



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

Minutes

June 28, 2010

4:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members present:

Frank Houston, Carol Kososki, Glenice Pearson, Sam Holland, Virginia Sanders, Mildred Myers, John Grego

Members absent: Becky Bailey, Gary Atkinson, Marcia Lucas, Jim Lawracy

Others Present: Nancy Stone-Collum - Palmetto Conservation Foundation

Mary Jane Henderson - Richland SWCD

Ryan Nevius – Sustainable Midlands

Chair Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM with a quorum present. Our guest Ryan Nevius was introduced. It was announced that Marcia Lucas has resigned due to a heavy load at work. Councilmember Joyce Dickerson has appointed Margaret DuBard to represent Council District Two.

Minutes: Minutes of May 24, 2010 were approved.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted.

Committee Reports:

Conservation Committee: Gary Atkinson, Chair, was not present. Nancy Stone-Collum provided copies of the Clark easement and announced it is ready to go to Council. After a brief discussion a John Grego moved and Glenice Pearson seconded the motion to allocate \$12,000 for the easement and present it to Council for approval.

Nancy discussed the Mullis easement dedication. A news article was passed around and it was noted that there was very good TV, website and newspaper publicity about this.

Historic Committee: Frank Houston, Chair, gave a review of the Annual Tour which was on our last meeting date. It was very successful and well attended. A wonderful reception was held after the tour at the home of Carol Kososki.

All of the historic grants have been completed except for four. Roofing at the Farmers and Merchant Bank in Eastover has finally begun. Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation was able to close on Laurelwood with our \$40,000 contribution. The property includes 28 acres and a slave cabin. Jim has sent the family a letter to determine their interest in a conservation easement on the remaining 100+ acres. Nancy, Jim, and Frank visited the Caughman homesite

off Highway 378 that contains a house, several outbuildings and a pond to consider its useage for a passive park. A newspaper article about the site was passed around.

Nancy reported that a public history intern from USC will be starting July 1st to work on the historic inventory website. The intern will work out of the PCF office for 20 hours a week through the summer.

Publicity Committee: Sam Holland, Chair, reported that the new video is now on YouTube and the public service spots were shown during June and also will be shown during July. The web site will be updated. Ryan Nevius will link it to Sustainable Midlands website. Sam will send it out again.

Finance Committee: Virginia Sanders, Chair, handed out the current treasurer's report (attached). The \$672,000 budget was approved by Council as were the grants. Jim Wilson will discuss details at the next meeting. There is \$82,000 left in the acquisition line for FY10 that is encumbered for the Haynes (\$70,000) and Clark (\$12,000) easements.

Program Manager Report: Nancy Stone-Collum reported for Jim Wilson. The trail brochure will go to council July 20th and will be put on our website. The Plan of Work and the new Budget will be discussed at the July meeting. The Round Table Development Codes will be reconvening with a smaller group to resolve some 20 principles; John, Carol, and Jim will continue to represent the Commission. The goal for completion is the end of December.

New Business: Carol passed out a letter from Elliott Powell, Gill's Creek Watershed Association, asking the Commission to consider the purchase of a green buffer near Decker Blvd which belongs to Ft. Jackson. Ryan explained the background and the conservation value of the 14 acres that Gills Creek flows through. Recreational opportunities also add to the land value. A memo prepared for councilmember Jim Manning was passed out. John moved and Frank seconded a motion to approve up to \$25,000 for a bid if County Council wants to pursue acquisition.

Pubic Input: Carol invited members to a "Wine for Water" fundraiser for the Gills Creek Watershed Association to be held at Yancey McLeod's on July 18.

Next Meeting Date: July 26, 2010

Meeting Adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Mary Jane Henderson
Staff Support-RCD