

Minutes  
SC Heritage Trust Advisory Board  
November 4, 1993  
Columbia, S.C.

Members Present

Dr. John Dean  
Dr. Terry Ferguson  
Dr. Bruce Rippeteau  
Dr. George Vogt  
Mr. Joe Mills (for Hugh Ryan)  
Mr. Russ McCoy  
Ms. Wendy Parks  
Mr. Ed Drane (for Marion Burnside) (Chmn.)  
Dr. Jim Timmerman  
Mr. Joe Watson (for Bill Lawrence)  
Mr. Jack Lunn

Others Present

Mr. Stuart Greeter  
Mr. Steve Bennett  
Mr. John Cely  
Mr. Brock Conrad  
Mr. Tom Kohlsaatt  
Mr. Ken Prosser  
Ms. Mary Edmonds  
Ms. Nancy Vinson  
Mr. Greg Lucas  
Ms. Sally Murphy

Members Absent

Dr. Whit Gibbons (Vice Chmn.)  
Mr. Jim Crawford

Mr. Tony Merck  
Dr. Tony Ganong

Chairman Ed Drane called the meeting to order. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the August 5, 1993 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

Comments from the Executive Director

Dr. Timmerman stated that reorganization efforts to form the new Department of Natural Resources are progressing in a positive manner. He hopes to accomplish a majority of the work by April, 1994. Heritage Trust will not lose its identity within the new department. The Advisory Board, which is set up by legislation, will remain the same.

In regard to the budget, Dr. Timmerman said money is in short supply. He feels we need to start looking at other ways to generate funds. Dr. Timmerman also suggested we look at ways to expand the Heritage Trust Program into a total division concept. Further, Dr. Timmerman stated he would like to have a strategic plan by January.

Dr. Timmerman also reported that his counterpart in Florida, Bob Brantley, has recently retired and will be visiting our department early next year. In comparison to our Nongame Program, the Nongame Program in Florida is approximately six to seven years ahead of our program at present. Mr. Brantley will provide constructive criticism and work with us to improve our department.

Presentation of the Strategic Plan Draft

Tom Kohlsaatt presented a draft of the strategic plan compiled

by NGHT staff. He stated the strategic plan is composed of seven major objectives and within those seven major objectives were 24 tasks. Under those tasks, 96 separate jobs were identified. The plan also assumes there is unlimited funding.

Tom briefly discussed each objective and stated that the plan will undergo further internal review. He said the final result should be a message the legislature cannot ignore.

Nancy Vinson of the Sierra Club asked what funding mechanisms we were going after this year. Dr. Timmerman responded and said he had recently formed a committee to explore unique ways of funding. He added a meeting should be held with the Sierra Club in the near future to discuss such issues. Dr. Timmerman cited the returnable bottle bill in New York as an example of unique funding and stated that a user tax on such items as hiking gear and binoculars could be viewed as another possible funding mechanism. Ms. Vinson interjected that South Carolina is getting left behind. She believes our natural resources are eroding and we are missing opportunities for land acquisition. Ms. Vinson stated several examples of states acquiring large sums of money through referendums and legislative bills. She sees a sense of urgency in this matter and is eager to work with us.

Next, Dr. Timmerman discussed the biological survey program developed by the Department of the Interior. Dr. Timmerman said he has contacted Governor Campbell to inform him that the survey should be included within the Heritage Trust Program.

Finally, Dr. Timmerman said there must be integration of both game and nongame services in the strategic plan. He stated the main objective is to provide the best service possible to the people of this state.

Ms. Vinson concluded by asking if any funding mechanisms were being looked at for 1994. Dr. Timmerman replied no, but said although state appropriated funds were a possibility, most of the surplus state money is being designated to other critical need areas.

#### Nominating Committee

Ed Drane stated that according to our by-laws, officers must be elected to the Advisory Board on even-numbered years. Therefore, a nominating committee must be formed to elect officers at the first meeting of 1994. Mr. Drane asked for volunteers for the committee and stated he would be calling members next week if none came forward today.

#### 1994 HTAB Meeting Dates

Ed Drane asked members to turn in the list of potential meeting dates to Stuart so he can decide the best dates for members to convene in 1994.

### Other Business

Ed Drane commented on the 1991 acquisition of Green's Shell Enclosure in Hilton Head. He stated the town has committed funds in their budget to make improvements to the site.

Mr. Drane presented a drawing of the site and described the improvements, which included an entrance gate that has recently been installed. Other improvements will include better drainage, paving, and construction of a parking area.

Mr. Drane also said that a ramp and observation deck are needed at two locations to keep people from walking on the shell feature and eroding it. He added that Hilton Head conducts tours of the area on a regular basis and could use the platforms for educational purposes.

Stuart Greeter stated that Chris Judge would like to conduct shovel tests in the area to be paved. Ed Drane remarked that some tests have already been conducted, but Chris would have the opportunity to conduct additional tests of the area.

Dr. Bruce Rippeteau expressed his satisfaction with the improvements and stated that Mike Taylor was shown as local manager of the Hilton Head Museum. Dr. Rippeteau asked if the museum was going to appoint someone else. Mr. Drane remarked that the actual managing agency is the museum, not specifically Mike Taylor. Mr. Drane added that a search committee has been formed to appoint a new director of the museum.

### Land Acquisition Process

Stuart Greeter referred members to a handout that describes the steps that must be undertaken to acquire land. He believes that several of these steps are unnecessary and could be eliminated without jeopardizing the integrity of the process.

Stuart said he would like to eliminate the following steps:

1. The first review by the Joint Bond Review Committee and the Budget and Control Board.
2. The three reviews by the State Engineer's Office.
3. The Attorney General's approval of a cost estimate and an attorney.
4. The Attorney General's approval of the attorney's bill. Stuart informed the board that elimination of these steps would reduce the time it takes to acquire land by fifty percent. In addition, he said landowners would be much more receptive to selling land if the turnaround time for payment was quicker.

At the present time, however, Stuart stated he is not sure whether the process can be shortened or not. He said the department is looking at several different ways to accomplish this plan.



A question was asked concerning whether or not this would require legislative approval. Stuart replied that this process is not part of the Heritage Trust Act. He said these requirements are mainly rules and regulations required by other state agencies.

George Vogt stated that if you tie this plan in with Total Quality Management and deliver to the Ways and Means Committee, they would be very receptive to the idea.

John Dean recommended endorsement of the plan. On the motion, he suggested numbering the steps 1-14 and recommending removal of steps 3,4,5,6,7,8 and 13. The motion was approved by the HTAB to endorse the plan.

#### Cultural Areas Committee

Dr. Vogt stated the Committee is in the process of sending letters to the owners of the 100 most significant archaeological sites in the state to determine if they are interested in selling, donating or placing an easement on their property. He said the purpose of the letter is to generate a shorter list of actionable items.

Next, Dr. Vogt informed members of a possible addition to the Nipper Creek Heritage Preserve and also discussed the archaeological significance of Otter Island.

Finally, Dr. Vogt said he expected the Buzzard Island Shell Ring acquisition to be completed by the end of the year.

Dr. Vogt concluded by stating there were no action items to present.

#### Natural Areas Committee

Dr. John Dean reported that Linda Lundquist from The Nature Conservancy gave a presentation to the Committee about Olde Island earlier in the day.

Dr. Dean referred to Steve Bennett, who gave a brief description of the property. Steve said the 3,000 acre tract is located in Beaufort County and contains a number of elements of concern. In addition, he said the reason The Nature Conservancy became involved was because of the possibility of the owners of Fripp Island buying the property and turning it into a development site. The Nature Conservancy contacted the landowner and he agreed to sell at below fair market value.

Steve also stated that Olde Island is a good candidate for the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant, which was used to help purchase Otter Island. He added that this project may have a zero impact on our budget if this grant is acquired.

John Dean said the Committee feels this property is consistent

with the objectives of putting large tracts of land together. He also stated a letter of support was received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stating Olde Island will rank high on the 1994 Coastal Grants Program.

A motion was made and passed by the HTAB to approve Olde Island as a protection project.

Dr. Dean then informed members of two other items:

1. Waccamaw River Update - Steve Bennett contacted The Nature Conservancy and the Heritage Trust Program in North Carolina about preserving land along the Waccamaw. Both agencies were very interested. Currently, negotiations are underway with Georgia Pacific on a 2,000 acre tract along the Waccamaw in that state. Steve reported there will be a future meeting with both our state and North Carolina to discuss a possible joint project along the Waccamaw River.
2. Next, Dr. Dean reported that GIS systems within the agency are moving forward and GAP analysis will be an important operational feature. He would like a presentation of GAP analysis at a future meeting.

#### Budget Committee

HTAB entered Executive Session and Stuart Greeter presented the land acquisition budget. The HTAB went back into regular session and voted to approve the land acquisition budget as presented.

#### Meeting Dates

Ed Drane announced the 1994 meeting dates as follows: February 3, May 5, August 25, and November 3.

#### Miscellaneous

George Vogt informed members that Archives and History had been approached by Hugh Lane of Charleston about the possibility of compiling a historical atlas of the ACE Basin. Mr. Lane funded a feasibility study which states that resources are available. This will be a joint project with The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited and the S.C. Archives and History Foundation. Dr. Vogt stated the final book will be sold for the benefit of all those involved.

Adjourn.

# HERITAGE LAND TRUST FUND STATUS -- FIRST QUARTER, 1993

Jan. 1993 Cash Balance: 3,351,000

Anticipated Revenue in 1993: 1,300,000

## Less Approved Projects :

Black Creek (Darlington Co.)	37,000	
Fort Lamar (Charleston Co.)	318,000	
Cathedral Bay Add. (Bamberg Co.)	33,000	
Ferguson's Mountain (York Co.)	261,000	
Bennett's Bay Add. (Clarendon Co.)	60,000	
Stevens Creek Add. (McCormick & Edge	131,000	
Glassy Mountain Add. (Pickens Co.)	395,000	
Cartwheel Bay Addn. (Horry Co.)	145,000	
Buzzard Island (Charleston Co.)	5,000	
Stoney Creek Battery (Beaufort Co.)	28,000	
Roadwork, parking, signs, etc.	21,000	
Statewide Surveys (Natural & Archaeo	65,000	
		(1,499,000)

Unobligated Balance: 3,152,000

## Less Potential Projects :

Aiken Co. Donation (Aiken Co.)	25,000	
Bay Point Island (Beaufort Co.)	200,000	
Iron Works (Cherokee Co.)	120,000	
Schweinitzes Sunflower (York Co.)	200,000	
LPD Addition-Holiday (Marion Co.)	85,000	
LPD Addition-Ward (Marion Co.)	113,000	
Bluff Plantation (Berkeley Co.)	100,000	
Black Creek Add. (Darlington Co.)	500,000	
Waccamaw Bridges Add. (Horry Co.)	1,200,000	
Lewis Ocean Bay Add. (Horry Co.)	1,500,000	
		(4,043,000)

1993 Shortfall: (891,000)

Anticipated Revenue in 1994: 1,200,000

## 1994 Approved Priority Projects:

Britton's Neck (Marion Co.)	5,200,000	
LPD River Add. (Horry Co.)	1,200,000	
		(6,400,000)

1994 Shortfall: (6,091,000)

Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures to	Jan. 1994
	1-29-93
Approx. Jan. 1993 Cash Balance	3,351,000
Revenues Expected by Jan. 1, 1994:	1,300,000
Less: 1993 Expenditures	0
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Total Cash Available in 1993:	4,651,000
Less: Commitments	
Bennett's Bay Addition	Clarendon 60,000
Black Creek	Darlington 37,000
Steven's Creek Addn. (FPB)	McCormick 131,000
Fort Lamar	Charleston 318,000
Ferguson's Mountain	York 261,000
Cathedral Bay Addn.	Bamberg 33,000
Glassy Mountain Addn.	Pickens 395,000
Cartwheel Bay Addn.	Horry 145,000
Green's Shell Gate	Beaufort 1,000
Roadwork at Vaughn & McCall	Horry & Dar 20,000
Contract Employee	Statewide 30,000
Inst. of Arch. & Anth. Contract	Statewide 35,000
Proposed Addition (2-4-93)	
Stoney Creek Battery	Beaufort 28,000
Buzzards Island	Charleston 5,000
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	(1,499,000)
CURRENT ESTIMATED BALANCE ON JAN. 1, 1994	3,152,000
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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
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		8,612,000

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