



2020 Hampton St. • Room 3063A  
P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202  
(803) 576-2082

## Minutes

June 22, 2009

4:00 P.M.

### Attendance:

Members present:

Gary Atkinson, Becky Bailey, John Grego, Sam Holland, Carol Kososki, Jim Lawracy, Marcia Lucius, Mildred Myers, Glenice Pearson, Virginia Sanders

Members absent: Frank Houston

Others Present:

Jessica Artz, Gill Creek Watershed Association  
Catherine Fleming Bruce, Waverly Community  
Hugh Caldwell, Richland SWCD  
Charlie Fisher, Richland SWCD  
Thomas Delage, Richland County Planning Dept.  
Jenny Dowden, Richland County PIO  
Tamara King, Richland County PIO  
Jerica Bethel, Richland County PIO  
Ken Driggers, Ken Driggers, LLC  
Bill Stevens, Richland County Coroner's Office  
Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation  
Jim Wilson, Richland County Environmental Program Manager

Chair Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 4:00PM with a quorum present.

**Minutes:** The minutes of May 18, 2009 were approved.

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved.

**Special Acknowledgement:** Jennifer Dowden, Public Information Office, Richland County. Mrs. Dowden, representing the Richland County Administrator's Office, presented the RCCC a National Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties. These awards are given for outstanding innovative programs. Only three Counties received awards with Richland County receiving five. This Award recognized the RCCC for its outstanding program of Preserving Richland County's Natural and Historic Legacy.

**Comprehensive Landuse Plan:** Thomas Delage, Richland County Planning Dept.

Mr. Delage's presentation focused on the Natural Resources element of the Comprehensive Landuse Plan. The purpose is to recognize and maintain our natural resources and sensitive lands on the 484,186 acres in Richland County. Mr. Delage briefly discussed the eight goals of the plan: Establish an atmosphere of awareness of natural resources, Protection of our natural resources, Neighborhood Master Plans, Protection of trees, Protection of watersheds, Increase open space, Establish, maintain, and protect greenway systems, and Improve air quality.

**Richland County Cemeteries:** Bill Stevens, Richland County Coroner's Office

Mr. Stevens is the Anthropologist at the Coroner's Office and a USC Grad Student. He briefly discussed the role and responsibilities of the Coroner's Office. Currently the preservation of cemeteries is beyond the goals of the Coroner's Office. They have a document of most of the known Richland County Cemeteries, prepared by Vernon Kirkpatrick who worked as a volunteer with the Coroner's Office, on paper but not digitized. They do have maps of locations for the cemeteries. Jim Wilson will check with the IT Department regarding digitizing of the inventory of cemeteries. The Historic Committee will research and bring recommendations to RCCC.

**Richland County Greenways:** Ken Driggers, LLC

Mr. Driggers discussed the proposed Greenways System, a hubs and spokes system of open space and greenways, with four new Hubs: Broad River area, Blythewood area, Wateree River area, and Congaree area. The existing hubs are: Harbison State Forest, Congaree Swamp, Sesqui, and Ft. Jackson. The projected cost for the five year project is \$51,250,000. We are seeking for County Council to adopt the concept and approve the funding plan.

Due to the 5:30 PM adjournment time, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to extend the meeting time by fifteen minutes.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to move ahead with the Greenways program. A presentation is scheduled before the D & S Committee on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM. It was mentioned that the second reading on the Electronic Billboards is also on the same agenda.

**Conservation Committee:** Gary Atkinson, Chair:

Easement proposals will be presented to County Council D&S Committee tomorrow, June 23.

**Historic Committee:** Frank Houston, Chair

Nancy Stone-Collum distributed the Historic Columbia Foundation brochure – Main Street, self-guided Architectural Walking Tour. Marcia Lucius represented the RCCC at the May 26<sup>th</sup> Pine Grove School Dedication. On June 19<sup>th</sup> there was an unveiling of the Historical Marker for Bethel AME

**Publicity Committee:** Sam Holland, Chair:

We met with Zero Gravity regarding updating our video with new projects for use on our website and asked about the possibility of Public Service Announcements regarding natural resource conservation, preservation, etc. We are moving along with the inventory project. We will put our National Association of Counties Achievement Award on our website.

We were mentioned on Awareness on Sunday. They did a report on Pine Grove School and mentioned the RCCC as a grantor.

Sam attended the Richland Conservation District's Recognition Banquet last Tuesday night where a lot of students were recognized for their essays, art, posters, etc on what they are learning in school about conservation.

**Finance Committee:** Virginia Sanders, Chair.

Copies of the FY-09 budget summary, the Conservation and Historic Committee's budgets were reviewed. Approximately 99% of this year's budget has been obligated. (Copies are attached to file minutes)

**Program Manager's Report:** Jim Wilson:

Our three contractual agreements were emailed. The total amount remains the same as FY08-09 for the same services and same people. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the three contractual agreements as emailed. (Copies are attached to file minutes)

The FY09-10 Plan of Work was emailed to everyone in advance. A motion to approve the Plan of Work as emailed was made, seconded, and passed. (Copy is attached to file minutes)

A motion was made, seconded and passed to extend meeting time by 10 minutes until 5:55 PM.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Jim Lawracy presented a report on a water quality assessment of the headwaters of Gills Creek prepared by his son nine years ago. (Copy is attached to file minutes)

**Public Input:**

Ms. Catherine Brice thanked the RCCC for it's past support. She updated us on the status of Waverly Visanka-Starks Carriage House. The roof has collapsed. They have until November to stabilize the building to get Landmark priority. It will be open to public when completed as well as during planning process. It is located on the street with Allen University. This is referred to Historic Committee for review and recommendation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 PM

**Next Meeting**

July 27, 2009 – 4:00 PM .

Submitted by:  
Hugh Caldwell  
Staff Support