



2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A  
P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202  
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## Notes September 18, 2017

### **Attendance:**

Members present: Charles Weber, John Grego, Margaret DuBard, Jim Thomas

Absent: Jennifer Carter, Sam Holland, Carol Kososki, Becky Bailey, Lee Rambo, Virginia Sanders, and Glenice Pearson

### **Others present:**

Quinton Epps, Conservation Division  
Nancy Stone-Collum, Conservation Division  
Charlie Fisher, Conservation Division

Vice-Chair John Grego welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm without a quorum.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Quinton Epps reported the FY-2018 budget issues have been resolved. Pinewood Lake Park and Mill Creek/Cabin Branch have been broken out into their own budgets separate from RCCC funds. Quinton explained that most of the budget line items were from numbers given to him by other county departments that will provide services to the new properties. Still to be worked out is how funding from the new budgets will be transferred to Special Services and Facilities and Grounds for their work. The \$75,000 H-Tax money for Pinewood Lake Foundation (PLF) is reflected in the RCCC Advertising budget line.

### **Report of the Chair**

John voiced his concerns over why so many initiatives are on hold – the Lower Richland Tourism Plan, RCCC strategic plan, Conservation Easement Strategic Plan, and easements. Nancy reported that Tracy Hegler, Department Director, is working with Council and Administration to integrate RCCC work with other plans and initiatives. These issues should be taken up at a Council priority-setting session in October. John requested Tracy be asked for a status report on the four items.

### **Conservation Manager's Report**

Pinewood Lake Park Management

Quinton reported a spate of activity is taking place and he is working on maintenance issues. The agreement between the county and PLF is under review by the Legal Department. The \$75,000 H-Tax funding directed to RCCC for PLF to use for promotions also requires an agreement. The Legal Department is working on the question of H-Tax funds going to RCCC for disbursement to PLF. That issue remains unresolved. Councilman Jackson requested the trail on the west side of the dam be repaired; however, until the dam is repaired, it is unsafe to cross it and therefore the trail should not be accessed. A memo has been written to Administration regarding the issues of trail maintenance and recommending that fencing at the dam be installed to prevent access. There has been no movement regarding transfer of the property from PLF to the county; neither has Virginia Sanders been notified of any PLF Board meetings.

#### Do Good Columbia

Do Good Columbia is an immersive problem solving weekend led by Richland Library that was focused on increasing access to the rivers. Thirteen teams worked with facilitators to visualize and design solutions for access to five different river sites. Quinton was on the judging panel that chose the River Terrace at Water Works Park, which is at the entrance to the Columbia Canal near the city's water plant, as the winning project. A \$50,000 prize will be used to develop a concept plan. Several good ideas were generated for the Broad River property that contains the Columbia Rowing Center. Quinton will email the presentations.

#### Ken Driggers' Contract

The contract for Ken Driggers is still in Legal for review.

#### **Conservation Committee**

No report given

#### **Historic Committee**

Nancy referred everyone to their copy of the letter Glenice wrote to commissioners and copied Councilman Livingston. She was responding to an email from Dr. Donaldson who said "certain members of the RCCC expressed reservations/concerns about my ability to provide timely support and consultation to residents." Apparently there has been a misunderstanding since the only comments made concerning Dr. Donaldson were during the grant presentations when applicants were asked if he had time to consult on the various projects due to his very busy schedule. It is Glenice's hope that the strategic planning process will enable Dr. Donaldson's work to be brought to the forefront.

RCCC members are invited to an unveiling of a historic marker for the 371<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment 93<sup>rd</sup> Division (Colored) on Thursday, September 28 at 11:30am at Childs Cemetery.

#### **Conservation Coordinator's Report**

##### LR Tourism

The scheduled video conference in July was postponed indefinitely due to a request from Administration.

Strategic Plan

An advisory committee of Carol, John, Glenice and staff met with consultants Colleen Bozard and Anne Sinclair to discuss the process, time frame and who would be involved. Two focus groups, one environmental and one historic, and 9-10 individual interviews will discuss RCCC strengths, weakness, opportunities, threats/challenges/barriers, and priorities. Tracy has advised staff not to proceed until the initiative is discussed in the Council priority setting session.

Hopkins Magistrate Letter

The letter is being reviewed by Tracy.

Grant Updates

Nancy reported Hollywood-Rosehill Neighborhood Association held a workshop teaching people how to research their own homes. The trail being planned on Kinsler Creek (behind One Eared Cow) will be shorter than planned due to damage from the 2015 flood. Hyatt Park had Chanda Cooper give a presentation to the after-school program on pollinators before they begin work on their pollinator garden. On a sad note, Nancy reported that Michael Juras, an RCCC grantee for the Rosewood Orchard, passed away suddenly last week.

As a result of a Council motion, staff will look at all properties owned and managed by the county that fall under the natural, historical, and cultural, designations and report back to County Council which ones might be similarly situated as the Rowing Club and Pinewood Lake and may need county oversight.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Fisher, Administrative Assistant