January 23, 2018 County Council Chambers 500 North Main Street, Summerville, SC 29485 600 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. Jay Byars, Dorchester County Council, Commission Chair

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

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

Mr. Mike Montei, Commission Member

Mr. Howard Bridgman, Public

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: All commission members are present for this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by Mr. Byars.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Welch.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Howard Bridgeman, 142 Gadsden Street, Summerville, SC, spoke to the commission about vegetative riparian buffers. He stated that we currently have access to nine miles of the Ashley Scenic River and he wants the commission to support the effort to increase the buffers along the river from fifty feet to one hundred feet. Mr. Byars responded to this request by informing Mr. Bridgeman that this issue will be addressed in future Parks and Recreation meetings. Mr. Davis commented that according to the wetlands permit that is currently pending on the Ashley River Park property a 100' buffer will be in place for this property if approved as written.

BOND REFERENDUM:

Mr. Byars reported that the plaintiffs in the lawsuit had asked the presiding judge to reconsider his decision to dismiss the lawsuit. The judge has already responded by denying that request. The plaintiffs have thirty days from receipt of the signed order to submit an appeal so that their complaint can be heard by another judge. Mr. Byars is hoping that this will not happen as it could delay the start of any park construction by another year. This lawsuit has already cost the county \$40,000.00 in legal fees, along with lost monies to the increase of one percent in the fed rate for bonds. There is also a loss of monies as construction costs are always increasing.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

COURTHOUSE PARK:

The bid package has been completed so it can be put out as soon as the bond monies become available. Mr. Davis is working on pregualification of construction vendors so that this will also be done prior to release of the bond monies. This project will be ready to put out to bid as soon as the bond monies are available since county council has already passed the required three readings on the bond monies. Mr. Welch asked for a probable time line should there be no appeal on the court decision regarding the bond monies. Mr. Davis said that the project can be put out to bid within two weeks of receiving the monies. The bidding period will remain open for three to four weeks. There will be a lag time of two to three weeks from the closing of the bidding to awarding of the contracts. Mr. Davis estimates that the construction itself will take between nine and twelve months depending on the weather. Dry weather will allow for the faster completion time and wet weather will force the longer completion time. Mr. Byars asked if the contract will include a clause for liquidated damages if the construction isn't completed in the allowed timeline. Mr. Davis responded that there will be a clause allowing for penalties assessed to the builder for every day they work beyond the completion day. Mr. Tupper commented that these timelines and penalties need to be reasonable or it will limit the number of bids that come in for the project. Mr. Byars and Mr. Davis agreed with this comment and thanked Mr. Tupper for his expertise in this area.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

The wetlands permit application was placed on Public Notice on January 18, 2018. This is a major milestone for the project. The comment period is forty-five days. All property owners adjacent to Ashely River Park property as well as other governmental agencies received the notice. Mr. Davis reported that we are on track to submit the design documents to the Dorchester County Technical Review Committee for its March meeting. The Friends of Dorchester County Parks group is discussing the possibility of opening this property for public fishing one Saturday a month. They think they will be able to provide volunteers needed to staff these events. Public works will need to be on board with this plan as it will take increased time and effort to both prep and perform ongoing maintenance to accommodate public access.

Mr. Davis reported that there will be upcoming sponsorship opportunities for these events.

Mr. Byars reported that he has heard some concerns from some citizens about what will be happening with the property. He stressed the importance of getting out correct information to alleviate their concerns.

PINE TRACE NATURAL AREA:

Since this property is tied into the Ashley River Park property wetland permitting and mitigation, the Public Notice for the wetland permit for Pine Trace was also posted on January 18, 2018. It will follow the same schedule as that for Ashley River Park public comment. The Army Corps is also responsible for notifying residents adjacent to this property. Current plans for the property should allow us to do some incremental improvements that can be phased in over a period of time allowing for a softer impact on the Parks and Recreation budget.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL:

The Howard Bridgman River Access Site at Bacons Bridge has been very busy since its opening. Mr. Davis reported that the day for the Ashley River Cleanup has been set for March 3rd. It will involve motor boats and land based volunteers. The main meeting area will be the Jessen Boat Landing. There will be satellite cleanups at other areas followed by lunch at the Jessen Boat Landing. Mr. Davis is working in partnership with Summerville Saltwater Anglers and Charleston Waterkeeper for this event. This event brings a lot of public attention to the river.

The new river access will require significant grounds work once the growing season starts. Mr. Davis has been talking with Roger Dangerfield, DC Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Director. They are considering an arrangement where the Parks and Recreation Department foots the bill for a new rig to include truck, trailer, mower, weed eater and tools needed to maintain the river access and Rosebrock Park, in exchange for FGM Department adding the additional staff capacity to perform this work.

TEXAS COMMUNITY PARK:

A PO has been issued for a gate and sign for this park. An initial assessment was performed for what improvements need to be completed and their associated costs. Mr. Davis reports that the septic tank likely needs replacing. The wiring needs replacing and the garage door needs to be changed to a pedestrian access door. The playground equipment that was taken down needs to be replaced also. The estimated cost to do the septic tank and building work is \$40,000.00. The estimated cost to replace the playground equipment and put down a woodchip base is between \$10,000.00 to \$20,000.00, making the total estimated cost of improving this property between \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00. Mr. Davis has a meeting with the USDA tomorrow to address possible funding opportunities. This project may be funded by them at one hundred percent. If this does not happen other grant opportunities will be looked at but most of them require matching funds. Mr. Davis reported that the balance available on the 2010 bond funds is approximately \$329,000.00. This balance shows an increase in the available funds due to the fact that of the \$100,000.00 budgeted for the Swan Drive and Howard Bridgeman

Access Site only \$84,000.00 was used. The other \$16,000.00 was returned to the 2010 bond fund.

Mr. Davis asked for the Commissions consideration of recommending 2010 Bond funding as a local grant match for the Texas Community Park improvements. Mr. Montei motioned that we recommend that county Council allow for up to \$20,000.00 from the 2010 bond monies be used as a match to grant monies should it be required. Mr. Skipper seconded the motion. After discussion noting that the project may cost up to \$60,000.00 Mr. Montei amended his motion recommending that County Council allow for up to \$30,000.00 from the 2010 bond monies be used as a match to grant monies should it be required. Mr. Skipper seconded the amended motion. Ms. Ranck asked if the monies are only going to be used should the USDA grants monies not become available. Mr. Davis said that the 2010 bond monies will only be used if matching funds are required. There was no further discussion. Seven commission members voted yes to the motion. Mr. Davis will take the matter to County Council at the appropriate time.

Mr. Davis informed the commission that he is working on getting quotes on the fence work at the St. Paul Park property also.

GRANTS:

Mr. Davis reported that there has been no action on PARD grant awards by the Legislative Delegation. He is concerned that the deadline to spend the monies is fast approaching. He also reported that everything is being closed out on the Swan Drive and Howard Bridgman River Access site and when it's all submitted we will be reimbursed by SCDNR and the SC National Heritage Corridor.

Adoption of 2018 Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Davis presented a hand out with possible meeting dates for this year. He has been directed that all county commission meetings must be held in Council Chambers. Due to a scheduling conflict with the Board of Zoning Appeals, we will not be able to meet on the fourth Tuesday as we have been. The first Tuesday, fourth Wednesday, and fourth Thursday were discussed. First Tuesday is good for the commissioners but almost half of the meetings will need to be held in St. George. Mr. Welch and Ms. Ranck both prefer not to meet on Wednesdays. The fourth Thursday conflicts with the Dorchester County Republican Meeting and The Summerville Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours. After much discussion it was decided that the next meeting will be held on the fourth Tuesday in February, February 27, 2018, in St. George at 6:00 pm. At this meeting the commission will try and decide on a permanent schedule for 2018.

Ms Ranck reported that she cannot attend the February 27, 2018 meeting. Mr. Debney has agreed to take the minutes for that meeting.

There was no further discussion or business. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ranck. It was seconded by Mr. Tupper and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita May Ranck, secretary

February 20, 2018 County Council Chambers 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. Jay Byars, Dorchester County Council, Commission Chair

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

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

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: Mr. Mike Montei

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mr. Joe Debney as Mr. Byars was running late.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Debney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Ranck made the group aware of one typographical error needing correction in the minutes from 1/23/18, which is changing "They" to "The" in the second sentence of the Ashley River Park item. A motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting, with one correction, was made by Mr. Tupper. Second was made by Mr. Skipper. 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:

No public comments were made at this meeting.

BOND REFERENDUM:

The deadline to appeal the judge's decision is March 14, 2018. If there is an appeal made it may be possible to get a standalone referendum on the upcoming election ballot. The deadline to do this would be August 15, 2018.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Mr. Davis has posted the prequalification RFQ for construction vendors so that when the bond monies are released everything will be ready to move forward. This will also be in the best interest of the County as it will better ensure a quality firm is awarded the project.

Mr. Byars informed the commission that he would like to see the park named after Mr. George Bailey and Mr. Willie Davis who have both served the county honorably for several years. Mr. Davis has been on county council for thirty plus years and Mr. Bailey has served on county council for six years with previous service in the state house. After discussion of this matter Mr. Byars made a motion that the commission make a recommendation to County Council to name the park the Davis-Bailey Park. Mr. Skipper seconded the motion. Six commissioners voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, and one was absent. Mr. Davis will take the matter before the county council at the appropriate time.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Last month the wetlands permit application was placed on public notice. The Journal Scene did an article on the public notice. There has been a lot of interest. The notice period ends March 2, 2018. The data will be collected and compiled and then the Army Corp will send the comments to the County.

The Friends of Dorchester County Parks is still pursuing opening the pond for public fishing. Public Works has cleared as far down the bank as possible, and Mr. Davis has been clearing the rest. Help is needed to remove trees that have been felled. There is a possibility that there will be a public work day in the park on March 10, 2018. Mr. Davis reported that the gazebo will to be demolished as result of a recommendation from the consultant for the Ashley River Park design project. He is in the process of getting quotes for that job. As much of the ipe wood as possible will be kept. DNR looked at the pond and the possibility of doing a fish survey. After the flooding that the property has experienced in recent years there are likely new species of fish that were not introduced by DNR.

COMMUNITY PARKS:

The gate for this park has been installed. Mr. Tupper and Mr. Davis went to the park to look at the building to better determine the scope of work needed to allow use once again. It will need work related to drywall, bathrooms, septic system, electrical, ADA access and other smaller items.

GRANTS:

Mr. Davis reported that USDA has reported Dorchester County qualifies 75% project funding through their rural development program grant. However, it will likely not be available until August or September.

Mr. Davis has gotten a letter from the Dorchester County Delegation to the State House in support of the PARD applications to install restrooms at Rosebrock Park and conduct a feasibility study regarding potential pedestrian connections of Rosebrock Park to the future Ashley River Park. The grant supplies about 80% of the costs of these anticipated costs for these projects. We will still need to use a portion of the 2010 bond monies, as previously recommended by PRC and approved by County Council, as the local match for the restroom project.

Adoption of 2018 Meeting Schedule:

The schedule has not been set for our meeting dates for 2018. Mr. Byars will contact the Clerk to County Council via e-mail to discuss the availability of the Council Chambers again. He will try to get a schedule that keeps our meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month since this has worked well for the commissioners over the past several years.

Summerville Council Chambers is slated for renovations soon. We will have to meet in St George during this process.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The Friends of Dorchester County Parks are planning the second Evening at Brosnan. It will be held on April 21, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

They will also have the fishing tournament for children on that morning. The website for the Friends of Dorchester County Parks has been updated with information for both events. It is www.DorchesterParkFriends.org.

There was no further discussion or business. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Debney. It was seconded by Ms. Ranck and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Rita May Ranck, secretary

April 24, 2018

KFW Meeting Room (moved due to a conflict in Council Chambers)
201 Johnston Street, SC 29485
7:30 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. Jay Byars, Dorchester County Council, Commission Chair

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member

Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member

Mr. Mike Montei, Commission Member

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: Mr. John Welch, Mr. Fred Skipper, Mr. Edward Tupper

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm by Mr. Byars.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Debney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting was made by Mr. Debney. Second was made by Mr. Brown. Four voted to approve the minutes, one abstained, three were absent, and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Mott talked about about the Summerville Bike and Pedestrian Committee and their plans to connect Gahagan Park to Chandler Bridge Creek with paved trail. He informed the group that they can go to a Google Maps website to view an interactive map he created. This "Lincolnville Lakes" portion of the project will provide the final loop needed to give a full circle bike and pedestrian path around Summerville, and he suggests acquiring the property or right of way necessary to construct the path now before more land in this area is developed.

BOND REFERENDUM:

The Plaintiffs have appealed to the South Carolina Supreme Court. Hopefully a decision will be made by the end of this year.

Courthouse Park is ready to go to construction within six weeks of release of bond monies.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Because of the delay with the bond monies Mr. Davis has extended the RFQ time frame for prequalification of construction vendors. He got a good amount of submittals the first time, but feels more may be helpful.

The \$125,000.00 grant that was awarded for this property needs to be spent by the first or second week of August or it will be lost. It can be used for equipment directly related to the pavilion so Mr. Davis is looking for some place to store any equipment that can be purchased. Once storage space is acquired Mr. Davis will move forward with purchasing equipment related to the pavilion.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Mr. Davis had County Technical Review Committee meeting last week. The design work is fifty percent complete. There are a few small things that need to be fine tuned. The project is still on target to be put out to bid by midsummer.

Previously undiscovered storm water infrastructure has been noted on a revised survey.

There are some big alligators that need to be removed from this park. Mr. Davis will contact the appropriate individuals to do that.

Work is still being done on the wetlands permit. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) sent back some comments from the public that will be addressed. Most of the negative feedback came from residents in the Ashborough neighborhood. Mr. Davis is going to be working to address these concerns as part of the response to USACE.

The damaged gazebo has been completely removed as it was a safety hazard and it would cost more to repair it than it would be to build another one.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL:

There was some damage to the split rail fencing at the Howard Bridgeman River Access Site. It has been repaired along with the broken gate.

There is a contract with a mowing service to mow Bridgman River Access, Rosebrock Park, and the medians between them. The contract allows for \$6000.00 for the year for this service.

Mr. Davis led a group of Conservation Commission members, Parks and Recreation Commission members, Town of Summerville officials, and County staff on a paddle trip from the Swan Drive site to the recently purchased Walnut Hill property, and then down to Bridgman Access. All were impressed with the scenery and there is a large, new tree blocking the river channel at the Walnut Hill property.

PINE TRACE:

Mr. Davis met with the school officials at Sires Elementary School. They just wanted to know what is going on with the property and the plans for the park. They are concerned about safety of the school when the park is in place Mr. Davis assured them that safety measures will be addressed when designing the property.

There has been a gate installed on this property as people are using it as a dumping ground.

COMMUNITY PARKS:

All the bids for repairs at St. Paul's Park have been submitted. The lowest bid is approximately \$1,000.00 over the economic development monies awarded for this project, and the difference will be covered from current year Recreation Fund balance. The date for installation will be set next week. The old playground has been demolished already.

The building at Texas Community Park has been inspected by the consultant developing the repair and renovation plans and cost estimate. Monies from USDA grants could become available in August. The Dorchester County Leadership Program group has taken park improvements as its service project. They are looking for sponsors and donors to help fund costs of repair and improvements at this park. The Friends of Dorchester County Parks group will donate part of the profits from this year's Evening at Brosnan as matching funds to any monies the leadership group raises.

Mr. Davis requested that the commission make a recommendation to Council to use up to \$25,000.00 to purchase playground equipment. Mr. Davis will apply for USDA grant monies to reimburse up to 75% of costs for the playground. Arbitrage on the 2010 Bond proceeds is a concern, and continuing to spend down the proceeds will help the count to avoid arbitrage.

Ms. Ranck made a motion that county council allocate up to \$25,000.00 to purchase playground equipment for the Texas Community Park. Mr. Skipper seconded the motion. There was no more discussion. Four voted in favor and none opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Davis will take the recommendation to county council as soon as possible.

GRANTS:

Mr. Davis executed agreements for Parks and Recreation Development (PARD) funding grants for the Rosebrock Park restroom and trailhead improvements and the Rosebrock Park – Ashley River Park Connector feasibility study. We requested \$100,000 for the restroom and received \$79,712.00. We requested \$9,640.00 for the feasibility study and received \$7,635.96. Up to \$25,000.00 of the 2010 bond monies was previously approved by council as match for restroom project and matching funds for the feasibility study will come from the Recreation Fund balance. Mr. Davis anticipates starting both of these projects in July.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The fishing tournament and the Evening at Brosnan were great events again this year. The fishing event was well attended and the Palmetto State Armory, Phantom Outdoors and the DNR were sponsoring again. All sponsors for both events were happy and committed to participating next year.

One hundred seventy tickets were sold for the evening event. This brought in a profit of approximately \$5,000.00 and the silent auction brought in approximately \$2,500.00 more.

Adoption of 2018 Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Davis proposed that we keep the meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month. We will meet in the opposite Council Chamber from the Board of Zoning Appeals as our date and times conflict.

Mr. Debney made a motion that we approve the meeting schedule as proposed. Mr. Montei seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Five voted in favor of the motion, three were absent and none opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Davis will post the schedule as required by the county.

Mr. Davis informed the group that the opening for an administrative assistant has been posted.

There was no further discussion or business. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ranck. It was seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita May Ranck, secretary

June 26, 2018
County Council Chambers
201 Johnston Street, St. George 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. Jay Byars, Dorchester County Council, Commission Chair

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member

Mr. John Welch, Commission Member

Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member

Mr. Mike Montei. Commission Member

Ms. Amanda Childers, Town of Harleyville

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: Mr. Fred Skipper, Mr. Joe Debney

CALL TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mr. Welch.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting was made by Mr. Brown. Second was made by Ms. Ranck. Two voted to approve the minutes, three abstained, two were absent, and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Mott, 244 Luden Drive, Summerville, SC 29485, talked about a proposal that he is recommending to connect the Sawmill Branch Trail to Gahagan Park by extending the planned Eagle/Chandler Trail through Lincolnville, thus providing a complete loop of trails in the Summerville area. This will give Summerville a total of thirteen to fourteen miles of connected trails. The proposal is available for anyone to view it at www. Goo.gl/1BS7B.

2016 BOND REFERENDUM:

Mr. Byars stated he expects the case to be taken up by the SC Supreme Court by the end of the year. Mr. Davis added that there was a meeting held on June 12, 2018 in St George to provide interested parties a detailed history and current status of the

Courthouse Park property. This group, informally known as the "Recreation Coalition," has initiated a petition to ask the court to push this matter forward in the courts.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

HOSPITALITY TAX:

County Council passed the third reading for the proposed one cent tax to be initiated on prepared foods in unincorporated Dorchester County. It is estimated that this will bring in a million dollars a year in funds. It would go into effect January 1, 2019. The monies would likely be split fifty-fifty between capital projects and operations. The county will hold meetings with businesses affected to discuss how they will process the tax and how the county will go about collecting the tax. Collections will not be initiated until January of 2019, and the estimated revenue for this partial year of collections is \$450,000.

HARLEYVILLE TOWN PARK:

Mr. Davis had a meeting with Mayor Ackerman and a playground manufacturer to develop a plan for improving the playground at the town park. The Town of Harleyville applied for a PARD grant with the local legislative delegation.

They were awarded \$17,879.00 for improvements to the town park. They have \$4,469.00 in required matching funds to put toward the projects. Ms. Childers provided an overview of the project and asked if the Commission would recommend that County Council provide the additional \$9,050.00 needed to complete these projects. Mr. Davis informed the commission that there is approximately \$200,000.00 in unallocated funds from the 2010 bond monies and if county council were to approve funding for these projects that is where the funds would be taken from. Mr. Tupper made a motion that Mr. Davis recommend that county council approve up to \$9,050.00 dollars from the 2010 bond monies be used to complete the renovations to the town of Harleyville Town Park. Mr. Montei seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Five voted in favor of the motion, two were absent and none opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Davis will present the recommendation to county council at the July 16, 2018 meeting.

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Mr. Davis held a public information meeting on June 12, 2018 to answer questions and concerns from the public regarding the Courthouse Park. It was attended by eight individuals. Mr. Davis was able to clear up some incorrect information that has been circulating in the community.

Mr. Davis reminded the Commission the County received a \$125,000.00 grant to construct the pavilion. The deadline to use the grant is August 1, 2018. Mr. Davis said that they looked at splitting out the pavilion from the proposed master plan for the park in order to construct the pavilion and use the grant funding before it expires. The additional cost to do this would not be advantageous. The grant has been amended to purchase equipment for the pavilion. Any purchases will be stored in the water and sewer warehouse until it can be used. This will considerably reduce the amount of funds that will be used from this grant. Mr. Davis noted that a grant deadline extension was granted for October 1st, which will be needed to purchase the FFE in time.

Construction bidders have been approved. This should allow for construction on this park to start thirty days after the lawsuit is settled and the bond monies are released.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

The design and construction drawings are progressing nicely and are down to more detailed items, like catering equipment and traffic flow in and out of the buildings. The plans will be submitted to the County Technical Review Committee by the end of the week. These plans will also be presented to the cost estimator to provide a cost estimate that will be used for identifying alternate items in the bid package and phasing options. The project permitting has hit a small snag related to DHEC Coastal Zone Certification, but Mr. Davis is working with the environmental consultant to provide them the information they are requesting.

The project should be ready to put out to bid by September.

ASHLEY RIVER BLUE TRAIL:

The Town of Summerville has purchased thirty acres of river frontage property. It is currently known as The Bend. It is adjacent to the Jensen Boat Landing. There will be extensive public input meetings about what will be done with the property. Plans are to keep it pretty natural and perhaps include a nature or environmental education center. The Open Space Institute has purchased eighty acres of the former Kings Grant Golf Course. They are planning to restore the wetlands to their original natural state, and once restored, turn it over to City of North Charleston to manage for low impact recreational access. At the urging of the Ashley Scenic River Advisory Council, Mr. Davis will submit an application to the National Park Service for help developing an Ashley River Recreation and Conservation Master Plan that will coordinate various projects throughout the corridor and make recommendations for how to best utilize the corridor for recreation and conservation. We should know by November if we will receive assistance in this endeavor from the NPS.

Mr. Byars asked if is feasible to revisit the Slands Bridge Project at this time in light of all that is going on on the River. Mr. Davis doesn't feel that it is the appropriate time to do this due to SCDNR Water Recreation funding requirements. He suggested looking into it again when the hospitality tax funds become available for the project.

COMMUNITY PARKS:

The playground equipment for St. Paul's Community Park has been installed. The children have been using it since the installation. The structure that was there has been torn down and replaced with a new commercial grade structure. The Upper Dorchester County Economic Development Fund and Senator Matthews were instrumental in getting this project completed.

Parking striping, swings and fall safe material under the swings are still needed. Mr. Davis will be looking into getting funding to help with these items.

The Texas Park community building improvements cost estimate is \$83,000.00. This includes bringing the existing building up to code for a public building, redoing the bathroom and making it ADA compliant, installing new windows, doing electrical work and installing ADA compliant parking areas.

Mr. Davis is asking for a USDA grant in the amount of \$50,000.00. County Council has already approved \$30,000.00 in the required matching funds grant. It is also estimated that new playground equipment will cost an additional \$25,000.00. Mr. Davis will be applying for grant monies for this also.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

They are focusing on trails for bikes and pedestrians at this time. They are involved in the project that Mr. Mott spoke about at the beginning of this meeting.

They have contacted Leadership Dorchester 2014 alumni and asked permission to use the logo that they created for the Sawmill Branch Trail. Permission was granted. The Friends group will be bringing in a consultant to help them with ideas for these projects.

There was no further discussion or business. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ranck. It was seconded by Mr. Tupper and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita May Ranck, secretary

August 28, 2018 County Council Chambers 500 North Main Street, St. Summerville SC 29483 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. Jay Byars, Dorchester County Council, Commission Chair

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

Ms. Pam Zanowski, Dorchester Parks & Recreation Staff

Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member

Mr. John Welch, Commission Member

Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member

Mr. Mike Montei, Commission Member

Mr. Fred Skipper, Commission Member

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: Mr. Joe Debney

CALL TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATIONAND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Mr. Welch. Mr. Byars led in the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting was made by Mr. Tupper. Second was made by Mr. Brown. Five voted to approve the minutes, one abstained, one was absent, and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments made at this meeting.

2016 BOND REFERENDUM:

The South Carolina Supreme Court will hear the referendum lawsuit case on October 18, 2018 at 9:30 am. Mr. Byars noted that if you are interested in attending you should be in the court room no later than 9:15 am. It may be possible to carpool if you want to go. Mr. Davis reported that Rebecca Vance has informed him that the bonds must be litigation free for sixty days before the monies can be released. Mr. Welch asked if the case is

ruled in our favor can there be any more appeals made. Mr. Byars responded that he doesn't think so.

SUMMERVILLE MIRACLE LEAGUE IMPROVEMENTS:

Leadership Dorchester 2019 class has chosen the Laurel Street Park for their community project. Roger Dangerfield has asked us to fund some of the projects from the unallocated 2010 bond funds. It will cost them approximately \$3604.30 to construct a ramp and a press box. They have already secured some funding from the Town of Summerville and Comcast has agreed to provide free Wi-Fi for the project.

There is approximately \$253,843.60 of unallocated monies left in the 2010 bond fund. Mr. Montei made a motion that we recommend to County Council that \$3,604.30 from the unallocated 2010 bond funds be used to help fund the 2019 Leadership Dorchester project at the Laurel Street Park. Mr. Skipper seconded the motion. There was no further discussion on the motion. Six voted in favor of the motion, one was absent and none opposed. Motion carries. Mr. Davis will present the recommendation to County Council on Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS:

COURTHOUSE PARK:

Mr. Davis reported that the funds from the National Heritage Corridor Grant have been used to purchase furniture and equipment for the pavilion at the Courthouse Park. Water and Sewer staff has graciously offered warehouse space for storage of the property, some of which arrived yesterday. Some of the items purchased include 17 benches, 2 water fountains, table carts for both round and rectangle tables, folding chairs, a PA system, a 40 x 40 tent with side walls, trash cans, bike racks, picnic tables, large fan, grill racks and radiant heaters. A refrigerator and water heater are also going to be purchased. Mr. Jason Ward asked for a reevaluation of the wetlands on the Courthouse property in order to begin master planning for the remainder of the site. Recent maintenance of some existing drainage features on the property have paid off. Sabine and Waters recently reported there was decreased water on the property. They will delineate the wetlands again and submit it to USACE. Mr. Davis says it will be ready to submit this week.

ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

A rendering of the master plan was available via screen. All permits have been submitted and over 90% of the site work drawings are done. There was a small change made to the parking area surface, expansion of the large dog park, and possibly of the pond.

The smaller open-air structure on the drawing will not be part of phase one.

The architecture firm is a bit behind on their drawings. They are at 60%. There has been a lot of back and forth over the areas designated as flood plain which has caused the slight delay. Mr. Davis has a meeting with the architect tomorrow to pick out interiors for the planned structures.

The gate house rendering now shows a pre fabricated structure as this will save in cost. The restrooms have added fixtures as previously discussed by the commission. There will be no air conditioning for the restrooms but the architect insures that there will be plenty of natural ventilation.

The accompanying shelter and guard shack will also be pre fabricated.

The outfitter building will be the first structure of the park that is visible to the public. It will be near the climbing wall, and will have a large screened in porch that is large enough to use as a rental space, a large lawn area, and steps for stadium seating. There will be public restrooms on the exterior. Private restrooms for the staff will be on the inside of the building.

The large event pavilion will be on the north side of the pond. There will be a boardwalk and ramp that leads to the back of the building. There will be a large area that can seat up to 104 with round tables along with space for a band. The structure also has a catering kitchen, bridal suite and restrooms. It will also have a large event lawn with stadium seating stairs. Ms. Zanowski is currently working on comps for rental spaces so a pricing structure can be put in place.

The storage shed will have two bays. They will hold maintenance equipment and kayaks. Seamon Whiteside estimates that the drawings will be ready by late October or early November.

Permitting is moving along. The DHEC agent who was working on permitting passed away and Mr. Davis is working with a new agent.

Mr. Davis says that the project can be bid out in late October, early November without the permits so that when the permits are granted work can begin.

ROSEBROCK PARK:

The process of converting the outdoor classroom to restrooms has begun. Kevin Coffey is going to handle permitting and design of septic. The building will contain both men's and women's stalls, and some storage space. The project needs to be completed by May 1, 2019. Mr. Tupper is helping with the project. It will be paid for primarily by the grant that was awarded last year.

In addition to the work on the building they are adding an ADA parking space, water fountain outside and water for watering the landscaping.

EDISTO RIVER CANOE AND KAYAK TRAIL (ERCK TRAIL):

Mr. Davis has been working with Colleton County on this. He is encouraging Dorchester County groups to work with them also. He suggests that the county form a Dorchester River Commission to enter into an understanding with Colleton County. The commission would consist of seven members, with one member being appointed by each councilman. Both parties would sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. Davis asked if we would like a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission to represent them on the River Commission.

The purpose of the River Commission would be to promote tourism on the Ashley and Edisto rivers. They would also be able to work together to build access to the rivers or other projects that would promote the rivers and tourism. Mr. Davis estimates that they would meet three to four times a year.

Mr. Davis announced that the county has partnered with DNR, Edisto River Adventures and Paddle SC for an end of the season celebration on Saturday, September 29th. Eighty people have already signed up to attend. There will be a free shuttle offered for an eight mile paddle in the morning which will finish about 4 pm. The paddle will commence at Edisto River Adventures where there will be live music, a food truck and prize drawings.

Volunteers are needed to help with the event. Mr. Davis asked for all to share the event on Facebook pages.

COMMUNITY PARKS:

The striping and bumper stops were installed this morning at St. Paul's Community Park. The community leadership group for Texas Community Park is working with Dorchester County and Banks Construction to renovate and pave the existing walking trail. They are hoping to get donations of materials. The Friends group promised them \$5000.00 in matching funds. They were able to purchase dugout benches.

The board incorporated as a nonprofit with the State of South Carolina and will now be working toward 501c3 status.

A land use agreement is in the works for this property. Mr. Frampton wants some liability insurance for the board members to be in place. So far, they have been unable to locate an agent that is willing to write a policy for this.

Mr. Davis is looking for a USDA grant of \$80,000.00 to fund renovations to the building. He hasn't gotten an answer yet. They are looking through the financial statements. County council has dedicated \$30,000.00 to this project.

Mr. Davis is also requesting PARD monies. The request has been submitted to the legislative delegation.

The Town of Harleyville received their \$9050.00 this week to make improvements to their playground within the town park.

Mr. Davis reported that he met with the Dorchester County Career and Technology School to discuss the students making picnic tables for some of our parks. They agreed and are very excited about working with us. He will charge the county for materials only. He estimates the cost of each table to be around \$200.00 as opposed to \$600.00 if purchased commercially.

They also offered to host the Commission for lunch and a tour of the facility. The group agreed Thursdays worked best so Mr. Davis will come back to the group with a date. Mr. Byars suggested that Mr. Davis ask them about building picnic tables for various locations in the county parks

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

The Friends group will once again hold their Deck the Hulls event. The date for this will be December 1, 2018. The Dorchester Boat Club has already been reserved. The group is seeking \$1000.00 in sponsorships. Mr. Davis suggested that it will be good holiday advertisement.

The Friends group is also working on a biathlon Adventure Race to be held March 2nd or 30th. They are planning a 5k run through Ashley River Park followed by an 8-mile paddle down the Ashley River, ending at Middleton Place where they will have music, food, beverages and awards. They have already met with Middleton Place staff and they are on board.

Mr. Davis announced that he has applied for Accommodations Tax for the event. He has a meeting for this tomorrow.

There was no further discussion or business. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Tupper. It was seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita May Ranck, secretary

October 23rd, 2018
County Council Chambers
201 Johnston St, St. George, SC 29477
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. Joe Debney, Commission Member

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

Ms. Pam Zanowski, Dorchester Parks & Recreation Staff

Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member

Mr. John Welch, Commission Member

Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: Mr. Jay Byars, Mr. Mike Montei, Mr. Fred Skipper,

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Mr. Debney.

INVOCATIONAND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Mr. Welch. Mr. Debney led in the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting was made by Mr. Tupper. Second was made by Mr. Welch. Five voted to approve the minutes, three were absent, and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Mott talked about the new Summerville Bike and Hike Park off the Sawmill Branch Trail by Bacon's Bridge Rd. The trail will be constructed for mountain biking and hiking, and ¾ of a mile has been cleared.

2016 BOND REFERENDUM:

The South Carolina Supreme Court heard the referendum lawsuit case on Thursday, October 18,2018 at 9:30 am. Mr. Davis reported that the outcome was not what we expected. He felt that the justices did not want to make a judgement at that time, that they would rather send the decision back to Dorchester County Council to make the decision whether they wanted to proceed with selling the bonds. At that time, the plaintiffs could file an injunction and the case would go back to the Supreme Court. Mr.

Davis stated that a conference call between County staff and their attorneys was scheduled for Wednesday, October 24th, 2018 to discuss the case.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION: UPDATE OF RECENT, ONGOING AND UPCOMING PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Ms. Zanowski presented a power point presentation updating the group on ongoing and future projects and programs. These included improvements to St. Paul's Community Park, Town of Harleyville Park & Playground, Texas Community Park, & Summerville Miracle League. She also updated the group on the construction of the Rosebrock Park restrooms, the recent end of season Paddle Party, picnic tables being constructed by students at the Dorchester Career and Technology Center to be used in our parks, boat landings and other areas. The tables are strong and sturdy and will only cost about \$150 a piece. Ms. Zanowski also updated the group about some upcoming events and programs.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS: ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Over 99% of the construction plans are complete. Still waiting on the 401 and 404 permits to be approved. A contractor has been hired to bush hog and mow the park and he should finish up next week. There has been a change order with Seamon Whiteside to request additional services to include enhanced construction administration. We have received the formal quotes on the water and sewer hook ups by CPW and Dorchester County. Hook up fees and meters will cost approximately \$70,000. Ms. Zanowski presented the group with a revenue projection spreadsheet for the Pavilion, outdoor shelters and other rental areas within the park, which is estimated in the \$220K-\$240 range. The projected figures were based on research from local event rental facilities and function halls comparable to the Ashley River Park Pavilion and its amenities.

ROSEBROCK PARK:

There is a trail maintenance day scheduled for Saturday, October 27th from 9:00am-11:30. We will be working with Lowcountry Land Trust and Keep Dorchester County Beautiful, as well as volunteers, to get some maintenance done on the trails. The feasibility study to connect Rosebrock Park and Ashley River Park has begun.

TEXAS COMMUNITY PARK:

Mr. Davis reported that we have sent a land use agreement to the Texas Community Park committee to take on liability for use of the park. They are looking over the agreement with their attorney. Mr. Davis would like the agreement in place before putting any funding into the renovations of the community building.

COUNTY WATERWAYS:

Mr. Davis reported that the proposal to create a Dorchester County Rivers and Waterways Commission passed first reading at the recent County Council meeting. The commission would consist of seven members, with one member being appointed by each councilman. The Commission would enter into an MOU with Colleton County and

work together to promote recreation and tourism on the Edisto River. They would also be able to work together to build access to the rivers or other projects that would promote the river and outdoor recreation. Mr. Davis estimates that they would meet three to four times a year. The Dorchester County Waterways Commission will also work on projects and programs on the Ashley River and potentially other County waterways. Mr. Tupper asked about having a separate group for the waterways. Mr. Davis said we would have the ability to share resources and equipment, plan events together and make recommendations to improve the waterways. The commission would have joint meetings with Colleton County. We are trying to get some people who are passionate about supporting the rivers and having events on the river. Mr. Debney asked if any PRC members had volunteered to be on the River Commission. Mr. Davis stated that they had decided to have 1 member appointed by each council member.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

Mr. Davis reported that it is almost time to get the group involved for the 2nd Annual Deck the Hulls event scheduled for Saturday, December 1st, 2018. He is working on a sponsor so we can then advertise and put out registration information.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ranck. It was seconded by Mr. Welch and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kith how laws

Rita May Ranck, Secretary

November 27th, 2018 County Council Chambers 201 Johnston St, St. George, SC 29477 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. Jay Byars, Dorchester County Council, Commission Chair

Mr. Joe Debney, Commission Member

Mr. Eric Davis, Dorchester County Parks & Recreation Director

Ms. Pam Zanowski, Dorchester Parks & Recreation Staff

Mr. Charles Brown, Commission Member

Mr. John Welch, Commission Member

Mr. Edward Tupper, Commission Member

Ms. Rita May Ranck, Commission Member

ABSENT: Mr. Mike Montei & Mr. Fred Skipper

CALL TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATIONAND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Mr.Brown. Mr. Debney led in the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes from the October meeting was made by Mr. Tupper. Second was made by Mr. Brown. Six voted to approve the minutes two were absent, and none opposed. Motion carries; minutes are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Mott gave an update about the new Summerville Bike and Hike Park off of the Sawmill Branch Trail by Bacon's Bridge Rd. The trail will be constructed for mountain biking and 1.4 miles has been cleared and ride able. 1.6 miles of the trail are still roughed trail. Mr. Mott also stated that he would be attending the Charleston County Greenbelt application seminar.

2016 BOND REFERENDUM:

Mr. Davis stated that there was no update on the lawsuit but that we should be hearing something by the end of the year. Mr. Byars confirmed that there was nothing to report.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE—MR. ERIC DAVIS: ASHLEY RIVER PARK:

Mr. Davis reported that the water quality permit has been approved. Still waiting on the 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. Hoping to hear back before the end of the year. The bush hogging is almost complete. We recently held a Day of Caring project where 35 students from the Nuclear school came out and cleared the banks along the pond, as well as the trail around the pond, opening up fishing areas and opportunities to walk around the whole trail.

ROSEBROCK PARK:

Mr. Davis reported that we held a trail maintenance day on Saturday, October 27th and had 12 volunteers help with creating a new trail and connected it to an existing trail. The kiosk will be updated with the new trail, policies and procedures and replaced when the work on the restroom building is completed. Mr. Davis reported that we have received the septic permit back from DHEC. Hoping to put the project out to bid after the holidays and get project completed by May 1st. Mr. Byars asked if we would have someone locking and unlocking the restrooms. Mr. Davis reported that the current part time staff that we have locking and unlocking the park daily will take care of the restrooms as well.

TEXAS COMMUNITY PARK:

Mr. Davis reported that Texas Community Park was also another Day of Caring site. Volunteers and staff from Dorchester County mowed, installed fence cap to the baseball field fence, installed dug out benches and put a fence behind the basketball hoop. Some of the items were paid for by the Friends group. Mr. Davis reported that we still do not have a signed land use agreement from the Texas Community Park group and there had not been communication between the group and the County attorney. He suggested holding off doing any work on the building until we receive the signed agreement back.

PINE TRACE:

Mr. Davis reported that Pine Trace was also a Day of Caring site. We had a group in the morning and a group in the afternoon. The group cleared the trail all the way around the pond and cleared the banks allowing more access to the pond for fishing. There is a chain link fence around the area that will eventually have to be removed. The clean up and clearing will allow nearby Sires Elementary to do some environmental education and fishing programs. Mr. Davis felt that with all the work we have done at the park we may want to look at using and accessing the park. Mr. Davis said he will look into pricing out building the road and additional parking.

FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER COUNTY PARKS:

Mr. Davis reported this Saturday, December 1st is the 2nd Annual Deck the Hulls Holiday Paddle event. He felt registration was slow because of the threat of bad weather, Tickets are \$20 and includes the paddle, oysters, hot dogs, beverages and music. The free shuttle will run from 8:30am-10 and oysters and music will start around 11:30am. Volunteers are needed if anyone is available to help out.

The Ashley River Adventure Race is scheduled for Saturday, March 2nd. Ms. Zanowski is working with a time keeping company to help organize the race. We are also working on a logo, and then when that is complete, marketing and sponsorships.

WATERWAYS:

Mr. Davis reported that information will going out by the end of the week and applications will be made available to those interested in being on the commission. Those interested need to be County residents and appointed by someone on County Council.

Mr. Davis reported that we have kicked off the feasibility study to connect Ashley River Park and Rosebrock Park. The study should be completed by the end of January. Mr. Davis will present the report when it is completed.

2019 MEETING SCHEDULE ADOPTION:

Mr. Davis presented the proposed meeting schedule for 2019. He stated that the Commission will alternate each month between Summerville and St George. Mr. Debney made a motion to adopt the meeting schedule and the motion was seconded by Mr. Tupper. Six approved the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Contractual matter Involving the purchase of real estate. Ms. Ranck made a motion to move into Executive session, Mr. Debney seconded the motion. Mr. Debney made a motion to move out of Executive session, Mr. Tupper seconded the motion. Mr. Debney made a motion to recommend exploring the possible purchase of property on Swamp Fox Dr. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Six approved the motion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Byars announced Council will be recommending naming Courthouse Park in honor of Mr. Davis and Mr. Bailey at the Monday, December 3rd Council meeting. He encouraged everyone to attend the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Welch. It was seconded by Ms. Ranck and unanimously agreed to. Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.