

BEAUFORT COUNTY RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD RETREAT

The Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board (hereafter known as the Board) was held on May 11, 2017, at the Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority Conference Room at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mike Mathews (Chairman)
Mr. Mark Baker (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. Bob Bender
Mr. Terry Hill
Mr. Walter Mack

Mr. Ed Riley
Ms. Denise Sullivan
Mr. Richard Walls

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Susie Fripp-Gordon
Ms. Gail O'Kane
Ms. Dorothy Scanlin

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Tony Criscitiello, Beaufort County Planning Director
Ms. Amanda Flake, Beaufort County Natural Resources Planner
Ms. Lisa Lord, Beaufort County Open Land Trust

GUESTS PRESENT:

Ms. Alice Howard, Beaufort County Councilwoman
Mr. York Glover, County Councilman
Mr. Chris Inglese, Beaufort County Assistant Attorney
Ms. Rikki Parker, Coastal Conservation League

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Mathews called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Mathews asked if there were any changes to the Minutes from the March 9, 2017 Board meeting and there was one; Mr. Bob Bender was not at the Retreat. With this revision, Mr. Walls made a motion and Vice-Chairman Baker seconded the motion to accept the Minutes with revisions from the March 9, 2017 Board meeting. **The motion was carried unanimously to accept the minutes with revisions from the March 9, 2017, Board meeting (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Hill, Mack, Riley, Sullivan, Walls).**

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Financial Update

Chairman Mike Mathews stated that there were no major changes to the financial report since the last Board meeting.

Passive Park Update

Mr. Tony Criscitiello stated that Crystal Lake is finished and the tenants should be moving in during the month of June. The future phase of Crystal Lake will be a boardwalk around the entire lake. Fort Fremont will be out for bid next week to build the Interpretive Center and pavilion. Fort Fremont should cost around \$839,000.00. Beaufort County staff was still in the process of obtaining permits from the Town of Bluffton for Okatie Preserve. Mr. Criscitiello attended the Natural Resources Committee on Monday and presented Ms. Lisa Lord and Mr. Ken Drigger's report about the future of the R&C Program and the issue of a stewardship position for passive parks.

TPL Economic Study

Ms. Lisa Lord stated that she held a meeting with stakeholders and the core team and was ready to run the analysis for this study. After that she will generate a report to give back to stakeholders and the core team for review. The final report should be out in the fall.

Future Bond Referendum

Based on the Retreat discussion, Chairman Mike Mathews stated that the Board should prepare the referendum language by the end of the year so that County Council can review it at their retreat in February. The language of the referendum should be the same, but the Board needs to discuss the amount of the bond and how the money will be used. The Board will discuss this further at the next Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mathews entertained a motion by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Riley, to adjourn the Open Session at 3:49 p.m. and convened Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters associated with property acquisitions. **The motion was carried unanimously to enter into Executive Session** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Hill, Mack, Riley, Sullivan, Walls).

Chairman Mathews adjourned Executive Session and convened Open Session at 4:33 p.m.

Mr. Mack made a motion; seconded by Ms. Sullivan, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel 2017C under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion was carried unanimously to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel 2017C under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Hill, Mack, Riley, Sullivan, Walls).

Ms. Sullivan made a motion; seconded by Mr. Riley, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel 2017D under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion was carried unanimously to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel 2017D under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Hill, Mack, Riley, Sullivan, Walls).


Ms. Sullivan made a motion; seconded by Mr. Riley, to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel 2017E under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session. **The motion was carried unanimously to recommend to the Natural Resources Committee of County Council to pursue Parcel 2017E under the terms and conditions as recommended by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, as discussed in Executive Session.** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Hill, Mack, Riley, Sullivan, Walls).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Mathews entertained a motion at 4:41 p.m. from Mr. Riley, seconded by Ms. Sullivan, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Bender, Hill, Mack, Riley, Sullivan, Walls).

Submitted by: Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Approved:


Mike Mathews, Chairman,
Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board

Date: 8/10/17