Minutes Greenville County Historic and Natural Resources Trust June 27, 2022

The Greenville County Historic and Natural Resources Trust (Trust) met on June 27, 2022, at 5:00 PM in the Greenville County Council Chambers.

Chair Carlton Owen called the meeting to order and called the roll.

Members Present: Carlton Owen, Pam Shucker, Alex Reynolds, Joe Pulliam, Tripp Taylor, Doug Harper, and Matt Thomas

Members Absent but voting by proxy through Chair Owen: Nannette Iatesta, Dave Hargett, Kenneth Baxter, Bryant Harrison, and Dennis DeFrancisco.

Chair Owen declared a quorum present and welcomed all members.

Public Comment: Anne Peden, Chair of the Piedmont Historical Preservation Society, thanked the Trust for the grant to acquire the oldest YWCA building in South Carolina. The renovated building in Piedmont will house the Piedmont Historical Preservation Society's Museum and serve as a resource for research into South Carolina mills and mill towns' history. Many historic artifacts have already been donated and the collection is now being curated. The Society plans an opening celebration on August 25th to which the Trust members will be invited.

Mr. Harper asked if the building will be on the National Historic Register. Ms. Peden answered that the application is underway for that, but presently the building holds preservation with the Greenville County Preservation list, which offers greater permanent protection than the National Historic Register. If a property on this list sells, the preservation status follows the sale of the property.

Having no other Public Comments, Chair Owen requested approval of the February 2, 2022, and the May 5, 2022, Minutes. Mr. Reynolds moved for approval and Mr. Harper seconded. Both Minutes stand approved.

Chair Owen called for a report of the Communications Committee from Chair Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds reported that the next cycle application was posted to the website with an August 1, 2022, deadline.

Chair Owen reported that 3 of the 4 projects from Cycles 1 have closed. There is no present update on Project #8 after the Trust suggested a change allowing only fewer potential structures. If not closed by the deadline, a 6-month extension can be awarded.

Chair Owen asked for a report from the Grants Committee Chair, Mr. Pulliam. Mr. Pulliam recommended approval of the Grants Committee's suggested grant award for Project 10 with a

reduction from the requested \$70,000 to \$50,000. The reduction relates to the lower score given the project by the Grants Committee due to limited economic activity. While the property does not currently contain federally endangered species, Bunched Arrowhead, it has the potential to host new populations and additionally protects valuable water sources.

Mr. Pulliam also reported on the site visit to this site in the pouring rain and the presentation by Frank Holleman of Naturaland Trust.

Mr. Reynolds called for a vote on the amended project. Mr. Harper recused himself from the vote as he serves on the Board of Naturaland Trust. The vote passed including the proxy votes 11-0.

Mr. Pulliam also reported on the site visit and information on Project 12. The property was divided into three separate transactions with this particular parcel being 80-acres of the total 287-acres. The fee purchase will be protected from development and allow continued use by the adjacent scout camp while offering public access.

Mr. Harper called for the vote which passed 12-0 including the proxy votes.

Chair Owen researched and reported on comparisons between Trust funding and Land Conservation organizations in other South Carolina Counties. (See attachments.) Now that the Trust has established an initial track record, he suggested that it was time to begin a conversation with County Council and staff concerning the next budget cycle and long-term funding sources. Also discussed was the fact that 1/3 of the County Council will be composed of new members who will need to be brought up-to-speed on the purpose and work of the Trust.

Mr. Reynolds moved for adjournment. The meeting ended at 6:25PM.

Oconee County
Conservation Bank

2012-2021 @ \$618K (\$300K spent) @ 800 ac. protected

\$ Source: General Appropriation Charleston County Greenbelt Program

2004-2041

@ \$431MM (\$210MM spent)

@ 42,000 ac. protected

\$ Source:

Transportation Tax

Beaufort County Rural and Critical Lands Preservation Board

2000-2020

@ \$138MM (\$42MM others \$)

@ 26,400 ac. protected

\$ Source:

Bond Initiatives (public vote)

County/State Land Conservation Programs in SC as Compared with GCHNRTrust

1

York County York County Forever

1998-2022 @ \$8.145MM; \$352,000 (2022) @ 11,200 ac. protected

\$ Source:

General Appropriation (based on 1/4 mill in early years

Greenville County
Historic & Natural
Resources Trust

2021-2022

@ \$1MM/yr; \$500K

allocated (\$4MM other \$)

@ 310 ac. + 1 historic
Site protected/370 ac. pending (Cyc 1)

\$ Source:

General Appropriation

South Carolina Conservation Bank

2002-2021

@ \$173.4MM

@ 329,000 ac. protected.

\$ Source:

General Appropriation (formerly % of Deed Stamp)

County/State Land Conservation Programs in SC as compared with GCHNRTrust