

Minutes
Heritage Trust Advisory Board
November 5, 1998
Columbia, S.C.

Members Present

Dr. Terry Ferguson, Chair
Mr. Tony Merck, Vice-Chair
Mr. Michael Todd Smith
Dr. Julius Leary
Mr. Bruce Sahlman
Mr. Jon Leader (for Bruce Rippeteau)
Mr. Rodger Stroup
Mr. Joe Mills (for Hugh Ryan)
Ms. Ann Nolte (for Freddy Vang)
Mr. Brock Conrad (for Paul Sandifer)
Mr. Mike Foley (for Buddy Jennings)

Others Present

Mr. Tom Kohlsaat
Mr. Stuart Greeter
Mr. Steve Bennett
Dr. Bert Pittman
Mr. Dan Dobbins
Mr. Chris Judge
Mr. Johnny Stowe
Mr. Ken Prosser
Mr. Tim Ivey
Mr. Breck Carmichael
Ms. Mary Edmonds
Ms. Kathy Boyle
Ms. Mary Bunch

Members Absent

Mr. Dick Scott, III
Dr. Tony Ganong

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

Approval of August 6 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the August 6, 1998 Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB) meeting. The motion was approved.

Comments from the Director

In Dr. Sandifer's absence, Brock Conrad announced that Breck Carmichael had been selected as Billy McTeer's replacement.

Public Comments

The public had no comments.

Natural Areas Committee

Joe Mills reported that the committee discussed five items, two of which would be presented in executive session.

1) Hitchcock Woods Management Plan: Johnny Stowe stated that we hold a conservation easement on this property, located in the City of Aiken. He said the committee had examined the plan and recommends approval of the forest management section. As funds become available, Mr. Stowe said that an archaeological survey would be completed and outlined in a separate plan. Mr. Mills stated the committee as a motion recommends approval of the forest management section of the management plan with the understanding that an archaeological section will be developed later. The motion was approved.

2) Poe Creek: Mary Bunch described the property as south of SC Highway 11 beside Keowee-Toxaway State Park in Pickens County. She stated that the 800-acre tract contains two extremely rare elements, Mountain Sweet Pitcher plant and the Bog Turtle. Ms. Bunch added that four other elements and three rare plant communities have also been found on the property. Mr. Mills stated the committee as a motion recommends approval of Poe Creek as a protection project. The motion was approved.

3) The Narrows/Big Dam Swamp: Located along Black River northeast of Andrews, Bert Pittman reported that this 6000-acre tract contains freshwater marshes, loblolly pine hammock communities and old-growth bald cypress. He said a study by Professor David Stahle from the University of Arkansas revealed that the area contains some of the oldest bald cypress trees ever documented for the species. Further, Dr. Pittman noted that three rare species are found on the site. Mr. Mills said the committee as a motion recommends approval as a protection project. The motion was approved.

Cultural Areas Committee

Rodger Stroup reported the committee discussed three items.

1) Preservation, Technology and Training Grant: Sponsored by the National Parks Service, Chris Judge explained that this potential grant would provide money to update the list of 100 archaeological sites and to develop criteria to evaluate sites with architecture. He requested a letter of support for the grant from HTAB, which would be included in the grant proposal. A motion to write a letter of support was approved.

2) North Island Lighthouse: Mr. Stroup reported that this structure is on the National Register of Historic Places. Initially, he said the Coast Guard expressed an interest in divesting themselves of the site because they did not think they could replace an electric light in the lighthouse without destroying the historical significance of the structure. However, Mr. Stroup said the SHPO's office had no problem with their plan to replace the electric light with a solar-powered one. He also said Senator Hollings wrote

Dr. Sandifer a letter stating the Coast Guard was given permission in the recent budget bill to give DNR the property. Currently, Dr. Ferguson said they are uncertain of the Coast Guard's plans for the property and they need to seek clarification on the issue.

3) Long Island: Located near Ft. Lamar in Charleston County, Mr. Judge said Governor Beasley's office asked him to investigate this federal civil war site as a possible acquisition for Heritage Trust. Although it originally appeared that the project would move quickly, he stated that it is now dormant.

Budget Committee

HTAB entered Executive Session to discuss budget issues. HTAB returned to regular session and voted to approve the Heritage Land Trust Fund budget. Woods Bay, Big Pine Tree Creek and Mitchelville were included as budget additions.

Other Business

1) Stewardship: Mr. Stowe and Mr. Judge updated members on stewardship activities.

2) Election of Officers: Mr. Stroup said the nominating committee proposed that Terry Ferguson be nominated for another term as Chair and Dr. Julius Leary be nominated as Vice-Chair. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations. Dr. Ferguson and Dr. Leary were approved by HTAB.

Dr. Ferguson recognized HTAB member Tony Merck for his service and presented him with a plaque. He announced that Governor Beasley has appointed Keith Hinson from Myrtle Beach to replace Mr. Merck.

Dr. Ferguson asked members for nominations for the Environmental Awareness Award.

3) Heritage Trust Strategic Plan: Dr. Ferguson asked each committee for their comments, which will be incorporated into a second draft of the plan.

Mr. Stroup summarized the comments of the Cultural Areas Committee. He said they included defining a regional contextual criterion as the Natural Areas Committee has done with the ecoregional concept, addressing expanded management issues and ways to increase the preserve management budget, increasing the public's knowledge of the Heritage Trust Program, establishing an updated list of archaeological sites (including those with architecture), and whether or not to enact user fees on preserves.

Concerning user fees, Dr. Ferguson said that HTAB should tell the DNR Board that they would like to have an active role in deciding the outcome of this issue. Mr. Conrad suggested putting this topic on the agenda of the next HTAB meeting and let Mr. Kohlsaas give them the information he has collected on this subject. Dr. Ferguson agreed and said a formal recommendation on this issue will be developed at the next meeting.

Mr. Stowe summarized the comments of the Natural Areas Committee. He said issues that were discussed included ecoregional planning, user fees and liability concerns, state surveys and private property rights, and a proposed legislative bill allowing DNR to write regulations governing specific areas.

Dr. Ferguson asked members to continue their work on the strategic plan and give their comments to him or Mr. Kohlsaas by the end of the year. Then, he said a second draft would be completed.

Adjourn.

"PROPOSED"

Heritage Land Trust Fund Approved Expenditures:

November 5, 1998

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Approx. January 1, 1998 Cash Balance: | 1,462,365 |
| Revenues Expected by December 30, 1998: | 2,200,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total Funds Available: | 3,662,365 |

Other Expenditures:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Pres Mgt (includes \$90,000 carryover) | (311,000) |
| Land Protection | (80,000) |
| Capital Improvements (\$42,892 Spent) | (459,900) |
| HP Artifact Cataloguing | (8,000) |
| NAP Photography Contrib. | (5,000) |
| | <hr/> |
| | (863,900) |

Less Commitments:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Bird Mtn. Coserve. Ease. N | Spartanburg | (1,000) |
| North Williman Is. (75)N | Beaufort | (14,000) |
| Fort Frederick (30)C | Beaufort | (21,000) |
| Greens Shell Encl. C | Beaufort | (118,000) |
| Aiken Gopher HP Addn.-Hurt(21)N | Aiken | (65,000) |
| Peters Creek HP Addn.-Hough(89)N | Spartanburg | (81,000) |
| Woods Bay HP Addn.-Moore(80)N | Sumter | (60,000) |
| Blackwell B A HP Addn. (54)N | Greenville | (725) |
| Rock Hill BJ HP Addn. (5)N | York | (58,850) |
| Lewis O B HP Trade-BBA(24)N | Horry | (13,675) |
| Lewis O B HP Trade-Vaught(24)N | Horry | (8,575) |
| Waccamaw River HP Addn. (121)N | Horry | (11,375) |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | (453,200) |

Additions:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Woods Bay Addn.-Moore(76)N | Florence | (18,175) |
| Big Pine Tree Creek(27)N | Kershaw | (18,025) |
| Mitchelville(5)C | Beaufort | (200,000) |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | (236,200) |

CURRENT ESTIMATED BALANCE ON January 1, 1999

2,109,065

(N) Natural Areas Project
 (C) Cultural Areas Project
 (#) Rank

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Approved Expenditures - No Time Frame:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Dukes Bay(N) | Hampton | 363,000 |
| Long Branch Bay(N) | Barnwell | 80,000 |
| Savannah River Bluffs Addn.(N) | Aiken | 332,000 |
| York Subdivision Outcrop(N) | York | 30,000 |
| Branchville Bay(N) | Orangeburg | 50,000 |
| Dalzell Bay(N) | Sumter | 50,000 |
| Halfway Gut Branch Bay(N) | Dorchester | 30,000 |
| Reevesville Bay(N) | Dorchester | 20,000 |
| Barton Bay(N) | Allendale | 255,000 |
| Mt. Pleasant Church Bay(N) | Lee | 82,000 |
| Hazel Lake(N) | Aiken | 939,000 |
| Sandhills Bay(N) | Clarendon | 159,000 |
| Saluda County Highponds(N) | Saluda | 54,000 |
| Cartwheel Bay Addn.(N) | Horry | 145,000 |
| Glassy Mountain Addn.(N) | Pickens | 395,000 |
| Henderson HP Addn.-Boyleston(N) | Aiken | 57,000 |
| LPDHP Addn.-White(N) | Horry | 48,000 |
| Cathedral Bay Addn.(N) | Bamberg | 44,000 |
| Ford's Shell Ring(C) | Beaufort | 397,000 |
| Mitchelville(C) | Beaufort | 750,000 |
| LPD River-Woodbury(N) | Marion | 1,500,000 |
| | | ----- |
| | TOTAL: | 5,780,000 |

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

98BUD3