

Minutes
Greenville County Historic and Natural Resources Trust
December 6, 2022, 6:30-7:15 PM
Greenville County Square Conference Room D

Carlton Owen called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He reviewed the agenda, with no changes noted. Quorum was present.

Members present: Carlton Owen (17), Nanette Iatesta (18), Pam Shucker (19), Dave Hargett (21), Tripp Taylor (23), Doug Harper (24), Kenneth Baxter (25), Dennis DeFrancisco (27), Matt Thomas (28).

Members absent: Alex Reynolds (20), Joe Pulliam (22), Bryant Harrison (26)

The Minutes having been emailed previously were approved unanimously. Mr. Harper moved for approval; Mr. Baxter seconded.

Chairman Owen gave an update on the Cycle 3 Grant #13, Shiloh Ridge. It will close next week. Councilman for District 20, Steve Shaw, introduced resolutions concerning Altamont traffic. The Altamont group still objects and have hired a lawyer. Paris Mountain State Park will add this land to the park and plans for the addition over the next 2-3 years. Chairman Owen feels this is "our most iconic project so far."

Chairman Owen praised the Annual Report that Communications Committee Chairman Alex Reynolds has created, which will include connections to videos about Trust work.

Chairman Owen also indicated he had applied for a grant for GCHNRT from Greenville Women Giving.

In Grants Committee Chairman Joe Pulliam's absence, Dennis DeFrancesco gave the Grants Committee report on Cycle #4.

Cycle #4 included applications #16, #17, #18, #19 all of which are conservation easements.

The Grants Committee recommended approval of #16 for \$90,000. The vote to approve was unanimous.

The Grants Committee recommended not approving application #17 due to low scores it received by Grants Committee members.

The Grants Committee recommended approval of application #18 for \$85,500. The Vote to approve was unanimous.

The Grants Committee recommended approval of application #19 for \$47,500. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Owen discussed data that he has been accumulating concerning other SC Counties conserved acreage and their financial investment for this purpose compared to Greenville County. He proposed that the Board think in 2023 of setting goals for the percentage of conserved land in Greenville County. At present conserved land constitutes 13.5% of GC, 40% of which is covered by municipal Watershed holdings. The Global benchmark is 30% and Governor McMaster recommends 50%. The current Greenville County Comprehensive Plan, done in 2020, will come up for reconsideration for 2025. We will review the potential for the Trust to engage with staff and Council regarding potential targets that could be included in the next plan.

April 1, 2023 will be the deadline for Trust Cycle #5.

With no further business, Mr. Hargett moved to adjourn; approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Shucker, Secretary