



RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

Thursday, April 12, 2018

2:00 pm

Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority

Conference Room

6 Snake Road, Beaufort, SC 29909

Phone: (843) 255-2140

Members:

Michael Mathews, District 9 (Chair)

Mark Baker, District 8 (Vice-Chair)

Bob Bender, District 4

Susie Fripp-Gordon, District 1

Terry Hill, District 6

Walter Mack, District 3

Gail O'Kane, District 11

Dorothy Scanlin, District 10

Denise Sullivan, District 2

Richard Walls, District 7

Vacant, District 5

Staff:

Anthony Criscitiello, Planning Director

Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME
2. REVIEW OF AGENDA
3. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 8, 2018 ([backup](#))
4. GENERAL DISCUSSION
 - A. Introduction of Passive Parks Manager (Greenway)
 - B. Financial Update (Nagid)
 - C. Passive Park Update (Nagid)
 - D. Results of Beaufort County Public Opinion Poll (Abberger/TPL)
 - E. Discussion of Finalization of Board Resolution in Support of the 2018 Bond Referendum (Mathews/Holmes)
5. EXECUTIVE SESSION
 - A. Contractual Matters Relating to Land Acquisition:
Review of Parcel 2018B (Holmes)
6. OTHER
 - A. Next Meeting: May 10, 2018, 3:00 P.M. at Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) Conference Room, 6 Snake Road, Okatie, SC 29909
7. ADJOURNMENT

BEAUFORT COUNTY RURAL AND CRITICAL LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

The Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Board (hereafter known as the Board) was held on March 8, 2018, 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. Terry Hill
Mr. Walter Mack

Ms. Gail O’Kane
Ms. Dorothy Scanlin
Ms. Denise Sullivan
Mr. Richard Walls

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Bob Bender
Ms. Susie Fripp-Gordon

STAFF PRESENT:

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

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Greenway, Beaufort County Community Development Department
Ms. Kim Fleming, MCAS Community Plans and Liaison Officer
Ms. Kate Schaeffer, Coastal Conservation League
Mr. Tom Gardo, Denarius Group

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Mathews called the meeting to order at 3:02 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 February 8, 2018 Board meeting. Hearing none, Ms. O’Kane made a motion and Mr. Hill seconded the motion to accept the Minutes as written from the February 8, 2018 Board meeting. **The motion was carried unanimously to accept the minutes as written from the February 8, 2018, Board meeting** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Hill, Mack, O’Kane, Scanlin, Sullivan, Walls).

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Feasibility Study

Mr. Will Abberger, with the Trust for Public Lands (TPL), presented a webinar to the R&C Board members explaining the feasibility study that TPL administered to determine if another bond referendum was warranted. Within the feasibility study TPL looked at the funding mechanism, amount, purpose, timing, and management. TPL was working as technical assistance for the Beaufort County Open Land Trust (BCOLT) and Beaufort County. The timeline that includes this study was as follows: Feasibility study, public opinion poll survey, R&C Board recommendation of bond amount and language, ballot, and campaign.

Mr. Abberger stated that three funding mechanisms were vetted and it was determined through TPL's research that the bond referendum was the best avenue to fund the R&C Program. TPL found that voters generally were willing to pay \$20.00 a year to protect and conserve property. Mr. Abberger asked that the R&C Board decide on two bond referendum amounts for the poll to determine what the public supports. After some discussion the R&C Board decided to ask for support of a 30 million dollar bond and a 50 million dollar bond. The R&C Board also requested that up to 20% could be used to build park infrastructure be included on the poll questions.

Passive Parks

Mr. Tony Criscitiello stated that Beaufort County staff was working on final plans to finish the boardwalk around Crystal Lake and the Grand Opening would be sometime in the spring. Okatie Preserve Park permits were being finalized by the Town of Bluffton and once permits were obtained the County would put this project out to bid. Mr. Criscitiello stated that a second bidder was chosen for the Fort Fremont project and approved by County Council with work beginning in April. BCOLT has a proposal to finish Widgeon Point and County staff will meet with them soon to discuss the project. County staff met with Mr. Ahmad Ward with the Mitchellville Project and County Council approved \$250,000 to go towards a master plan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mathews entertained a motion by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Hill, to adjourn the Open Session at 4:26 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, Hill, Mack, O'Kane, Scanlin, Sullivan, Walls).

Chairman Mathews adjourned Executive Session and convened Open Session at 4:53 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairman Mathews entertained a motion at 4:54 p.m. from Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Hill, to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously** (FOR: Mathews, Baker, Hill, Mack, O’Kane, Scanlin, Sullivan, Walls).

Submitted by: Amanda Flake, Natural Resources Planner

Approved:

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

Date: _____

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