

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
January 26, 2016
Public Works Building
Conference Room
6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Mike Montei, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Fred Skipper, Commission Member
Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member
Mr. Bob Jackson, Town Council
Mr. Howard Bridgman, Conservation Commission
Mayor Ackerman, Harleyville
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Chairman Byars

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Byars.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting was made by Mr. Welch. Second was made by Mr. Debney. Four voted to approve the minutes as written, one abstained, two were absent and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written. Thanks to acting secretary, Mr. Debney, for his work on the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Bridgman asked if Dorchester County would be able to get insurance for the kayak trips that are done on the Ashley River. Mr. Davis said he will pose the question to the county lawyer, Mr. Frampton. Mr. Bridgman is helping to plan a canoe or kayak instruction event at Buffalo Lake. It is in the very preliminary stages right now. He thinks it may take place in June. He will keep us updated on this future event.

Mr. Bridgman advised us that this year's River Fest will take place on April 3, 2016.

MAJOR PROJECTS REVIEW:

Mr. Davis provided handouts listing all the major projects that have been discussed to be included in the master plan, and provided an update on each project. There was much

discussion about each project and the master plan in general. A list of highest-priority projects were recommended for referendum-approved bond funding. These included, Ashley River Park, Courthouse Park, Pine Trace Natural Area, and a host of trails/bike/pedestrian projects. Mr. Davis projects that a 2 mil property tax levied countywide (which would net approximately \$12,500,000.00) would be needed to provide financing for just the highest priority items. That equates to a \$12.00 increase on a \$150,000.00 home. After all discussion Mr. Debney made a motion to amend the master plan to reflect the discussion on priority projects for bond funding. Mr. Skipper seconded the motion. Seven voted to accept the motion and none opposed. Mr. Davis will present the master plan to County Council in March.

GRANTS UPDATE:

We received a grant from National Heritage Corridor for \$100,000.00 Bacons Bridge River Access. This makes a total of \$200,000.00 that we have received for this project.

We also received \$50,000.00 from DEHEC OCRM for the Swan Drive project. This brings the total that we have received for this project to \$150,000.00.

The grant request for a barn like structure at the Courthouse Park Property was denied because it was thought that it will not meet the tourism requirements of the grant.

The first meeting for the Edisto River Management Plan will be held on February 4, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Davis asked the commission members to consider making a motion to ask county council to allocate \$250,000.00 from the bond monies on hand so that we can proceed with planning and design for the Ashley River Park, Bacon's Bridge River Access Site, and Swan Drive River Access Site. The current balance of unallocated bond monies is approximately \$1,200,000.00. Mr. Montei made a motion that we ask county council to allocate up to \$250,000.00 for the above mentioned projects. Mr. Tupper seconded the motion. After discussion the motion passed unamously. Mr. Davis will take the request before County Council this coming Monday. If approved by council the RFQ's will go out quickly.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

Mr. Davis reports lots of progress being made with this group. Ms. Cully is doing lots of work. The 501C3 designation is in place. They have contracted to start up a website. It will cost under \$1,000.00 for development and maintenance for the first year. The first fund raising event for this group will take place in conjunction with Ashley River Fest. Tickets will be around \$25.00-\$30.00. There will be food, beer, live music and wine. They are looking into getting a jazz band. More board members are needed for the group. They can have up to eleven members. They currently have four, one of which is Mr. Davis. He wants to give up his position on the board to another individual and serve as staff support. Mr. Davis suggested that we all ask one person to serve with this group. Mr. Davis will modify the application that was used for the commission members and put it on the facebook site and the county website.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

ROSEBROCK PARK:

The ribbon cutting for the new signage will be held on February 17, 2016 at 2 PM. Holding this event was part of the requirements for getting the grant monies for the signs. Mr. Byars asked us to share the event on our facebook pages. There will be eleven new signs put in the park. Mr. Sign is redoing the current general park signage to reflect the proper operating hours.

There will also be a workday at this park on February 6, 2016. Several scout groups are signed up to help with this.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

The RFQ's are in progress. The notice of intent to award to ADC engineering has been posted. Negotiation with ADC on scope and price is ongoing. Ten firms submitted bids.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Mr. Davis is still working on flood damage claim with FEMA. It will cost approximately \$90,000.00 to replace the damaged boardwalks. The County will be responsible for 80% of this cost. Working with FEMA is a very slow process.

LAND MANAGEMENT:

There will be a meeting with Bart Sabine on the Pine Trace Property.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL:

The maps have been printed up. Mr. Bridgeman had some to hand out to us. Thanks. They printed 2000 this time. They will get another 3000 later. The Summers Corner community helped to fund this project. They donated \$5000.00. Another \$2500.00 was obtained through SC Sea Grant Consortium.

Our next scheduled meeting conflicts with the county Council meeting due to the Presidents Day Holiday. Mr. Debney made a motion that we skip the next meeting because of these circumstances. Ms. Ranck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no further business or discussion at this point and a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Welch. Mr. Debney seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rita May Ranck".

Rita May Ranck, secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 22, 2016
Dorchester County Library, St. George
Conference Room
6:30 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member
Mr. Charlie Potts, Deputy County Administrator
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:27 pm by Chairman Byars

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Ms. Ranck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting was made by Mr. Tupper. Second was made by Mr. Brown. Four voted to approve the minutes as written three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott voiced his concerns about the upcoming bridge work at Luden. His comments were so noted.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

Mr. Davis gave a handout advertising the upcoming Swig & Swine BBQ & Brews fundraiser, which will be held in conjunction with the Ashley River Fest. The event is being organized by the friends group and will be held April 30 from 4pm to 9 pm. The purpose of the event will be to introduce the friends group and to start raising funds to support the parks. The event has been posted on the parks website for about a week and a half. There have already been twenty tickets sold. There will only be approximately 100 – 125 tickets available. There have been new board members

added to the friends group. The total on the board is now five. Mr. Davis has rotated off. The board is still taking names of potential board members. There can be a total of eleven board members for this group.

BUDGET UPDATE:

Mr. Davis provided a financial report handout showing a budget snapshot. He will be presenting this to county council along with the Master Plan at the April 4, 20156 meeting.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

MASTER PLAN:

The master plan was not presented to county council as previously planned. It will be presented at the April 4, 2016 meeting.

ROSEBROCK PARK:

The ribbon cutting for the new signage was held on February 17, 2016. Ms. Ranck was present and Mr. Byars spoke. There were around forty people in attendance. All eleven of the new signs have been installed. There has been a lot of positive feedback about the signs since they were installed. There is a group of scouts that want to do volunteer work in this park. One scout in particular wants to build some boardwalks for his Eagle Scout project. The town of Summerville has donated some lumber which can be used for this project. Mr. Davis has had multiple work days at this park and there are more scheduled for the future.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

They are nearing a price point with ADC engineering. TOPO survey needs to be done after the tree harvesting is completed. Doing it after the tree harvesting will save money on the project.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Mr. Davis gave a handout showing the completed wetlands delineation. He hasn't gotten the Jurisdictional Determination letter yet. There will be no need for a conservation easement on this property as all the areas that an easement would cover are already protected as wetlands as the delineation shows. Mr. Davis hasn't heard anything from FEMA concerning the reimbursement for the damage that was a result of the October flooding. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is only awarding funds to previously awarded sites this go round. This leaves any of our projects out of qualifying this year. Mr. Davis will be writing for future grants as the time approaches.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

Swan Drive wetlands delineation has been started by Sabine and Waters. The boundary survey is completed. SHPO work has been done at the Bacons Bridge site.

SHPO clearance needs to be completed at Swan Drive. There will be a little higher cost at Swan Drive due to the fact that it was previously done by a different company. As soon as County Council approves the Master Plan RFQ for design and construction administration of these sites will go out.

OAKBROOK-ASHLEY RIVERFEST:

The event will be held on April 30, 2016.

NATURAL AREAS:

Mr. Davis would like to see Rosebrock Park and Pine Trace defined as natural areas as opposed to Parks. This would be for the purpose of definition in the Master Plan. It would not involve changing the name of Rosebrock Park. The title better describes them as defined in the Master Plan.

Mr. Davis reports that the intern is busy with her Edisto River Recreation Management Plan project. She has held her first stakeholder meeting. She got good feedback. She will start working on the plan based on the feedback that she received.

Mr. Davis announced that we are requesting a bond referendum on the ballot this November. The Library is also planning a referendum for this November. There is a possibility that all can be combined into one. Mr. Davis thinks that both river access sites will be up and running by the time the referendum is on the ballot.

There was no further business or discussion at this point and a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Welch. Mr. Tupper seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita May Ranck, secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 26, 2016
Dorchester County Building
County Council Conference Room
6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Fred Skipper, Commission Member
Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member
Mayor Ackerman, Harleyville
Mr. Robby Robbins, Public
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chairman Byars

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Debney

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting as written was made by Mr. Brown. Second was made by Mr. Welch. Three voted to approve the minutes as written, two abstained, two were absent and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Ackerman asked, "What is the Parks and Recreation Department's vision for the existing parks and ball fields?". He wants to know if they will still be used. Mr. Davis reminded him that \$100,000.00 in grant monies has been put into the master plan budget. This is specifically designated for the purpose of helping the communities to maintain and/or improve the parks and ball fields that currently exist.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The BBQ and Blues event will be held this coming Saturday. The tickets have all been sold.

The group is looking to have an upper county event in the fall. They need board members from that area so that it can be properly represented.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

MASTER PLAN:

The master plan was presented to county council at the April 4, 2016 meeting. The council had good comments. The library will present at the May 2, 2016 meeting. They would like to see a joint referendum on the ballot. It would be labeled as a quality of life bond referendum. The final decision if and how the referendum would be placed on the November ballot is up to county council.

BUDGET UPDATE:

The county has seen increased revenues from the cable franchise. It is up about \$10,000.00. This is to be used for operating expenses and the salary for the part-time attendant at Rosebrock Park. The salary for this position is currently funded out of the general fund and Mr. Davis suggests that it be moved to the Parks and Recreation budget. This would not be feasible for this year but it will be evaluated for next year's budget. The increased cable franchise funds will also be used to purchase a 7 x 14 double axel trailer to haul equipment.

ROSEBROCK PARK:

Members of the Mormon Church came to the park on the Summerville day of caring. They did some good work. The scouts looking for a project for their Eagle Scout work are still working on the plans to help in this park in the very near future.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

We received \$13,000.00 for the timbering of the trees on this property. The monies are in an escrow account.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

We need to start replacing the board walks that were damaged in the flooding last fall. We have one year to complete the design and build contract. FEMA will fund this project at 75% of the costs. The rest must come from our budget.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

RFQ's are out for both the Bacons Bridge site and the Swan Drive site. There was a site visit on April 22, 2016. Bids are due in tomorrow. The next step will be to select a firm. Those bidding the project felt that the budget allotted for the plan will be sufficient.

TRAILS:

The extension of the Sawmill Branch Trail at the Oakbrook side has been delayed due to the work on the Berlin G Myers Parkway extension. That project is expected to be

started within one year's time. That puts the extension work for the Sawmill Branch Trail work in the area of two years from now.

There was no further business or discussion at this point and a motion to adjourn was made by Ms Ranck. Mr. Debney seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita May Ranck, secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
June 28, 2016
Dorchester County Building
County Council Conference Room
6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Fred Skipper, Commission Member
Mr. Mike Montei, Commission Member
Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member
Mr. Bob Jackson, Summerville Town Council
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Vice Chairman Montei.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Montei.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting as written was made by Mr. Skipper. Second was made by Mr. Welch. Five voted to approve the minutes as written, one abstained, one was absent and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott asked if it would be possible to plant some clumping bamboo at Rosebrock Park. He thinks it would make a good barrier between the educational building and the new five lane road which abuts the park. There was some discussion about the possibility. No decision was made as no one is certain of what the configuration of the park will be with the proposed updates. This topic may be discussed in a future meeting.

The request to recommend allocation of \$50,000.00 of the Recreation Fund Balance for Ashley River Park Boardwalk Repairs was tabled due to the fact that Mr. Davis has been notified that the State has agreed to cover the local share of repairs to flood damaged properties. The State share will be 25% of the cost of repairs.

RFP for boardwalk build and repairs in Ashley River Park will go out in the next couple of days for bids. Within two weeks of that we should receive the transferred DHEC-OCRM dock permit from the army corp. Building would then be able to start.

PARKS AND TRAILS CAPITAL BOND REFERENDUM UPDATE:

County Council passed the first reading. They have decided that the Parks and Recreation bond and the Library bond will appear as one quality of life referendum on the November ballot. The parks part of the bond will be thirteen million dollars. The Library part of the bond will be thirty million dollars. Mr. Davis is hoping to be able to speak to various community and civic groups to explain the parks bond needs. He is scheduled to meet with the Summerville Republican Women's Club on July 11, 2016. Mr. Davis can only present facts and figures. He cannot ask people to vote for or against the resolution. Mr. Byars recommended members of the commission or the friend group to be at his speaking engagements as we can speak in favor of the resolution. We also can speak to groups. Mr. Davis will develop a bullet point fact sheet that we can use. We just need to make sure we are all on the same page with our facts and figures.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

GRANTS:

We have received a trails grant. We made application for two projects. We were awarded \$100,000.00 for the Courthouse Park trail. Our request for a restroom project at Rosebrock Park was denied. We also received news of additional PARD grant funding from the state. It is a one-time allocation, which is usually \$30,000.00. This time it is approximately \$90,000.00. This could be used for the restrooms at Rosebrock Park and some improvements at St. Paul's Community Park. Senator Matthews is going to help put monies towards parks. Councilman Davis is also helping with this. Carolyn Tomlinson, with the county recycling program, worked together with Mr. Davis to get a \$10,000.00 DEHC grant for trash cans. We also received a small grant from the Heritage Foundation for a marketing grant. It can be used to develop a branding, website, and map for the Edisto River Canoe and Kayak Trail.

ROSEBROCK PARK:

Mr. Davis reported that the part-time employee that was opening and closing the park and cleaning up the trash has retired. It was a very sudden thing. He informed us that they have hired two part-time employees to replace this person. One will open the park and one will close it. Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Jim Ranck for his help in opening and closing the park during the time that they didn't have an employee. He presented Ms. Ranck with a gift for Mr. Ranck. He also thanked Mr. Debney for his help during this time. Mr. Davis reported that Republic Contractors have pulled out the pedestrian

bridge as it was damaged over the winter and had become a hazard. The Eagle Scout candidate is still working towards completing his project in the park. He is hoping to construct four sections of boardwalk by September, 2016.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Mr. Davis handed out conceptual drawing, concept E, for the proposed park at this site. The county has hired ADC Engineering to handle the design work. They will have a cost estimate in the very near future. Timber cutting work is still going on at the site.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Mr. Davis received the approved JD letter from the Army Corps. Six firms have submitted proposals in response to the Design RFQ. A decision will be made very soon as to which firm will be chosen.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

RFQ's for design and construction were submitted. JMT was selected. They are currently negotiating a contract. Council will probably approve the contract at next Monday's meeting. The SHPO concurrence has been received for both sites.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The first fundraiser netted approximately \$6500.00. The group has been given permission to use Brosnan Forrest for a fall fund raiser. The group will tour the facility this Thursday morning. All are welcome to attend the tour which will begin at 8:30 am.

BCDCOG BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN:

Mr. Davis is participating on the stakeholder committee to develop the plan and maps of the entire Tri-County area so they prioritize where we need pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and trails. The three counties are working together on this project. They hope to be done by December of this year.

EDISTO RIVER RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN MEETING:

The meeting will be held on July 19, 2016 at 6PM at Givhans Ferry State Park. It will be led by the intern. Plans for this area will need to have cooperation between both Dorchester and Colleton counties.

There was no further business or discussion at this point and a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Skipper. Mr. Welch seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rita May Ranck, Secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
July 26, 2016
Brosnan Forest
Main Lodge Conference Room
6:30 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member
Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member
Mr. Bob Jackson, Summerville Town Council
Mr. George Bailey, Dorchester County Council
Mr. Willie Davis, Dorchester County Council
Mayor Ackerman, Harleyville
Ms. Lindsey Culley, Friends of Dorchester County Parks
Ms. Edna Doctor, Prospective member Friends of Dorchester County Parks
Ms. Patty Boyd, Prospective member Friends of Dorchester County Parks
Mr. Kevin Szostak, Public
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member
Mr. Warren Pruitt, ADC Engineering

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:38PM by Chairman Byars.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Brown.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting as written was made by Mr. Tupper. Second was made by Mr. Debney. Four voted to approve the minutes as written, two were absent, and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott discussed his research on prospective bamboo species that could serve as a visual and sound barrier between the trailhead and highway at Rosebrock Park. He also discussed what he sees as shortcomings associated with bike and pedestrian access to the Sawmill Branch Trail at Bacon's Bridge Road.

Councilman Davis discussed the history of the county's decision to move recreation funding toward establishing an in house parks and recreation department and facilities. He noted that the rural

community parks are hurting due to this funding diversion, and that he hopes they will be helped by the county in the near future.

Councilman Bailey discussed the similar impact the recreation funding situation has had on the Town of Harleyville's recreation program and park. He noted Harleyville offers adult sized fields and that they could use some assistance in meeting the public's needs for these facilities.

COURTHOUSE PARK DESIGN UPDATE-WARREN PRUITT:

ADC started working on the Courthouse Park on May 3, 2016. There have been four previous conceptual drawings of this park completed by ADC. The fifth, which he presented at the meeting, is a combination of all the previous four and takes into consideration the wetlands delineation which has been completed since earlier concepts were completed. He reports that there is one significantly low spot on the property. This is where a lot of the cost for site prep will be spent. They have to provide adequate drainage. They allowed for reworking of the pond to hold water. The dirt that is removed from the pond will be used to help fill other low areas on site. They won't be able to use the dirt from the pond under any of the proposed structures. They can use it under the ball fields and for the fitness trail which will encircle the entire property. The trail will be approximately one mile long.

They will use a rural style architecture design for the pavilion and concession stand. The pavilion will have an outdoor food prep area and counter.

The cost estimate came in this morning. The total cost estimate for the entire project is \$4.4 million. \$531,000.00 is for the pavilion which is 12.6% of the total estimate. The concession stand estimate is for \$406,000.00 which is 9.6% of budget leaving \$3,300,000.00 designated for site work. This is 78% of the budget. The site work total does not include the spray fountain, but does include all other park features.

This conceptual plan and budget will be presented to county council on August 8, 2016.

We need to look at how to phase the design and see if there is any way to save some of the cost.

If the plan is approved by county council it is expected that the master plan will be complete by August 31, the construction documents will be done by November 11, the bid will go out by December 6, and notification of award will be given by January 30, 2017.

QUALITY OF LIFE BOND REFERENDUM UPDATE:

This passed third reading at county council and will be on the November ballot for voters to decide. It is for forty-three million dollars. Thirty million will be for libraries and thirteen million for parks. The average cost of a home in Dorchester County is two hundred thousand dollars. This means that the bond will increase property taxes an average of one dollar a week for the average homeowner. We need to continue to get the word out to the public about the proposed master plan for parks so that they can make an educated decision in November.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

COURTHOUSE PARK:

The timbering is not complete due to the bad weather we have been having. Their contract is almost up and they have to obtain a new town of St George business license before the county will extend the contract. The cost of the license is around \$160.00.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

An RFQ process was completed and Seamon Whiteside was the top rated firm. We are negotiating with this firm for the master plan phase work only at this time, since much of the park program is still unknown making defining the full design scope difficult. The contract will go before county council on August 2, 2016 for approval. The boardwalk repair work RFP has not been posted yet. It is awaiting review and comment from the County Attorney and Procurement Director.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

The design firm's surveyor was out there this week performing the topographic survey. There will be a small parking lot and a trail to put in kayaks and canoes at each site. They will comply with 2010 ADA requirements.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

They are preparing to add two new board members. They currently can add an additional four to five members. They have picked a tentative date of October 22, 2016 for the fund raiser at Brosnon Forrest. It will be a family fun day theme. Times will be from 12 pm to 4 pm. They will have a fishing tournament, clay shooting, horse and carriage rides, and the golf course will be open. In the evening there will be an event with a house band, bbq and drinks. We are looking for sponsors for the event. There will be different levels of sponsorships—possibly \$1000.00, 2500.00 and \$5000.00. Exact amounts and benefits will be set at a later date.

BCDCOG BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN:

Mr. Davis is on the stakeholder committee. They are going to identify specific trails and prioritize all areas—not just those in the towns. They hope to have information booths at the Summerville Farmers Market on September 17th and Third Thursday on September 15th.

EDISTO RIVER RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Colleton County has become a solid partner in development of the plan. They have a commission to promote recreation and tourism on the river called the Edisto River Canoe and Kayak Commission (ERCK). One of the plan's preliminary findings is that Dorchester County needs to get involved through some kind of joint commission. Colleton County has agreed to provide \$3,000 in matching grant funds for the National Heritage Corridor Marketing Grant. This grant will fund a branding package for the Canoe and Kayak Trail, a website with information on this stretch of river and maps similar to the ones we had done for the Ashley River.

There was no further business or discussion at this point and a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Debney. Mr. Welch seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rita May Ranck, Secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 23, 2016
Human Services Building
500 North Main Street, Summerville, SC 29483
County Council Conference Room
6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Fred Skipper, Commission Member
Mr. Bob Jackson, Town Council
Ms. Angela Jones, Public
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Chairman Byars.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Brown.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the July meeting with one correction was made by Ms. Ranck. Second was made by Mr. Brown. Three voted to approve the minutes with one correction, one abstained, three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved as written with correction.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott reported that he is still conducting his bamboo research. He also asked about putting trails in an undeveloped parcel, which may be owned by developers, near our Pine trace property that would connect to Gahagan Park. He was informed that there are no plans regarding this matter at this time.

Ms. Angela Jones asked about the possibility of restoring the foot bridge which connected the Ashborough neighborhood with the Sawmill Branch Trail. Mr. Byars explained the ownership issues connected with the foot bridge. Also, in the past, the Ashborough HOA was divided on whether they want the footbridge restored or not.

Getting funds from FEMA to fix the bridge is no longer an option as the time to apply for funds from last fall's flooding has expired.

BCDCOG BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN:

There will be a meeting on August 30, 2016 at 6pm in the county council chamber. It is to seek public input for trail planning in the low country. The local council of Governments has been invited to come and give their input. The public can also give their input on an interactive website. www.walkbikebcd.com.

QUALITY OF LIFE BOND REFERENDUM UPDATE:

Mr. Byars gave a presentation to the Chamber this morning and feels it went well. It would be good if we could get the Chamber's endorsement for the referendum. Charleston Chamber has their meeting coming up and we hope to have a presenter there. If the referendum passes the operating budget for parks will run approximately one million dollars per year. Council will be looking to offset some of the budget with hospitality funds. Mr. Byars is working in the community to encourage people to support the referendum.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The date for the fall fund raiser at Brosnan Forest has been confirmed for October 22, 2016. There will be two events in one. The day time event will be a family affair. There will be fishing, (DNR will be there with a weigh in tent area. There will be prizes in several age groups.), golf, nature walks, horse-drawn carriage rides, and a rodeo. Times for this part of the event will be from 1 pm to 5 pm. Cost will be ten dollars per person or forty dollars per carload. At 6 pm the evening BBQ event will begin. There will be music and adult beverages to enjoy. Evenbrite will be up soon to purchase advance tickets. It is expected that they will sell out quickly. There will be three sponsorship levels. Top level sponsors will be allowed to use a boat for fishing and will be able to participate in a skeet shoot. Norfolk Southern is already a top level sponsor as is Duvall catering. There will only be two hundred tickets for this event. They will be fifty dollars a person and will also be available for advance purchase on Evenbrite. The Friends group have designated that the profits from this fund raiser will be given to the St Paul's Park and the town of Harleyville for maintenance and improvement of their town park.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Things continue to move forward with this project. Council approved a contract with Seaman Whiteside for master plan development. The topographic surveyors have been out there this week and will continue into next week. Mr. Davis encouraged us to keep an eye out on the property and report any suspicious activity. There have been an increased number of trespassers on the property lately.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Master Plan was presented to council on August 8, 2016 and adopted. The design documents are being worked on. The drawings should be completed by the time the referendum comes to vote.

The timber sale is almost half way completed. The agreement has been extended to November 8, 2016. It is projected that the timbering will net approximately \$50,000.00 which will be used for the development of the park site.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

The conceptual drawings are almost complete. An encroachment permit is needed at the Bacon's Bridge site. NEPA, protected species surveys, and tribal review have been started.

EDISTO:

There was a public input meeting held. It was well attended with about fifty people. They had a "Spirit of the River" festival two weeks ago. Mr. Davis and the intern attended this event. The folks from the National Heritage Corridor met with Mr. Davis. There is going to be a \$6000.00 grant given. Colleton and Dorchester Counties will match the grant by contributing \$3000.00 each.

ASHLEY RIVER SWEEP:

This event will be held September 17, 2016. It will start at 8:00 am. Mr. Davis asked for volunteers. There is a kayak company coming that will provide twenty kayaks and transportation back to put in spot. Mr. Davis is planning to commandeer a trash barge for debris collected on the river.

There was no further discussion or business at this time. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Welch. It was seconded by Mr. Brown and approved by all. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rita May Ranck, secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
September 27, 2016
Human Services Building
500 North Main Street, Summerville, SC 29483
County Council Conference Room
6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman, via phone
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member
Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member
Mr. Bob Jackson, Town Council
Mr. John Mott, Public
Mr. Robbie Robbins, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Mr. Debney.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Debney.

Ms. Ranck made a motion that Mr. Debney act as temporary chairman for the meeting as Mr. Byars was attending via phone and Mr. Monte was absent. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Five voted in favor of the motion and none opposed. Mr. Debney served as temporary chairman of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting as written was made by Ms. Ranck. Second was made by Mr. Welch. Five voted to approve the minutes as written two were absent and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott reported that he is continuing his bamboo research.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE:

Daniel Odenwood was recognized for his work in improving Rosebrock Park. He improved the trails by building board walks. He was able to improve the trail almost to the river. He used recycled wood salvaged from the old Jessen's Boat Landing boardwalk and donated wood supplied by Palmetto Home Center. Daniel reported that he wanted to bring attention to our park because not enough people are using the trail. He said that he enjoyed the project and had about twenty other scouts help him with the construction. Pictures of the certificate presentation were taken.

QUALITY OF LIFE BOND REFERENDUM UPDATE:

Mr. Byars reported that the campaign is going well. They are raising funds and signs should be in this week. No one has seen much organized opposition. Mr. Davis has done some talks with community groups. People seem open to the idea of spending a dollar a week in support of new parks, especially when they see how far behind Aiken and Florence counties we are.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The fall fundraiser is scheduled on October 22, 2016. The family fun day will be held from 1 pm to 5 pm. There will be a fishing rodeo for children 16 and under and one for adults over 16. Fishers will be able to keep catfish and bream. The evening event will be held at 6 pm. Norfolk Southern Lawmen Band will be on hand and there will be food and beverages.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK DESIGN CHARRETTE RECAP:

Seaman Whiteside held a design charette. The topographic survey is done. The biggest challenges and opportunities are directly related to flood zones and federally protected wetlands. The flood way passes over a large area of the park. Buildings will not be able to be built in these areas unless they are elevated. This will add a considerable cost to any structures. Insurance will be difficult to get and very expensive if it can be purchased. Nevertheless, there is great opportunity to develop a unique, low impact park at the site complete with most of the components previously envisioned for the site. The master plan for this park will be done by October 8, 2016. If the referendum passes Council will be able to approve the master plan and then design work can begin.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

RFP to repair the boardwalks damaged in last year's flood has gone out. Mr. Davis hopes that the repair work will be done by April 1, 2017 as that is the FEMA deadline.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

ADC is moving forward with the design of this park. The pavilion is not included in the original design. They are recommending a \$27,000.00 change to the original contract to allow for the pavilion. Timbering is projected to be completed by early October barring any major rain events.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

A combined USACE and DEHC application was submitted. An encroachment permit is needed from DOT at the Bacons Bridge site to locate the pathway and launch within the DOT ROW. There is some nearby resident objection at the Swan Drive site. Mr. Davis is planning a meeting to hear their concerns, to explain exactly what is planned at that site, and to develop a design and operations plan that will address concerns.

ASHLEY RIVER SWEEP:

This event was a huge success. There were over 250 people in attendance. They picked up a total of 1.4 tons of trash.

PRC TOUR OF SUMMERVILLE AREA PARK PROPERTIES:

Mr. Davis will organize a tour for an afternoon. It will allow the commission to see the Pine Trace and Ashley River Properties. He will contact the commission members by email with the details of this event.

There was no further discussion or business at this time. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Welch. It was seconded by Ms. Ranck and approved by all. Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rita May Ranck".

Rita May Ranck, Secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 15th, 2016
Jennie McMahan Library
506 North Parler Avenue, St. George, SC 29477
County Council Conference Room
6:30 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member
Mr. John Mott, Public
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:41pm by Mr. Byars.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Ms. Ranck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting as written was made by Mr. Debney. Second was made by Ms. Ranck. Four voted to approve the minutes as written, three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries, minutes are approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott reported that he has purchased a hand sprayer and has been investigating the best way to remove unwanted invasive plants from the park properties. The hack and spray method is what he'd like to try. They have encouraged Mr. Mott to complete the work in the next few weeks, before dormancy, or it won't be effective. They also reminded him that he must keep any chemicals he uses away from any water sources. Mr. Mott intends to start his work on the Rosebrock Park property.

PARKS & LIBRARIES BOND REFERENDUM RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS:

Mr. Byars reported that the referendum passed with a 61 to 39 percent vote. There has been a lawsuit filed against the format in which the referendum was put on the ballot. It

will end up in court. County lawyers feel very positive that they will prevail in the suit. Bonds will not be purchased until the suit is settled which may delay the start of some work. Planning, design, and regulatory work that have been budgeted under the 2010 bond will continue.

COMMUNICATIONS TOWER MARKETING SITE MARKETINT AGREEMENT:

Mr. Davis has been approached by Milestone Communications. They erect cell phone towers, market them to carriers, and are interested in having space to put some in Dorchester County. They would like to enter into a contract to market county-owned properties for such purposes. They construct and maintain the towers. So far, Parks and Recreation has been the only department to pursue an agreement with Milestone, but additional county owned properties could be added to the agreement in the future. Each tower can accommodate up to 5 carriers. There is an initial one time payout of \$20,000.00 per carrier. After that, there is a \$12,000/year payment to the county per carrier with a 3% annual increase. This could translate into over \$60,000.00 per year income from one tower, if the tower reaches capacity at 5 carriers.

Ms. Ranck made a motion to recommend that County Council authorize the County Administrator to enter into the agreement with Milestone Communications, excluding the Ashley River Park property, to market park sites to carriers, and earmark any proceeds to the Recreation Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Debney. Four voted in favor of the motion, three were absent and none opposed. The motion passes. Mr. Davis will notify County Council of the recommendation as soon as possible.

COURTHOUSE PARK PAVILION CHANGE ORDER:

Mr. Davis explained the option of adding the pavilion design to ADC's scope of work, and that it would require execution of Change Order One to do so. He feels it would be more economically sound because the plans will not expire even if we don't have the funding to build it during the first phase of construction, savings will be gained due to efficiencies associated with designing it at the same time as the concession building, and costs will continue to increase in coming years. It wasn't included in the original plan because Mr. Davis and the commission thought it could be more advantageous to the County to issue a separate design build RFP just for the pavilion. The inclusion of the pavilion design would result in a net increase of \$24,470 to ADC's contract. Mr. Debney made a motion that Mr. Davis ask county council to approve an additional \$24,000.00 so that the design of the pavilion can be added to ADC's scope of work for the Courthouse Park. Mr. Welch seconded the motion. Four voted in favor of the motion, three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries and Mr. Davis will present to county council as soon as possible.

EAGLE CHANDLER BRIDGE CREEK TRAIL PROJECT:

Mr. Davis got a notice of a call for Transportation Alternatives grant applications from BCD COG to be used for trails. The deadline for application was due and he completed the application process just prior to vacation. He applied for the grant monies to be used to extend the Eagle Creek/Chandler Bridge Trail project. The project is divided into three phases. Phase 1 funding is secured and permitting and design is underway. Mr. Davis proposed Phase 2 and Phase 3 be covered by the grant. He

gave a handout showing the proposed trail. The trail would be 4.1 miles long with all three phases completed. Estimated cost for finishing both Phase 2 and Phase 3 is 1,085,000.00. The responsibility of the county matching funds would be approximately \$217,000.00. In past years there had been a \$400,000 cap on the grant amount, but this year there was no mention of the cap. Mr. Byars noted that 50% of the Trail land lies within Town boundaries. They may want to partner with the county on this project which may free up additional funding for this project. Mr. Debney made a motion that Mr. Davis recommend that county council approve the matching fund sum of \$217,076.20, should we be awarded the grant, for the Eagle Creek/Chandler Bridge Creek Trail project. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Four voted in favor of the motion, three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Davis will present to county council if awarded. It is noted that the matching funds would come from either 2010 or 2016 bond referendum proceeds.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Mr. Davis gave a handout of the first draft of the master plan for this park property. It will be formally presented to us at our December meeting. Mr. Davis expects some minor changes will be made. The proposed master plan is available to be seen on non-county Facebook pages, but has not been released to the public in any other form. Repairs to the board walks that were damaged in the floods of 2015 have been out for bid. One company John Guerry Taylor, Inc. submitted and is in the process of being awarded the project. If we include the floating dock in the repair order the estimated cost of the project from this company would be \$166,000.00. The FEMA estimate of the cost was \$140,000.00. If we remove repair of the floating dock it would save repair costs. It might be feasible to make the floating dock area an overlook. It was also brought up how having the floating dock will continue to be a security issue for this property. No action was taken in regards to this discussion.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Timbering was not completed because of the volume of rain from Hurricane Matthew. It is dried out now and weather forecasters predict that it will be dry into the winter. Timber is now scheduled to be undertaken the first week of December.

The design firm is waiting to hear from us about the design change referenced above. As soon as they get the decision results they will continue design and construction drawings. Mr. Davis met with the Sheriff to discuss trustee labor. It looks like this may be a viable option for additional labor for the parks department.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

These projects are moving forward. Mr. Davis met with the community to discuss the impact to the neighborhood at the Swan Drive site. There were both positive and negative comments. Mr. Davis presented a handout of a boundary survey for the neighboring properties to the county property at Swan Drive. The property that the county currently owns has minimal river frontage, and minimal ROW to access it from Swan Drive. He has spoken on numerous occasions to the adjacent owner, who owns

parcels bordering the County site on both the east and west borders. They have decided that they will sell the land needed to better access Swan Drive if the county also purchases the remainder of that parcel as well as the eastern parcel, for a total acreage of approximately 3.75 ac. Mr. Davis has spoken with the County Assessor who advised that the property is valued at \$5,000 an acre making the purchase price approximately \$18,500.00. Mr. Welch made a motion that we recommend to county council that the county purchase the property to provide better public access for the Swan Drive project. Mr. Debney seconded the motion. Four voted in favor of the motion, three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Davis will present to county council as soon as time allows.

PRC TOUR OF SUMMERVILLE AREA PARK PROPERTIES:

Mr. Davis again asked about scheduling a tour of our park properties in Summerville. Weather is conducive to a tour now. We may have to do Pine Trace and Eagle/Chandler properties one day and Ashley River property a different day. He will contact the commission members by email with the details of this event.

There was no further discussion or business at this time. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Ranck. It was seconded by Mr. Brown and approved by all. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rita May Ranck". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Rita May Ranck, secretary

DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
December 20, 2016
County Council Conference Room
500 North Main Street, Summerville, SC 29485
6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Dorchester Eagle Record, the Summerville Journal Scene, and the Post and Courier were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director
Mr. Jay Byars, Commission Chairman, via phone
Mr. John Welch, Commission Member
Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member
Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member
Mr. Fred Skipper, Commission Member
Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member
Mayor Ackerman, Town of Harleyville
Mr. Robbie Robbins, Public
Mr. John Mott, Public
Mr. Chris Campeau, Speaker, Seamon, Whiteside and Associates, Inc
Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:11pm by Mr. Byars.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Welch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting with one correction was made by Mr. Debney. Second was made by Mr. Brown. Six voted to approve the minutes with one correction, one was absent and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved with one correction.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mott asked about emergency vehicle access roads in Ashley River Park and a pathway around the pond. These items will be addressed later in the meeting when our speaker presents the proposed master plan for that property.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION:

Mr. Campeau gave handouts to all present and then went over the proposed master plan. He said there are many challenges with the property because of the increased wetlands areas, the restricted areas, and wide floodway. There is also a water tunnel that runs through the property which prevents any building from being built over it and there is a one hundred foot easement for this. He feels it would be advantageous to capitalize on the river and the

history surrounding the property. The proposed budget for this plan is not to exceed eight million dollars. Mr. Campeau thinks that permitting for this park, as proposed in this master plan may be fast tracked, due to the limited amount of structures involved. He answered all questions concerning the plan. Mr. Skipper made a motion that the proposed master plan be presented to county council for approval. Mr. Debney seconded the motion. Six voted in favor of the motion, one was absent, and none opposed. The proposed plan will be presented to county council at the first meeting of the New Year.

Mr. Davis said that Seamon, Whiteside and Associates, Inc are currently under contract only to do the master plan for this park. A recommendation needs to be made to county council to allocate 2010 Bond proceeds to cover costs related to the design phase of the property. There is \$866,000.00 in unallocated funds remaining from the 2010 bond. The design of the Ashley River Park project will be less than that. Mr. Davis informed the commission that ten percent of the construction cost of a project is usually what the design phase costs. Mr. Skipper made a motion that we recommend that county council authorize up to 750,000.00 of the unallocated funds from the 2010 bond to be used by Seamon, Whiteside and Associates, Inc to proceed with the design phase of the Ashley River Park project. Ms. Ranck seconded the motion. Six voted in favor of the motion, 1 was absent and none opposed. Motion passed. Recommendation will be made to county council at the first meeting of the New Year.

PINE TRACE NATURAL AREA WETLANDS WORK:

We need to have a delineation of the wetlands done for this property. Sabine and Waters had done work on this property in the past. There are some funds in this year's parks and recreation budget, \$10,300.00, which can be used for this purpose. There will be an additional cost to survey the wetland boundaries, which is estimated to be \$25,000.00. These funds are available in unallocated monies from the 2010 bond. Mr. Tupper made a motion that we recommend to county council that they allocate up to \$25,000.00 to record the survey of the Pine Trace Natural Area. The motion was seconded by Mr. Skipper. Six voted in favor of the motion, one was absent, and none opposed. Motion carries and this item will be presented to county council at the first meeting of the New Year.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK FLOOD REPAIRS:

The scope of work under the FEMA Public Assistance program only includes replacing the floating dock and the boardwalks. The SOW doesn't include pilings for the dock.. The current gang way is only three feet wide which doesn't meet the ADA requirements, and would need to be replaced with a 4' wide gangway. This would increase the cost of this project above the current FEMA allowance. Mr. Davis estimates the overage would be about \$10,000.00. Mr. Davis also feels that we would have to add an aluminum gate to provide security if the dock is restored. A gate is estimated to cost \$4,000.00. FEMA will not decide until project completion if it will cover the cost of work not in the original Public Assistance SOW. The commission members recommend that we just fix the boardwalks with the FEMA monies and address the dock at a later date. Mr. Davis will make sure that the permit for the dock remains up to date. Mr. Davis reports that repair work on the boardwalks should start soon.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Administration approved the change order for the pavilion. This property has been very wet this fall. It has delayed the work on wetlands. This also delayed the completion of the timbering work. There will need to be additional work to allow for storm water drainage. Mr. Davis projects that the design/development/and permitting work will be done by April of 2017. Construction will then put out the bid if the new bonds have been issued by that time. He also projects that we will be under contract by June of 2017. It will take approximately nine months for construction which puts the projected opening of the park in spring of 2018, potentially in time for youth baseball. This schedule would actually save money on the project as the fields would be able to be seeded instead of laying sod.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL ACCESS SITES:

The owners of the adjacent properties on Swan Drive have agreed to the sale of those parcels at \$5,000/acre or a total \$18,750.00 price. This gives us an additional 3.75 acres. There will be \$3,000.00 settlement costs which gives us a \$21,750.00 total cost for this venture. These monies will come from the 2010 bond. There will be a public meeting on Wednesday 1/11/17 at 6 pm in council chambers in regards to the planned Ashley River Blue Trail Access Sites.

FRIENDS/COMMISSION ASHLEY RIVER PARK MEET AND GREET:

There will be a tour of Ashley River Park on January 6, 2017 at 3:00 pm for Commission Members, Friends of Dorchester Parks Board Members, and their invitees.

ROSEBROCK PARK VOLUNTEER WORKDAY:

There will be a work day at Rosebrock Park on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 1:00 pm. Volunteers will be working on some landscaping projects. There will be some scouts volunteering. There is a new Summerville volunteer group which has formed and which may be interested in this project. Mr. Davis will contact them.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The fundraiser which was going to be held in October has been rescheduled for April 22, 2017. If you purchased tickets for the event in October they will be good for this date. The DNR will be on site for a kids fishing tournament during the morning and then there will be the dining and dancing event in the evening. Cost for this part of the event will be \$40.00 per person. Further details will be available in the New Year.

There was no further discussion or business at this time. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Welch. It was seconded by Ms. Ranck and approved by all. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rita May Ranck, Secretary