

BEAUFORT COUNTY RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

The regular meeting of the Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board (hereafter known as the Board) was held on Thursday, July 12, 2007 in the Conference Room at Clemson University Extension Office at 3pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Gloria Cartwright, Vice-Chair
Mr. Ed Pappas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Steve Riley, Chair	Ms. Selena Brown
Mr. Pete Dawson	Mr. York Glover
Mr. Andy Shapiro	Mr. Ray Tudor
Ms. Dorothy Giddens	
Mr. Malcolm Goodridge	

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Tony Criscitiello, Planning Director
Ms. Charlotte Hiles, Planning Assistant
Mr. Frederick Lewis, Mr. Glenn Stanford, - Trust for Public Land (TPL)
Mr. John Miller, PALS (arrived 3:25pm)

CALL TO ORDER

With only two (2) Board members present, Vice-Chair Cartwright advised the meeting would only be for discussion purposes only.

Vice-Chairman Gloria Cartwright called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Vice-Chairman Cartwright asked if there were any changes to the agenda and Mr. Pappas added he had some procedural issues that would be discussed during General Session. The agenda was accepted.

Vice-Chairman Cartwright advised the approval of the Minutes of May 10 (revised to reflect information on the Bluffton Park presentation) and the Minutes of June 14, 2007 would be deferred until the August Board meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Pappas asked about procedural issues concerning the following:

- 1) the process on updating the Board on recommended projects, such as the final negotiations to help understand the process and leveraging taking place. At times, conditions and considerations change from the Board discussions and recommendations to the final end negotiations. Mr. Glenn Stanford commented that TPL could provide information in a confidential status report/memo to Board members and would do so.

Mr. Glenn Stanford stated as far as public record on Bluffton Park, it came before Bluffton Council Tuesday and approval 4 to 1. It did differ slightly than County Council and Glenn is in process of harmonizing that now.

The 3rd of the Ulmer transaction closed very smoothly at \$1.95 million with County paying ½ and the Town paying ½. The cooperation between the Town and County is extraordinary on land preservation. The Town still considers the balance of the Ulmer tract to be a priority and Glenn is starting to work now on the 4th Ulmer tract.

- 2) the status of the Nature Conservancy/ACE Basin Task Force and in the attempt of working together how do we go about obtaining goals/opportunities. Mr. Fred Lewis advised that TPL is in contact through the State office in Charleston with the Nature Conservancy/ACE Basin and is currently working on interest above Whale Branch and whenever we have a project there, we consult with them.

Mr. Tony Criscitiello advised that in preparation of the Comprehensive Plan coming up for December this year, the issue of rural and what is rural, is a large part of the new Comprehensive Plan. Tony found it intriguing listening to the ACE Basin/Nature Conservancy team that the Northern Regional Plan is calling for preserving 60+% of rural in the northern county and it makes a lot of sense if ACE Basin/Nature Conservancy and TPL can help acquire more, that puts us there by working together. Particularly advantageous to us in creating green belt above the Whale Branch that would block annexations and would be a very useful way to harmonize the two programs.

- 3) the concern with Buz Boehm's departure and the status of the Friends of Beaufort County Parks proposal presented at the June 14th meeting and its moving forward. Mr. Glenn Stanford advised the Friends started with TPL and the process will continue to work forward and not departing with Buz.

Vice Chairman Cartwright related a comment from Mr. Pete Dawson in his absence referencing the monies left over from the Highway 170 project and if the Board/TPL could perhaps use as a resource to buy land along 170 for disaster debris. The mandate is for use on 170 corridor. Mr. Tony Criscitiello stated the monies have to be spent on

monies related to the road issues, such as drainage, pathways, landscaping highway, boat landings, etc.

Mr. Glenn Stanford asked Ms. Andrea Malloy from Coastal Conservation if she had any questions or anything to add to the General Discussion session and she had nothing to report at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice-Chair Cartwright stated the Board would move into Executive Session at 3:25 p.m. for discussion only since there was not a quorum present.

The Board re-entered open session at 4:10p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Cartwright adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Charlotte Hiles, Planning Assistant

Approved: _____
Gloria Cartwright – Vice-Chairman, Beaufort County Rural and
Critical Land Preservation Board

Date: _____