

**MINUTES**  
**HERITAGE TRUST ADVISORY BOARD**  
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY  
COLUMBIA, SC  
RICHLAND COUNTY  
NOVEMBER 4, 2010

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Campbell Coxe (Chair)  
Beth Grace  
Julia Krebs  
Sonny King  
Jake Rasor  
Eric Emerson  
Phil Gaines (for Chad Prosser)  
Mike Shealy (for Gene Kodama)  
Breck Carmichael (for Mike McShane)  
Fritz Hamer (for William Calloway)  
Ken Rentiers  
Jonathan Leader

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ken Prosser  
Kay Daniels  
Julie Holling  
Sean Taylor  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tim Ivey  
Deanna Ruth  
Kathy Boyle  
Herrick Brown  
Bob Perry

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Henry Fair (Vice Chair)  
John Frampton  
Jim Hill (for Joe Taylor)

**Call to Order**

Campbell Coxe called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and requested they introduce themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Coxe asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions to the minutes from the May 6, 2010, meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. *Mr. Rasor made a motion that the Board*

*approve the minutes of the May 6, 2010, meeting, as submitted. Dr. Leader seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Coxe asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions to the minutes from the October 6, 2010, teleconference meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board. *Dr. King made a motion that the Board approve the minutes of the October 6, 2010, teleconference meeting, as submitted. Mr. Rasor seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

### **Updates and Comments**

Ken Rentiers informed the Board members that Dr. Barry Beasley retired from SCDNR as of November 1, 2010. He recognized staff members from Heritage Trust for their years of service with certificates from NatureServe.

Mr. Rentiers reported that the budget situation is still dire and the agency will probably face another 15 percent cut in the coming year. He reminded Board members that any support they could offer during the upcoming legislative session would be appreciated.

### **Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve: Overview of Wetlands Issue**

Breck Carmichael reminded Board members of an e-mail he sent out on May 17, 2010, informing them of a problem during construction of a road on the Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve concerning wetlands and the Corps of Engineers. He said that in 1989, the agency obtained an access easement over Henry Road, but a right-of-way fence installed by the State Department of Transportation (DOT) in 2002 cut off that access. Mr. Carmichael said negotiations with DOT to regain access continued for the next seven years without resolution. He noted that a wildfire in 2009 destroyed the fence, which brought DNR and DOT back to the bargaining table. Because of federal highway standards, DOT stated that access to Henry Road could not be restored and they suggested DNR build a new road adjacent to the old one and DOT would pay for it. Mr. Carmichael reported that staff began work and was notified by the Corps early in the process that a culvert had been improperly installed. He said staff corrected the problem and consulted with the Forestry Commission concerning Best Management Practices. After the road was completed, Mr. Carmichael stated that the Corps informed the agency of a wetlands violation concerning six acres. He said DNR immediately admitted the violation at a press conference with the Corps and began working with them to correct the problem. Mr. Carmichael noted that it now appears that DOT will again allow DNR access along Henry Road, but added no funds were ever paid to DNR by DOT to construct the new road as previously agreed.

Bob Perry, DNR Director of Environmental Programs, reported on the settlement agreement as it currently stands with the Corps of Engineers. He said DNR manages over 260,000 acres of land and there has never been a violation in the past. Mr. Perry stated this was an honest mistake and DNR admitted the violation immediately. He explained that major violations comprise anything over five acres and are subject to prosecution by the Justice Department with fines up to \$37,500 per day. Mr. Perry said DNR entered into a settlement agreement in lieu of prosecution. He stated that the Corps has said we can keep the road that was built, but we must correct ancillary

adverse impacts associated with it and the best way to do that is to remove them. Also, he noted an agreement with DOT would be needed to fix these problems, and after doing so, the hydrology and natural vegetation at the site should be restored. Mr. Perry said a five-year period of monitoring and reporting will be required, along with a plan to restore 30 acres of wetlands on Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve. Further, he stated additional remedies would include the implementation of an environmental protocol and an education plan for staff, along with an outreach program to educate and inform the public about environmental issues. Finally, Mr. Perry said the agency would document a monetary value of all the work and follow established procedures by the Corps.

Mr. Hamer asked how much of this violation can be attributed to loss of staff. Mr. Perry said he thought it played a role and Mr. Carmichael noted that the agency is short-staffed statewide.

Mr. Carmichael stated that DNR is not finished building silviculture roads on Lewis Ocean Bay or on other agency properties. When the preserve was first acquired, he said there were a number of access points, but all of them have been lost except one.

### **Archaeological Significance of the Congaree Creek Heritage Preserve**

Sean Taylor explained that artifacts recovered from archaeological sites on the preserve provide evidence of inhabitants nearly 12,000 years ago, in which distinctive stone tools have been found called Clovis points. He added that other remnants of stone tools and some of the earliest pottery made in the state were left at the site by Native Americans. Mr. Taylor said trails created by Indians on the site were used by early Old World Colonists as paths into the interior of South Carolina and eventually trading posts and towns were established there. He noted that a portion of one early colonial town, Saxe Gotha, is protected on the preserve. As Columbia developed, Mr. Taylor explained that industrial interest in the resources led to the creation of clay mines by the Guignard family. For at least 100 years, he said clay was mined from the area to make bricks and open pits are still visible today. Mr. Taylor stated that war touched the area when Sherman marched on Columbia and a short skirmish took place adjacent to the preserve at a bridge that crosses a creek on Old State Road. In summary, Mr. Taylor said much can be learned about the history of the Midlands through careful excavation of the preserve.

### **Project Updates**

Mr. Rentiers complimented Sean Taylor for his work on all archaeological sites in the state and said a permanent exhibit of Kolb site artifacts has been placed in the new Florence hub office. He reported that approval of the proposed lease for the Cayce Riverwalk extension by the DNR Board was postponed until the November meeting. Mr. Rentiers said the final phase of the Belfast acquisition was completed in July and a dedication ceremony for the property would be held on November 16, 2010. He noted that staff were in the final stages of completing work on an addition to the Aiken Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve, which is being funded via a mitigation project in the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division.

### **Budget Overview**

Mr. Rentiers stated that it would be one to two years before Heritage Trust would be in a favorable position to make any major land acquisitions. He distributed two sheets indicating revenue income under the Heritage Trust Program.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Heritage Trust Advisory Board will be Thursday, February 3, 2011, at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History in Columbia.

The meeting dates for 2011 are: February 3, May 5, August 4, and November 3. Unless notified otherwise, the meetings will be held at the SC Department of Archives and History.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

/k