

## **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 10, 2008 in the Conference Room at Beaufort County Finance Building at 3:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Steve Riley (Chair)  
Ms. Gloria Cartwright (Vice-Chair)  
Mr. Pete Dawson  
Ms. Selena Brown  
Ms. Dorothy Giddens  
Mr. Ed Pappas  
Mr. Jacob Preston  
Mr. Ray Tudor  
Mr. Joseph Vercellotti

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Malcolm Goodridge  
Mr. York Glover

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Tony Criscitiello, Planning Director  
Ms. Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner  
Mr. Glenn Stanford - Trust for Public Land (TPL)

### **GUEST PRESENT:**

Dr. Chris Marsh, Lowcountry Institute  
Mr. John Miller, Beaufort County Parks and Leisure  
Mr. Gary Kubic, County Administrator  
Ms. Andrea Malloy, Coastal Conservation League

## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Riley called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the Agenda and there were none.

Chairman Riley asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the June 12, 2008 Board meeting. Hearing none, Mr. Tudor made a motion and Mr. Pappas seconded the motion to accept the Minutes from the June 12, 2008 Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

Dr. Chris Marsh, from the Lowcountry Institute (LCI), presented the Friends of the Parks idea of incorporating Master Naturalists to help Beaufort County with some of the lands acquired through the Rural and Critical Lands Program. The Master Naturalists would help conduct biological inventories and assessments on the properties as well as volunteer to be stewards of some of the passive parks. Dr. David Bishop, LCI's Natural Resource Manager, is working on a way that the volunteers can record the data and then collect it in database that may eventually be transferred to the County's GIS department. The LCI Staff would actively solicit Master Naturalists and form teams for each site that would report to the County's Natural Resource Planner, Amanda Flake, with proposed activities. These activities would be reviewed by Amanda, TPL staff, and Public Works to determine what would be feasible.

Mr. Pappas asked Dr. Marsh what the qualifications are of a Master Naturalist. Dr. Marsh explained that the program is sponsored by the Clemson Extension Service that gives exposure to the natural world and builds on people's expertise. The program runs every Monday (8 hours or more) for 12 weeks in a row. Once the Master Naturalists graduate, they must obtain an extra 30 hours in the field before getting their certification.

All present agreed that this idea reflects well on the RCLP Board and that it completes the next step for the original intent of this program.

Mrs. Flake mentioned that in the last meeting, it was suggested that the RCLP Board members pair up with the five newest members of Council to educate them on the Rural and Critical Lands Program at a luncheon. The Board decided to wait until after this year's election in November to pursue this idea.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Riley entertained a motion by Ms. Cartwright, seconded by Mr. Vercellotti, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:20 p.m. and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters associated with property acquisitions. **The vote was unanimous to enter into Executive Session.**

**The Board re-entered Open Session at 4:07 p.m.**

The following to be presented to Land Management Committee:

Mr. Dawson made a motion; seconded by Ms. Cartwright, to recommend to the Land Management Committee of County Council to pursue **Parcel U** under the terms and conditions as recommended by TPL, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion carried.**

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Riley entertained a motion at 4:13 p.m. from Mr. Vercellotti, seconded by Ms. Cartwright, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Submitted by:** Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

**Approved:**

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Steve Riley, Chairman, Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land  
Preservation Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_