



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

Minutes

March 22, 2010

4:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members present:

Gary Atkinson, John Grego, Sam Holland, Carol Kososki,
Glenice Pearson, Virginia Sanders

Members absent: Mildred Myers, Marcia Lucius, Jim Lawracy, Becky Bailey, Frank Houston

Others Present:

Ken Driggers, Legal

Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation

Chair Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM with a quorum present.

Minutes: The minutes of February 22, 2009 were reviewed and approved.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as presented.

Conservation Committee: Gary Atkinson, Chair:

Gary asked Jim Wilson to discuss the Greenway Plan proposal submitted to administration. Jim and Ken had drafted a phase 1 funding proposal to seek bond funds to begin a greenway segment in Crane Creek Watershed and Cabin Branch Watershed for 5 million dollars over the next five years. An appraisal will be needed along Crane Creek to estimate the greenway cost of acquiring property which was approved for Ken to request an appraisal under contract.

Jim reported that the Haynes Conservation Easement (previously approved) will go to Council Committee in April with compensation from this year's budget.

Jim cited an article in the International Volvo Magazine featuring Gary Atkinson as a Volvo Sales Manager and his involvement in community issues such as conservation easements and activities that protect neighborhoods and rural land integrity. The Conservation Commission Program was highlighted in the article.

Historic Committee: Frank Houston, Chair

Carol asked Nancy to report on behalf of Frank Houston who was out of town. Frank, Nancy, and Sam had made a presentation to County Council about the new historic web site and video public service announcement. Carol acknowledged their efforts in appreciation. Carol, Glenice, Jim, and John had attended in support. Glenice suggested we condense the information next time based on allotted time and focus on the main topic, which was the historic web site.

Frank, Glenice, and Nancy had attended the state-wide Historic Landmark and Preservation Conference in Georgetown, SC. Glenice commented on the valuable speakers and the individual sessions. We appreciate their effort to represent the Commission.

Nancy presented a committee amendment to the Laurelwood Plantation project approved at the last meeting. Based on the counter offer by the family, the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation was seeking an additional \$10,000 from the Conservation Commission for the acquisition of the historic plantation house and 28 acres of land, including a 200 feet buffer along the road. The Commission voted to approve this request for a total project cost of \$40,000 in partnership with Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, pending County Council approval in May, 2010.

The Historic Committee requested that the \$10,780 funding for PTA House restoration project be added to next year's grant cycle, pending County Council approval, and rescinded a grant for the Barber House tours and museum. The Commission voted and approved the request.

Jim reported that he and Frank Houston had made a presentation to the York Forever Conservation and Preservation Commission with highlights of our program activities.

Publicity Committee: Sam Holland, Chair

Sam reflected on the video product which was shown at the meeting. Several commission members made suggestions to enhance the message to the general public. Sam will work with a committee and the contractor to make some minor changes. Sam requested \$5,000 to promote the video in commercial ad announcements. The Commission voted and approved the request.

Finance Committee: Virginia Sanders, Chair

The monthly financial report was reviewed. (A copy is attached to file minutes)
Carol requested a correlation to percentages based on our allocations. Jim will research a format for information.

Program Manager's Report: Jim Wilson:

The Commission voted to extend our session 10 minutes.
Jim updated the Commission on a conservation easement landowner meeting on March 25th.
Jim, Gary, and Nancy will attend for the Commission.

Jim discussed a tour option to see some historic and conservation activities in May.
The Commission voted to tour on the regular meeting date, May 24th, at 4-7pm.

Other Business:

Virginia Sanders discussed the Caughman Park proposal off Hwy 378 for historic preservation and conservation protection of the Caughman Family Estate (60 acres) and pond. Jim and Virginia had met with Councilman Norman Jackson on site to review the potential landuse for recreation and preservation. No action is required at this time by the Commission and Mr. Jackson will discuss it with County Council. An update will be given at the next meeting.

Public Input:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM

Next Meeting

April 26th – 4:00 PM – Richland County Administration Building.

Submitted by:

Jim Wilson, Program Manager