Finance Project

George Vogt introduced Ken Driggers as director of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation and stated that Ken gave the cultural areas committee a brief overview of the conservation finance project. Dr. Vogt added that the committee would like HTAB to endorse the project.

Ken passed out copies of a draft proposal and stated that a 35 person committee worked throughout the summer to formulate this document.

Ken stated that the concept of the project is to build public support for funding that is similar to a public foundation. Ken said a board will be established and member agencies will come before the board to request money for projects. Member agencies will be DNR, Archives and History, the Institute of Archaeology and PRT.

Ken added that local governments would be eligible and that non-profit groups such as TNC and land trusts could also request money as long as they are sponsored by a member agency.

Ken said that a need of \$180 million has been identified for distribution over a period of 10 years. He added that they are now in the process of thinking through the political strategy to accomplish this funding proposal.

Whit Gibbons asked if this project would jeopardize existing funding for the Heritage Trust Program. Ken answered that this proposal is for all new money, and existing money would not be affected.

George Vogt made a motion that HTAB endorse the project. The motion was seconded.

After some discussion, Dr. Vogt's motion was amended to endorse the principle of going to a broader umbrella funding concept with support from a coalition for establishment of a new funding source. The motion was approved. Several board members commented that they were not familiar with the details of the project and did not want their endorsement of this concept to be misrepresented as endorsement of the entire proposal.

Other Business

Stuart informed HTAB members that several press conferences will be forthcoming in the next several months. In December, January and February, press conferences should be held in Barnwell, York and Horry counties to promote a conservation easement and two property acquisitions. Stuart invited HTAB members to attend.

Next, Stuart passed out several magazine articles promoting heritage preserves in our state.

Finally, Stuart recognized Nature Conservancy board members Bill Baughman and Jack Walker.

Cultural Areas Committee

Dr. George Vogt reported that the committee heard status reports on 4 highly ranked archaeological sites and said that something should come before the board shortly concerning acquisition of these properties.

Next, Dr. Vogt said the committee discussed problems concerning vandalism on heritage preserves and the steps that might be taken to eliminate these problems.

Finally, Dr. Vogt asked the chairman to legitimize two members of the cultural areas committee. The first member, Dr. Ken Sassaman is representing the Council of SC Professional Archaeologists. The second, Neils Taylor, will represent the Archives and History staff. Chairman Gibbons appointed those individuals to the cultural areas committee.

Natural Areas Committee

Dr. John Mark Dean stated the committee considered 2 items, Lynchburg Savanna-Clark and the Duplin Marl planning area.

Steve Bennett passed out maps of the property to HTAB members and explained that the Clark tract is located in southern Lee County and consists of 826 acres. Steve said a longleaf pine community and a population of Canby's dropwort (Federally endangered) is located on the property.

Dr. Dean stated that the committee recommends approval of the area as a protection project. A motion was made and approved to establish Lynchburg Savanna-Clark as a protection project.

Next, Steve stated that examination of the Lynchburg Savanna area has led to a bigger planning zone concept. Steve said that soils in the area are composed of heavy clay and the sub-surface geology is called Duplin Marl. Steve added that there are a number of sites within the area with similar characteristics that are at risk.

Because of these factors, Steve stated that staff proposes to establish the areas of Duplin Marl as a planning zone.

Dr. Dean said the committee recommends that the Duplin Marl area be identified as a planning zone for staff. A motion was made, seconded and approved by HTAB to establish the planning zone.

Finally, Dr. Dean said the committee discussed restoration technologies and decided to meet at a future date to further discuss this topic.

Budget Committee

HTAB entered executive session and Stuart Greeter presented the budget. HTAB returned to regular session and voted to approve the budget as presented. A separate vote was taken on the Waccamaw River - Schultz acquisition project. The project was approved with Tony Merck abstaining.

Adjourn.

Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures: January 1995
11-3-94

Approx. January 1, 1994 Cash Balance: 2,748,000

Revenues Expected by January 1, 1995: 1,892,000

Less 1994 Expenditures and Obligations:

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------|
| * | Preserve Management | (120,000) |
| | Archaeology Contract | (35,000) |
| * | Land Protection Asst. | (35,000) |
| * | Roadwork and Gates | (14,000) |
| | Waccamaw Bridges Addn.-IP | (1,760,000) |
| | Forty Acre Rock Addn.-Horton | (45,000) |
| | Buzzard Island | (5,000) |
| | | ----- |
| | | (2,014,000) |

Total Cash Available in 1994: 2,626,000

Less Commitments:

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| | Cathedral Bay Addn. | Bamberg (33,000) |
| | Stoney Creek Battery | Beaufort (28,000) |
| | Lynchburg Sav. Addn.-Willis | Lee (15,000) |
| | Nipper Creek Addn.-James | Richland (21,000) |
| * | Waccamaw River Addn.-IP | Horry (812,000) |
| | South Williman Island | Beaufort (25,000) |
| | Captain Cannons Sheep Pasture | Darlington (263,000) |
| | Savage Bay Addn.-Peay | Kershaw (26,000) |
| | Savage Bay Addn.-Scurry | Kershaw (26,000) |
| | Rock Hill Blackjacks-Albright | York (200,000) |
| | Little Pee Dee River-IP | Marion (2,546,000) |
| | Buzzard Roost Addn.-Radar | Oconee (275,000) |
| | Waccamaw River Addn.-Burroughs | Horry (7,000) |
| | Hitchcock Woods | Aiken (15,000) |
| ** | Waccamaw River Addn.-Schultz | Horry (411,000) |
| | Henderson HP Addn.-Boyleston | Aiken (57,000) |
| | Aiken Co. Gopher Tortoise | Aiken (208,000) |
| | Ferguson's Mountain | York (261,000) |
| * | Pacolet HP Parking | Spartanburg (14,000) |
| | | ----- |
| | | (5,243,000) |

Proposed Additions (8-25-94):

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Dungannon Plantation | Charleston (500,000) |
| Bennett's Bay Reforestation | Clarendon (15,000) |
| | ----- |
| | (515,000) |

CURRENT ESTIMATED BALANCE ON January 1, 1995 (3,132,000)

- * Changed from Aug 15 budget
- ** Carried over from August budget

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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 |
| Fish Haul Creek | Beaufort | 100,000 |
| Barton Bay | Allendale | 255,000 |
| Mt. Pleasant Church Bay | Lee | 82,000 |
| Lewis Ocean Bay Addition | Horry | 793,000 |
| Hazel Lake | Aiken | 939,000 |
| Sandhills Bay | Clarendon | 159,000 |
| Saluda County Highponds | Saluda | 54,000 |
| LPD River Addn. (GP) | Marion | 5,275,000 |
| Cartwheel Bay Addn. | Horry | 145,000 |
| Lewis Ocean Bay Addn.-Waccamaw | Horry | 64,000 |
| Waccamaw Riv. Addn.-Head | Horry | 50,000 |
| Glassy Mountain Addn. | Pickens | 395,000 |
| Fort Lamar | Charleston | 318,000 |
| | TOTAL: | 9,584,000 |

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