



2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A
PO Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202
803-576-2084

Minutes

January 24, 2011

3:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members present:

Carol Kososki, Virginia Sanders, Sam Holland, Gary Atkinson, John Grego,
Mildred Myers, Margaret DuBard, Glenice Pearson

Members absent: Becky Bailey, Frank Houston, Jim Lawracy

Others Present:

Nancy Stone-Collum, Palmetto Conservation Foundation

Ken Driggers, Legal

Jim Wilson

James B. Atkins

Chairman Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of November 22nd were approved.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as presented.

Committee Reports:

Conservation Committee: Gary Atkinson, Chair

Gary provided a report of 14 conservation grants for consideration for FY2012. Staff had made recommendations for funding based on \$60,000 projected for conservation grants. Gary expressed some concern about funding consultants to help with grants. Glenice indicated some communities need consultants to provide professional skills. The Conservation Committee agreed to meet in February to discuss grants in detail for final approval at the next Commission meeting.

Historic Committee: Frank Houston, Chair

Nancy passed out a set of six walking tour brochures produced by Historic Columbia and partially funded through one of the Commission's historic grants. The Pine Grove School restoration has been completed and a historic marker is in progress. Glenice and Nancy made a field visit to Goodwyn Cemetery in Lower Richland. Fourteen (14) grant

applications were submitted and will be discussed at the Historic Committee meeting on Feb. 10.

Publicity Committee: Sam Holland, Chair
No report.

Finance Committee: Virginia Sanders, Chair.
Virginia asked Jim to provide an update on Commission finances. Jim presented a current balance report reflecting the majority of funds obligated on projects and grants. Due to Laurelwood cancellation, \$50,000 is now available to be redirected this FY. Jim suggested that the monies be reallocated for use at the historic hangar at Owens Field which is owned by Richland County.

Program Manager's Report: Jim Wilson

1. One new easement request in Pebble Creek Watershed-Mike Kilpatrick.
2. All members were provided a summary of easements to date and protected acres.
3. The Greenway proposal was presented to County Council at their January retreat; \$5M funding was requested through bonds in FY2012 budget cycle.
4. County Council approved a financial option to purchase the Lower Richland Mitigation site at a reasonable rate based on county terms.
5. Jackson Creek Restoration Project at Decker is currently underway with the Phase I Environmental Study and the contract with Tidewater.
6. The Green Development Grant has been posted for FY2012 with applications due on February 18th; this project is funded in partnership with the Planning Department and the Storm Water Division, for a total of \$100,000. (\$25,000 is from the Commission)

Other Business:

John Grego shared a letter from Friends of Congaree concerning a quarry project proposal near Congaree River off Bluff Road. The Commission voted to develop a letter of concern to be presented at the February Planning Commission meeting.

Election of Officers: The following members agreed to serve a one-year term and were approved by acclamation. Chair – Carol Kososki; Vice Chair for Conservation – John Grego; Vice-Chair for Historic – Frank Houston; Finance – Virginia Sanders

Public Input:

No members of the public were present.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM followed by a retirement reception for Jim.

Next Meeting: February 28, 2011

Submitted by: Jim Wilson, Program Manager