

MINUTES
HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NAURAL RESOURCES
COLUMBIA, SC
RICHLAND COUNTY
FEBRUARY 2, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT

Campbell Coxe (Chair)
Henry Fair (Vice Chair)
Julia Krebs
Jake Rasor
Beth Grace
Joel Felder (for Gene Kodama)
Eric Emerson
Ken Rentiers
Phil Gaines (for Duane Parrish)

OTHERS PRESENT

Alvin Taylor
Don Winslow
Kay Daniels
Herrick Brown
Sean Taylor
Bert Pittman
Kathy Boyle
Johnny Stowe
Ken Prosser
Steve Bennett
Julie Holling

MEMBERS ABSENT

Randy Lowe
Sonny King
James Hill (for Bobby Hitt)
Dave Cicimurri (for William Calloway)
Jonathan Leader
John Frampton

Call to Order

Campbell Coxe called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and requested they introduce themselves. Chairman Coxe recognized Colonel Alvin Taylor as the new Director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), congratulated him on his new position, and told him the members of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board looked forward to working with him.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Coxe asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions to the minutes from the November 10, 2011 meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board (HTAB). *Mr. Fair made a motion that the Board approve the minutes of the November 10, 2011, meeting, as submitted. Mrs. Grace seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously*

Poinsett Bridge HP Construction Update

Sean Taylor, DNR archaeologist, updated the Board on the Poinsett Bridge Stabilization and Public Access Plan. He showed photographs of the bridge and parking area and explained the method used to remove graffiti from the bridge. Mr. Taylor reported that the construction of steps from the highway to the bridge area had been completed and noted that all remaining work should be completed by the end of 2013. He reported that at least 600 people visited the preserve last summer. Colonel Taylor stated he has received many positive public comments about the property. A discussion followed about the options for surveillance cameras on the preserve. Mr. Taylor said staff will investigate the matter and advise HTAB at a later meeting.

The Natural and Cultural History of Cane in the Southeastern United States

Johnny Stowe, Region 2 wildlife biologist and heritage preserve manager, gave the Board a presentation on the natural and cultural history of cane in the southeastern United States. He stated there are 92 locales in South Carolina that have cane as part of their name.

Mr. Stowe explained that cane originated in old Indian fields, and it is the number one building material used in Asia. He noted that cane is used in the construction of some knives and drills. Mr. Stowe said the canebrake rattlesnake derives its name from being found in cane fields, as does the cutter rabbit. He stated that there are three types of cane found in South Carolina: 1) river cane, 2) switch cane, and 3) ridge cane. Mr. Stowe stated that species such as quail can live in cane patches and others such as the wild turkey can use it for cover.

Updates & Comments

Ken Rentiers, deputy director for DNR's Land and Water Division, reminded the Board that they are required to complete an online disclosure form for the State Ethics Commission by April 15, 2012. A \$100 fine will be levied if the form is not completed on time. Mr. Rentiers welcomed Colonel Taylor as the new agency director.

Budget Updates

Mr. Rentiers reported that the agency is not expecting any cuts in the budget this year. He distributed the revenue statement and noted that income to the Heritage Land Trust Fund was down from last year.

Mr. Rentiers reminded Board members that the 16th Annual Johannes Kolb Archaeology and Education Project will be March 5-20 and March 12-16 at the Great Pee Dee Heritage Preserve in Darlington County. On Saturday, March 10, from the 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., he stated the public is invited to tour the site. Mr. Rentiers encouraged everyone to visit the preserve and added that the project was supported and funded fully this year.

Executive Session

At this time, Mr. Fair made a motion that the Board hold an Executive Session to discuss contractual and legal matters. Mr. Razor seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Return to Regular Session

Mr. Felder made a motion that the Board return to regular session. Mrs. Grace seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Razor made a motion for staff to obtain an appraisal on property in Aiken County. Dr. Krebs seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board will be held Thursday, May 3, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources in Columbia.

Adjourn

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, Mr. Fair made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Krebs seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

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