

MINUTES
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD
NOVEMBER 7, 1991, COLUMBIA, SC

Members Present

Dr. Bruce Rippeteau (Acting Chairman)
Dr. Whit Gibbons
Dr. Jim Timmerman
Mr. Steve Scott (for Hugh Ryan)
Mr. Jim Crawford
Mr. Brock Conrad (for Chuck Compton)
Mr. Sam Cargill (for Ed Burgess)
Dr. George Vogt
Mr. Ed Drane
Ms. Wendy Parks
Dr. John Mark Dean
Mr. Michael Ray
Ms. Claudette Cureton
Mr. Fred Brinkman
Mr. Tony Merck (for Wallace Pate)

Others Present

Mr. Steve Bennett
Mr. John Cely
Mr. Bert Pittman
Mr. Jeff McLemore
Mr. Tom Kohlsaas
Ms. Kay Smith
Mr. Chris Judge
Mr. Joe Watson
Dr. John Nelson
Mr. Greg Lucas
Ms. Mary Edmonds
Ms. Linda Lundquist
Mr. Bill Lawrence

Members Absent

Senator Sam Stillwell
Representative Robert Barber

Chairman Rippeteau called the meeting to order and recognized guests and new members. He then presented a plaque to outgoing Board member Claudette Cureton and thanked her for her 12 years of faithful service on the board. Fred Brinkman also announced his pending retirement and introduced his successor as Director of the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department, Bill Lawrence. Dr. Rippeteau explained that Senator Sam Stillwell and Representative Barber no longer will serve on the Board, as a consequence of the passage of ethics legislation in a special legislative session this summer. Under this law, legislators are not allowed to sit on Boards and Commissions such as the Heritage Trust Advisory Board.

The minutes of the August 15 meeting were approved as submitted.

Cultural Areas Committee

Committee Chairman Ed Drane reported on three items.

1) Statewide survey - Ed Drane and Bruce Rippeteau explained the background of this project, and Chris Judge distributed 10 bound copies of the report. Mr. Drane explained that this list will be the basis for selecting future cultural projects and should be considered the "top 100" cultural protection projects in the state. On the motion of Mr. Drane, the Board voted to consider the report privileged information and limit its distribution. The motion also provided that individual site reports could be given to the landowner and contributors of information for each particular site.

2) Victoria Bluff Addition - Mr. Drane reported that the federal budget contains a NOAA grant of approximately \$1 million toward this site, which will be made available through the Coastal Council. In addition, another \$1 million is included in the state bond bill which is presently on the Governor's desk for signature. Dr. Timmerman added that the federal grant stipulates that one-third of the land will be used for recreation, one-third for mariculture, and one-third for educational purposes. Mr. Brinkman pointed out that the state bonding money will be allocated to the Recreation Land Trust Fund for this project. Dr. Dean reiterated that no commitments have been made to specific uses of any particular site on the property. Mr. Drane reported that he is not ready to recommend withdrawing \$100,000 from the Heritage Trust budget reserved for this project until the state and federal funding has received final approval.

3) Fort Lamar - Chris Judge presented a proposal to add this site to the list of approved projects. Mr. Judge explained that the significance of this site lies in an 1862 battle which was a major setback for the Union forces and prevented a more serious attack on Charleston. Remains included a battery, a possible burial site, and a large encampment. Mr. Judge quoted one expert, Tracy Powell, who feels that this is the most important Civil War site in South Carolina. On the motion of Mr. Drane, the project was added to the approved projects list. Mr. Drane added that further projects would be forthcoming from the list of 100 sites in the statewide survey.

Natural Areas Committee

Dr. Gibbons moved that one project be added to the list of approved projects: a 50-acre Carolina bay across U. S. 21 from Branchville Bay. He explained that it is a pond cypress savanna bay harboring Rhexia aristosa and the federally endangered Oxypolis canbyii. Steve Bennett gave additional background information, including a slide presentation, and recommended that the site be added to the list. Chairman Rippeteau pointed out that documentation for this project was mailed late, but that it could be taken up without objection from the Board members. The motion to add this project to the list of approved projects was approved.

Strategic Planning Committee

Tom Kohlsaas reported that the committee had lost two members, Dr. Steve Smith and Dr. Wade Batson. He recommended that the committee be reconstituted and meet shortly after January 1, 1992 to discuss the draft report and bring recommendations to the Board. Mr. Kohlsaas then described Department activities on two of the strategies in the draft plan, the proposed car title fee legislation and a proposal to add \$200,000 to the Nongame & Heritage Trust operating budget for a Natural History Survey. Information sheets on these two items were distributed, and Board members were encouraged to support this legislative initiative. Mr. Kohlsaas reported that Representative Barber was prepared to advance these items in the next legislative session. Dr. Timmerman

joined Mr. Kohlfaat in explaining the programs, as well as the entire Department's dire budget situation and the need to acquire additional operating funds. Dr. Dean stressed the importance of having state funds for operations to reduce our dependence on grants and contracts which are seldom discretionary. Mr. Kohlfaat concluded that, without objection from Board members, the staff would proceed to secure passage of these two budget items.

Comments from the Executive Director

Dr. Timmerman expanded on earlier comments concerning the budget situation. He pointed out that the Department had been advised to seek funding for certain projects outside the state system and that the Department was considering carrying out a constituent survey known as "Responsive Management" within the next two years. Several Board members joined Dr. Timmerman in stressing the importance of maintaining a strong education program in the face of budget difficulties. At the request of Dr. Dean, staff agreed to check on the possibility of having a presentation of Project WILD.

Publicity on Property Donations

Tony Merck reported that he has no overall recommendations, but he pointed out that each specific site and landowner was unique and that we should look for appropriate opportunities to publicize the landowner's good works. He advised the Board that he would discuss this matter further with Stuart Greeter.

Freedom of Information Act Opinion

Chairman Rippeteau described the problems regarding risk of site destruction connected with inadvertent release of sensitive information. Example: the statewide survey of 100 cultural sites discussed in the Cultural Areas Committee report. On the other hand, much of the work we do could be a source of good publicity. Therefore, we need to protect only that information which would genuinely pose a threat to a site if it were released.

Mr. Kohlfaat briefly summarized an opinion from the Wildlife Department's attorney. In summary, raw data in the inventory files is not protected under the Freedom of Information Act, but the status of a property as a potential acquisition, as well as subsequent information gathered to support negotiations, is protected.

There followed a brief discussion on the imperfections of the Freedom of Information Act, and Chairman Rippeteau reiterated the experience of the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology in attempting to protect inventory information. Dr. Timmerman offered to arrange for a fuller explanation of the Freedom of Information Act to the Board at a future meeting.

Protection Projects Update

Linda Lundquist briefed the Board on the status of several projects. Ms. Lundquist mentioned substantial progress with Lynchburg Savannah and an addition to the Savage Bay Heritage Preserve. Dr. Timmerman added that Medway Plantation is proposed for protection by Heritage Trust under a third party right of enforcement of an easement to be conveyed to Ducks Unlimited.

Heritage Trust Advisory Board Meeting Dates

Chairman Rippeteau reported that Board members had been polled on date preferences, and that the following dates had been selected for 1992 meetings: February 20, May 21, August 20, November 19. Board members were asked to reserve those dates.

Proposed HLTF Budget and Additions

A motion was passed to go into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters. Upon return from Executive Session, four projects were added to the budget, totaling \$2,306,000. Staff was authorized to expend all remaining funds on approved projects. In the absence of legislative members of the Budget Committee, Chairman Rippeteau appointed Mr. Drane and Dr. Gibbons to the Budget Committee and instructed the committee to meet prior to the next Board meeting. He appointed Mr. Drane Chairman of the Budget Committee.

Nominating Committee Report

Committee Chairman George Vogt reported that the committee had selected a slate of candidates consisting of Mr. Drane for Chairman and Dr. Gibbons for Vice Chairman. Chairman Rippeteau ruled that in accordance with the Advisory Board By-laws, election of officers would be the second item of business following approval of minutes at the February 20, 1992 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Heritage Land Trust Fund Budget summary for 1991

10-31-91

Project Name	County	Expenditure
1991 Expenditures		
Ashmore Addition (Padgett)	Greenville	75,000
Deveaux Bank	Charleston	0
Green's Shell Ring	Beaufort	83,000
Waccamaw Bridges	Horry	234,000
Milford Plantation Appraisal	Sumter	5,000
Ashe, Beet Islands Acq Cost	Beaufort	18,000
Cultural Areas Protection Plan	Statewide	30,000
Tilghman Addition	Marion	3,000
Janet Harrison HP	Aiken	23,000

		471,000
1991 Commitments		
Ashe, Beet, Big, Boler Is.	Beaufort	50,000
LPD River Addn. (Ward)	Marion	107,000
LPD State Park Bay	Marion	120,000
Savage Bay Addn. (Trivett)	Kershaw	14,000
LPD River Addn. (Vaughn)	Horry	982,000
Black Creek	Darlington	37,000
GPD River (McCall)	Darlington	772,000
Savage Bay Addn. (McPhatter)	Kershaw	19,000
Steven's Creek Addn. (FPB)	McCormick	141,000
* LPD River Addn. (GP)	Marion	5,275,000
* LPD River Addn. (Huggins)	Horry	250,000
Statewide Archeaol. Survey II	Statewide	30,000
Buzzard Roost H.P. Road Work	Oconee	5,000
Large Areas Planning Grants	Statewide	5,000
Flat Creek Gates/Road Work	Lancaster	2,000
Nipper Creek HP Gates	Richland	1,000

	TOTAL	7,810,000
Proposed Additions:		
Blackwell Bunched Arrowhead	Greenville	22,000
Glassy Mountain Addition-Hendricks	Pickens	86,000
Fort Lamar	Charleston	60,000
Richardson Plt. (Marys Island)	Colleton	2,168,000

		2,336,000
Reserved Approp. Sav. R. Bluffs	195,000	
Approx. Jan. 1991 Cash Balance:	3,405,000	
Anticipated Revenue in 1991	2,408,000	

Total Cash Available in 1991	6,008,000	

HLTF Budget summary, page 2

Approved Expenditures - No Time Frame

Cartwheel Bay Addition	Horry	145,000
Sandhills Bay	Clarendon	159,000
Saluda County Highponds	Saluda	54,000
Mt. Pleasant Church Bay	Lee	82,000
Lewis Ocean Bay Addition	Horry	793,000
Hazel Lake	Aiken	939,000
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

		3,482,000

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

HLTF PRIORITY BUDGET

10-31-91

January 1, 1991 Balance:		3,405,000
Expenditures to Date		(471,000)
Definite Commitments		
LPD River Addn. (Ward)	107,000	
Ashe, Beet, Big, Boler Is.	50,000	
Savage Bay Addn. (Trivett)	14,000	
LPD State Park Bay	120,000	
Savage Bay Addn. (McPhatter)	19,000	
GPD River (McCall)	772,000	
LPD River Addn. (Vaughn)	982,000	
Facilities and Plans	43,000	
	-----	(2,107,000)
Under Negotiation		
Glassy Mtn. Addn. (Mauldin est)	90,000	
Steven's Creek Addn. (FPB)	141,000	
Sav. Riv. Bluffs (parking)	20,000	
Glassy Mtn. Addn. (Findley)	300,000	
Black Creek Property	37,000	
LPD River (Huggins)	250,000	
	-----	(838,000)
Revenues Expected by Dec. 30, 1991		2,408,000
Projected Balance, Dec. 30, 1991		2,397,000

Potential Large Area Projects		
Richardson Plt. (Marys Island)	2,168,000	
LPD River Addn. (GP)*, 20,546 Ac.	5,275,000	
F. Beidler Forest Addn., 13,500 Ac.	5,000,000	
Pocotaligo Swamp, 12,000 Ac.	2,500,000	
	-----	14,943,000
Additional Funds Needed:		12,546,000
		=====