Richland County Conservation Commission

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

Minutes

May 21, 2007
4:00 P.M.

3rd Floor Conference Room

Attendance

Nine members were present:

Gary Atkinson, Becky Bailey, Sam Holland, Frank Houston, Carol Kososki, Maxey Love, Marcia Lucius, Mildred Myers and Virginia Sanders

One member was absent:

Stuart Hope

Council District's 4 - Vacant

Others Present:

Jim Wilson, Richland County Environmental Program Manager;
Ken Driggers & Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation; Michael Criss, Richland County Planning Dept., Catherine Bruce, Hugh Caldwell, Richland SWCD.

Chairman Maxey Love opened the meeting at 4:03 PM.

Minutes: The minutes of April 23, 2007 were approved.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted with a change of item # 5 – Executive Session being moved up in the agenda after the Publicity Committee report.

Executive Committee Meeting Report – All items discussed will be covered later on the agenda.

Committee Reports: Conservation Committee – Carol Kososki, Chair

Carol Kososki gave a status report on the Gills Creek Watershed Steering Committee. The committee is working on a strategic plan to help get grants for implementation. The next meeting

is May 22nd, 1 PM to 3 PM on the 4th floor. Council Members Mike Montgomery, Val Hutchinson and Greg Pearce are working to get up to $50,000 appropriated in the FY-08 budget. Commission members were encouraged to talk with their council member about supporting the request.

Historical Committee - Frank Houston, Chair

Landmark status was approved for Kensington slave/tenant dwelling and Sesquicentennial Log Cabin.

Grant recommendations:

	Requested	Approved
Barber House	$42,000	$37,500
Kensington slave/tenant dwelling	$12,768	$12,768
(location not announced publicly as requested by International Paper)		
Killian Schoolhouse	$43,000	$14,000
Monteith School	$25,000	$10,000
Pine Grove Rosenwald School	$50,000	$37,500
Sesquicentennial Log Cabin	$50,000	$37,500
Modjeska Simkins rear building	$50,000	$0
Waverly District Education Project	$11,000	$0
Whaley's Mill	$50,000	$0
701 Whaley	$50,000	$50,000
Totals =	$383,768	$199,268

Recommendation will be voted on in executive session.

All applicants will be notified of decisions.

Publicity Committee – Becky Bailey, Chair

Sam Holland and Jim Wilson have met with Zero Gravity. Shooting for the video will begin on May 28th. A contract has already been signed.

Images were passed around of a proposed vertical banner which will portray the mission of RCCC. This could be used at meetings, conferences, etc. The cost is estimated at $300 per banner. Jim and Sam will continue to develop the banner. Any suggestions are welcomed.

A new link to the webpage has been established. It is: richlandlegacy.com.

Commission members discussed the idea of obtaining shirts with the Richland County logo with Richland County Conservation Commission written below the logo. The cost would be approximately $40 each. No action taken

Jim also discussed business cards for Commission members. Gary Atkinson asked that the template be mailed to commission members so they can print their own as desired.

Executive Session: - A motion was made, seconded and passed to go into executive session to discuss copyright and legal issues.

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

No actions were taken regarding the discussion of copyright and legal issues. The recommendation of the Historical Grants Committee for $199,268 was approved as presented.

Program Manager's Report: - Jim Wilson

        Public Meeting in District 7 - Joe McEachern and Becky Bailey organized a meeting at Fairlawn Community Center on Monday, April 30th. It was very effective and well attended. Other Council Districts were encouraged to have similar meetings.

        Fall Conference – One committee meeting has been held to begin plans for a Sept/Oct Conservation Conference. Another meeting is scheduled for June 13th. Common interest partners will be invited to attend to help with planning the conference which will be focused on conservation.

        At the request of Chairman Maxey Love, Jim distributed a copy of the RCCC Charter to each Commission member to add to their notebook.

        Our next Commission meeting, June 25th, will deal primarily with conservation lands. The Conservation Committee will meet prior to then to develop recommendations regarding several conservation land easement applications.

        Jim made a presentation to Council in support of the ½ mil for the FY-08 Budget. The item regarding a protected category of RCCC funds for land purchases will be introduced as a motion item at the 2nd reading for the FY-08 Budget on May 24th.

        A formal public hearing on the FY-08 budget is May 22nd at 6 PM.

        There will be a public hearing on the TRO Map Amendment in June.

Old Business:

        Carol Kososki encouraged everyone to attend the Gills Creek Watershed Committee meeting on Wednesday, 1 PM, in the Conference room on the 4th floor.

New Business:

        Joint Meeting with Richland Conservation District – A suggestion was made that a joint meeting of the RCCC and SWCD be held for each to learn more about the other. Jim and Hugh will work out the details.

        RCCC Tour – Jim will work on developing a tour of RCCC projects for Commission members later this year.

Public Input: None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Upcoming Dates

        Tuesday, May 22nd, 1 PM, Gills Creek Steering Committee, 2020 Hampton Street
        Thursday, May 24th, 6 PM, FY08 Budget 2nd Reading
        Wednesday, June 13th, 9 AM, Fall Conference Planning Committee
        Wednesday, June 13th, 11 AM, Executive Committee Conference call
        Monday, June 25th, RCCC

Next Meeting

Monday, June 25th, 2007, at 4:00 PM – 3rd Floor Conference Room, 2020 Hampton St.

Respectfully Submitted
Hugh Caldwell
Staff Support