



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

Minutes

February 27, 2006
4:00 P.M.

Richland County Administration Building
4th Floor Administrative Conference Room

Attendance

Six members were present:

Becky Bailey, Margaret DuBard, Sam Holland, Frank Houston, Carol Kososki, and Maxey Love.

Four members were absent:

Preston Holston (on a trip to Morocco), Stuart Hope (unexpected work conflict) Mildred Myers and Virginia Sanders (recovering from a stroke).

Others Present:

Jim Wilson, Richland County Environmental Program Manager; Ken Driggers & Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation; Michael Criss and John Newman, Richland County Planning & Development; Buddy Baker and Wade Bales, SCDNR.

Call to Order

Becky Bailey, Chair, called the meeting to order and declared a quorum available to conduct business at 4:06 PM.

Minutes

Minutes from January 23, 2006 as presented.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to amend the agenda by moving item #10 (Executive Session) up in the agenda after item #4 (Conservation Land Focus Area. Agenda was approved as amended.

New Commission Members:

Chair Becky Bailey introduced two new Commission Member Appointments: Sam Holland, District 3, appointed by Councilman Damon Jeter and Carol Kososki, District 8, appointed by Councilman Mike Montgomery. Each member shared information about them and their interest

in the Conservation Commission. Ms. Kososki agreed to serve on the Conservation Committee and Mr. Holland agreed to serve on the Historic Committee. Jim Wilson, Program Manager provided each with a packet of information on the Conservation Commission and offered to meet with the new members for a more detailed orientation of the Commission.

Attendance Record

The commission member attendance record for commission meetings for 2006 was distributed. A copy is filed with the minutes.

FY-06 Budget Update

The budget spreadsheet was distributed with FY-06 expenditures totaling \$91,614.81 leaving a balance of \$535,495.19. A copy is filed with the minutes. Our Finance Committee will meet with County Council in April regarding our millage for the FY-07 Budget.

DNR – Conservation Lands Focus Area:

Mr. Buddy Baker with SC DNR was introduced by Jim Wilson. Mr. Baker stated that the State Focus Groups were looking at lands in Richland County in the Congaree/Wateree/Upper Santee Focus Area. Richland County makes up a large portion of the focus area. The area has a high percent of floodplain, various migratory birds and many unique features. They are partnering with Conservation Agencies on easements such as the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) of the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service. These are not land purchases but voluntary contributions of easements. Mr. Wade Bales added that they are interested in the lower Broad River basin as well.

Executive Session:

A motion was made, seconded and passed to go into executive session.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to come out of executive session.

A motion was made that the Agreement For Consulting Services with Palmetto Conservation Foundation (PAF) be accepted as amended in executive session to run through June 30, 2006. The motion was seconded and passed. A copy of the agreement is filed with the minutes.

New Business

Hugh distributed brochures of the Low Impact Development (LID) Workshop for March 13-14, 2006. A copy is filed with official minutes. Any of the commission members interested in attending were asked to complete the registration form and get to Hugh by January 30th. Registration fee will be paid by the Conservation Commission.

Program Manager's Report

Jim Wilson covered several items as follows:

- A meeting with the County Council Member and Conservation Commission Member will be arranged, one per month. They will discuss the possibility of holding a public meeting in each District.
- Ashley Jacobs, Assistant County Administrator, has resigned to pursue other opportunities.
- Chair Becky Bailey will be on Council's agenda on March 7th at 6:00 PM to explain the Commission's goals, Grants Program, Program Manager, Work Plan and plans for

District Public Meeting. All Commission Members are invited and encouraged to attend.

- The next Conservation Commission Executive Committee staff meeting is scheduled for March 15th, 10 AM to 12 NOON.
- The next Commission meeting is March 27th at 4 PM in the Third Floor Conference near the Conservation District Office (Room 3063A).

Palmetto Conservation Foundation Report

Nancy Stone-Collum brought to our attention that the Application For Conservation Easement Endorsement was never officially approved form last March 2005 meeting. A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to approve the document. Hugh will add the Conservation Easement Policy, approved by County Council, and the Application for Conservation Easement Endorsement to the Conservation Commission's website. Hugh will send new members copy of the documents with the minutes.

Nancy distributed a summary of Commission activities for 2005. A copy is filed with the minutes.

The period of accepting applications for Historic Preservation Grants is now open. Information on the program was given to each member. Please mail or email to anyone that may be interested. Nancy will review applications and then meet with Historic Committee to select recipients. A copy of the document is filed with the minutes.

Randolph Cemetery:

Mr. Houston reported that a grant had been received from the SC Dept. of History and Archives. Nancy and Frank will continue to monitor.

Public Input

None

Meeting was adjourned at 6.02 PM.

Next Meeting

Monday March 27, 2006 at 4:00 PM in the conference on the third floor of Richland County Administration Building.

Respectfully Submitted

Hugh Caldwell
Staff Support