



2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A  
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## Minutes November 21, 2016

### Attendance:

Members present: Carol Kososki, Charles Weber, Virginia Sanders, Sam Holland, Lee Rambo, Jennifer Carter, and John Grego

Absent: Becky Bailey, Margaret DuBard, Glenice Pearson, Jim Thomas

### Others present:

Quinton Epps, Conservation Department  
Nancy Stone-Collum, Conservation Department  
Chad Fosnight, Capital Projects Planner  
Brittney Hoyle, Risk Manager  
Tracy Hegler, Planning Director  
Kevin Bronson, Assistant County Administrator  
Dr. Jamelle Ellis, Director of Community & Government Services  
Ken Driggers, Contract Legal Counsel

Chair, Carol Kososki called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm and introduced the new Commissioner from District 5, Lee Rambo. Lee was appointed by Councilman Seth Rose, has two children, was a teacher, a supervisor at the USC College of Education, and a very involved volunteer with the Richland Library Foundation.

### Agenda

John Grego made a motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by Charles Weber. Motion passed.

### Approval of Minutes

John moved, seconded by Charles, to approve the minutes of October 17, 2016. Motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report

Carol announced that the county is changing to a two-year budget; the RCCC budget is due in early January. Quinton is developing a budget for personnel and operating funds for the management of Pinewood Lake Park and the other conservation properties which will be added as a separate budget code. Carol asked him to supply the new budget to members.

### Organizational Design Structure

At the request of Interim County Administrator Gerald Seals, a group of 12 department heads formed an Executive Cabinet team whose goal was to recommend an organizational structure that functions

efficiently and effectively. Tracy Hegler and Brittney Hoyle gave a presentation on the results of the cabinet's work. Guiding principles and measures of success were established. Of the 44 county departments, 26 currently report to the Administrator. That will be reduced to 13 through the creation of 4 service branches: Internal Support Services, Infrastructure, Community Services, and Public Safety. Under Community Services will be a new Community Planning and Development Department that will include the Conservation Division. A new structure will be created for this department. Council will be asked to endorse the plan in December. Full implementation may take 6 – 12 months but will take effect in July. In order to have consistent branding, all logos will have the county seal incorporated into the design.

Carol raised a concern about the change in the line of command; how many layers would there be above Quinton; how will RCCC get advice to Council in a timely fashion. Tracy replied that it would remain the same since Quinton would go through the department director rather than the Assistant County Administrator. Kevin Bronson explained a change in the Request of Action process that should simplify and speed up getting approvals from Council. Bottlenecks or delays with Procurement, Legal and Finance were mentioned. Charles asked if headcount would be affected and how the reorganization would affect RCCC. Carol requested they come back with further information.

### **Pinewood Lake Park**

Chad Fosnight reviewed the development of Pinewood Lake Park. Phase 1 consisted of paved walkways, two shelters, restrooms, fitness stations, and renovations to the house. The \$4.5 million phase 2 includes an amphitheater, community building, fishing pier and docks, parking, playground, second entrance, shelters and restroom, botanical/meditation garden, and boardwalk. Funding is coming from the Hospitality Tax. While the park is heavily used, especially for fishing, the issue is how to generate revenue to help operate and maintain the park. A condo development is slated for the adjacent Johnson Stanley tract. There are unresolved issues with the dam which the county does not own. The spillway was damaged from the 2015 flood and the owner, SCALE Inc., doesn't have the funds to repair it. The county does have an easement across the dam for a trail.

John was pleased not to see any development in the wetlands, they need to be left as a green pond area. He questioned the purpose of a boardwalk through mud flats and said a loop trail is difficult if not impossible. John suggested the splash pad should be in the developed area and the restrooms near the amphitheater should be moved and buffered. Nancy asked about the historic buildings on site. Chad replied they would be working to make the buildings ADA accessible and to have educational components. The county is acquiring 4 acres for parking and the community building. Dec. 31, 2017 is the goal for completion of phase 2. Carol asked that Virginia, John, Quinton, and Nancy be involved with the plan and implementation.

### **Report of the Chair**

Carol announced she would be asking Becky to head a nominating committee for the election of officers in January.

### **Conservation Director's Report**

#### Lower Richland Tourism Plan

Quinton reported that approximately 100 residents attended the Nov. 14 public meeting at Hopkins Park to provide input in three categories: small business development, nature tourism, and heritage tourism. Virginia Sanders emceed the meeting which was attended by Rep. Joe Neal, Councilmembers Dalhi Myers, Norman Jackson, new member Chip Jackson, John Grego, and Lee Rambo. Asakura

Robinson will take the feedback and develop preliminary recommendations which will be presented in a public meeting in January for further input. The final plan should be completed by March.

#### Owens Field

The Stormwater Best Management Practices should be installed by the end of December. The deadline for completion of the stormwater improvements for the DHEC 319 grant is January.

#### Spring Valley Mitigation

A news release about the award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina to WK Dickson for the Spring Valley mitigation project was distributed. Quinton went to Durham for the award ceremony.

Quinton mentioned that RCCC had an unsung hero in its midst. One of the flood stories on Reflections, a SC public radio series, talked about a family who was rescued by an individual who knew this property would be in trouble. John didn't give his name and it wasn't reported in the news story but was revealed through Facebook.

#### **Conservation Coordinator's Report**

##### Rosenwald

Councilmember Dickerson asked for help in bringing education and awareness to the Pine Grove Rosenwald School during February for Black History Month. Nancy is working with a community organizer for a special event at the school on Feb. 25. She met two students who attended the school in the 1920s and 1940s and heard interesting stories. Nancy is also working to bring a documentary about Julius Rosenwald to Harbison Theatre in advance of the open house.

##### History Initiative

Dr. Donaldson's final report was to be submitted by mid-November but has not. Glenice let Nancy know he told her a few students were working with him to finish the deliverables. Staff will follow up.

##### Grants Update

On November 5 St. Mark's Lutheran Church held a dedication for the restored stained glass windows funded by RCCC and church members which Margaret and Nancy attended. For the FY18 grant cycle, Public Information Office placed two ads in five newspapers. Carol had a copy of the *NE News* with the ad. Charles wanted to show a copy to Mr. Malinowski and was directed to the *Irmo News*. Members were encouraged to spread the word about the grant program. Quinton said that Mr. Malinowski seemed satisfied with information provided him showing RCCC funding of projects and easements was right in line with the percentage of tax dollars from unincorporated and incorporated areas. Everyone was asked to invite their council member to the Holiday drop-in on December 6.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Stone-Collum