



2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A
P.O. Box 192 • Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 576-2083

Minutes May 15, 2017

Attendance:

Members present: Carol Kososki, Virginia Sanders, Jim Thomas, Lee Rambo, John Grego, Virginia Sanders, Sam Holland, and Charles Weber

Absent: Glenice Pearson, Becky Bailey, Jennifer Carter, Margaret DuBard

Others present:

Quinton Epps, Conservation Department
Nancy Stone-Collum, Conservation Department
Charlie Fisher, Conservation Department
Ken Driggers, Contract Legal Counsel
Tracy Hegler, Planning Department

Chair, Carol Kososki welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order without a quorum at 3:35 pm.

Report of the Chair

Carol read a card from Shannon Bobertz thanking RCCC for the tree planting at AC Moore Elementary School in memory of her mother, Ann Furr. RCCC was well represented at the event and members enjoyed their interaction with students. Carol reported she attended Council's recent budget work sessions along with Quinton and Nancy. Elected officials will see a 3.5% increase in their budgets. Some council members questioned the equity between elected and department budgets. Councilman Malinowski again expressed concern about the disparity of grants in the incorporated areas versus the unincorporated areas. Nancy and Quinton will update the information presented to Mr. Malinowski last year showing major RCCC expenditures in both areas. Second reading for grants is May 25 and May 30 for the RCCC budget.

Quorum reached with the arrival of Sam Holland.

Approval of Agenda and the Minutes from April 17, 2017

John Grego made a motion to approve both the agenda and minutes which Virginia Sanders seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Virginia referred everyone to their copies of the financial report. Professional Services and Acquisition still have substantial money in their lines since several anticipated projects did not occur.

Reorganization, Biennial Budget, & Code Rewrite

Tracy Hegler reported the reorganization ordinance passed Council's third reading and is well underway. The next step is to figure out how to improve performance, efficiency, and avoid overlapping. Currently everyone is still functioning as they were. The biennial budget is being discussed during Council's work sessions. The Code Rewrite is proceeding; consultants are analyzing the information they have collected and will analyze where Richland County is in terms of how our code is operating and what kind of development it creates. A Working Group/Guidance Committee which includes John Grego has been created to assist with the progression. Nancy proposed protections be added to protect cemeteries. Ideas and suggestions can be entered on the WePlanTogether.org website.

Pinewood Lake Park

Quinton reported a meeting was held with Councilman Norman Jackson to discuss problems with the dam and what could be done. Mr. Jackson agreed that \$250,000 - \$500,000 could be taken from the Phase Two Existing Structures budget to pay for dam/spillway repairs if Pinewood Lake Foundation (PLF) transfers ownership of the dam to the county. A memo has been developed to send to Council outlining three items on RCCC management of the park. It includes the request made through the budget process for 1.5 positions and operating expenses; continued involvement with PLF; and transfer of dam ownership and subsequent repair. Carol requested specifics on personnel and operating expenses. Discussion ensued about the relationship between RCCC and PLF and Hospitality Tax funding. Virginia asked if a contract has been sent to PLF. PLF wants a contract before they send a proposal for the dam.

Charles Weber made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the contract with PLF. Virginia seconded the motion. Motion passed.

John made a motion seconded by Virginia to come out of Executive Session. Motion passed. No actions were taken in Executive Session.

John made a motion to amend the memo as discussed in Executive Session. Lee Rambo seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Quinton will revise the memo and Nancy will email the updated version to RCCC members to vote electronically to approve or disapprove. Once the memo is approved by RCCC it needs to be discussed with Council members before it is distributed officially the following week.

Charles made a motion seconded by Jim to extend the meeting an additional five minutes. Motion carried.

Conservation Coordinator’s Report

A request has been made for RCCC to send a letter of support for the nomination of Drs. Maxie S. and Ethel M. Gordon as a power couple honoree for the AT&T sponsored SC African American History Calendar. John made a motion seconded by Charles to send a letter of support for the nomination. Motion carried unanimously.

Nancy reminded everyone to meet at Congaree National Park next Tuesday, May 23 for a demonstration of grant funded programs and to watch the synchronous fireflies.

Eight proposals have been received for the Strategic Plan Proposal. The evaluation team has until May 24 to complete their evaluations.

The Owens Field Grand Opening has been postponed until July 15.

Asakura Robinson’s Lower Richland Tourism Plan draft final report has been received and a video conference is planned for June 19 to discuss with Asakura what the plan entails.

The Richland History Initiative will be completed by June 30.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Fisher, Administrative Assistant

Electronic and Conference Call Voting:

Pinewood Lake Park

The memo was amended as discussed and emailed to the Commission on May 17 for voting. Six members responded in the affirmative to approve the memo: Lee, John, Charles, Jim, Carol, and Virginia. No negative votes were submitted. On May 19, the memo was sent to Commissioners to discuss with their Council members. The memo was sent to all Council on May 25.

Carol and Virginia met with County Administrator Gerald Seals and Mr. Jackson on May 31 to discuss park management. They agreed to provide Council with RCCC’s best judgment of an increased budget for Pinewood Lake Park for third reading consideration. A revised budget was sent to members the morning of June 2; that afternoon Mr. Jackson sent his budget so Carol requested a comparison be made between the two versions. A conference call was held on June 5 in which nine members participated in evaluating each line item. Changes were made that resulted in an \$88,334 increase which included one full-time and two part-time positions. Six members voted in favor of the adjusted budget, one opposed and one left the call by the

time it came to vote. The budget was sent to Mr. Jackson and Mr. Seals who forwarded it to Council.

Strategic Plan

An evaluation team of Carol and Nancy from the Commission, Kenny Mullis and Chanda Cooper from the District, and Tommy DeLage from Planning evaluated the eight responses submitted for developing a strategic plan. On June 5, Procurement advised the evaluation team that CC Bozard scored the highest and recommended the firm be awarded the contract. The cost proposal is \$7,500, \$2,500 more than allocated. In order to get the contract awarded this fiscal year, a vote to approve or not approve an increase in the requisition was sent out by email. Eight members responded in support of the increase. No negative votes were received.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Stone-Collum