



**AGENDA  
CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Inaugural Meeting  
County Council Chambers  
500 N Main St. Summerville, SC, 29483  
July 20, 2023  
5:30 PM**

- 1. Call to Order by Jason L. Ward, County Administrator**
- 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Welcoming Remarks and Introduction of Members and Staff**
- 4. Members Roles and Responsibilities and Staff Roles and Responsibilities**
- 5. Overview of Conservation and Greenbelt Program**
  - a. Referendum
  - b. Ordinance
  - c. Consultant and Master Plan Development
  - d. Applications and Recommendations to County Council
  - e. Future Staff Support
- 6. Election of Officers**
  - a. Chairperson
  - b. Vice-Chairperson
- 7. Next Meeting and Adoption of Meeting Calendar**
  - a. Thursday, August 17, 2023, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm County Council Chambers, Summerville
  - b. Third Thursday of the Month from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
- 8. Other Considerations**
- 9. Adjournment**



## **CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

500 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 2  
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483  
(843) 832-0196 or (843) 563-0196

### **MINUTES DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE JULY 20, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified: The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier, WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

PRESENT: Mr. Daniel Prohaska, Chairman  
Mr. Ray Walsh, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Catherine Brownlee  
Ms. Phyllis Hughes  
Ms. Rhonda Pereira  
Ms. Edsel Taylor  
Mr. Joseph Wells (Via Teams Meeting)  
Mr. Bryan Havir, Assistant Administrator/Community Services  
Ms. Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning and Zoning  
Ms. Tracey L. Langley, Clerk to Council

Mr. Bryan Havir called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission. The invocation was given by Ms. Phyllis Hughes, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Welcoming Remarks and Introduction of Members and Staff**

Mr. Havir introduced himself and staff. Members of the commission introduced themselves by giving their names and occupations.

#### **Members Roles and Responsibilities and Staff Roles and Responsibilities**

Mr. Havir spoke about the roles and responsibilities of members and staff as outlined below:

- (a) To identify, conserve and protect natural resources;
- (b) To educate the public as to the benefits of conservation;
- (c) To work with County staff and the County's consultant in formulating and developing a Master Plan for the expenditure of Greenbelt funding received as a result of the 2022 Dorchester County One Cent Sales and Use Tax Referendum;
- (d) To work in conjunction with County staff and the County's consultant to identify eligible projects to be funded with the Greenbelt funding received as a result of the 2022 Dorchester County One Cent Sales and Use Tax Referendum;
- (e) To review eligible projects pursuant to applications developed by County staff and/or the County's Consultant and make recommendations to County Council for the expenditure of Greenbelt funding received as a result of the 2022 Dorchester County One Cent Sales and Use Tax Referendum;
- (f) To undertake such studies, plans, activities, and projects as may, from time-to-time, be assigned to the Commission by the County Council.

The presentation was given for informational purposes only. No action was taken.

#### **Overview of Conservation and Greenbelt Program**

Mr. Havar gave a PowerPoint presentation to members of the commission outlining the below:

- (a) Referendum;
- (b) Ordinance;
- (c) Consultant and Master Plan Development;
- (d) Applications and Recommendations to County Council;
- (e) Future Staff Support.

The presentation was given for informational purposes only. No action was taken.

#### **Election of Officers**

Mr. Havar opened the floor for nomination of Chairman of the Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission. Mr. Walsh nominated Mr. Daniel Prohaska, followed by a second from Ms. Hughes.

For the record, the vote was as follows:

1. On the motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the Commission voted unanimously to elect Mr. Prohaska as Chairman of the Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission.

#### **Election of Vice Chairman**

Chairman Prohaska opened the floor for nomination of Vice Chairman. Mr. Taylor nominated Mr. Ray Walsh to serve as Vice Chairman. Mr. Prohaska seconded the motion.

For the record, the vote was as follows:

2. On the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Prohaska, the Commission voted unanimously to elect Mr. Walsh Vice Chairman.

#### **Next Meeting and Adoption of Meeting Calendar**

3. On the motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the Commission voted unanimously in favor of adopting the 2023 meeting schedule as presented.

**ADJOURNMENT**

4. On the motion of Ms. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Commission voted unanimously in favor of adjourning at approximately 6:00 p.m.

*Tracey L. Langley*

Tracey L. Langley, Clerk to Council



**AGENDA**  
**CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING**  
**COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**500 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 2**  
**SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483**  
**AUGUST 17, 2023**  
**5:30 PM**

- 1 CALL TO ORDER**
- 2 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3 ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 20, 2023, CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING**
- 4 OVERVIEW OF COMMISSION MEMBERS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
- 5 DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULE AND PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MASTER PLAN**
- 6 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**
  - 6A. Discussion of the Limehouse Property Purchase and Application to the South Carolina Conservation Bank
  - 6B. Discuss and Begin Assembling a Directory of Conservation Resources Available to Aid the Commission's Work
    - Identify Key Stakeholders, Allies, and Current Leaders in the Conservation Community
  - 6C. Discussion of the Charleston County Greenbelt Advisory Board
    - Members are Asked to Review the [Board's Website](#) and Interactive [Map for Lands Currently Open](#) Before the Meeting
- 7 ADJOURN**

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## **CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

500 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 2  
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483  
(843) 832-0196 or (843) 563-0196

### **MINUTES DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE AUGUST 17, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified: The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier, WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Daniel Prohaska, Chairman  
Ms. Catherine Brownlee  
Ms. Rhonda Pereira  
Ms. Edsel Taylor  
Mr. Joseph Wells (Via Teams Meeting)  
Mr. Jason Ward, County Administrator  
Mr. Bryan Havir, Assistant Administrator/Community Services  
Ms. Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning and Zoning

**ABSENT:** Mr. Ray Walsh, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Phyllis Hughes

Mr. Daniel Prohaska called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission. The invocation was given by Mr. Prohaska, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Adoption of Minutes**

Minutes from the July 20, 2023, CGAC Meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

### **Overview of Commission members roles and responsibilities**

Mr. Ward spoke about the roles and responsibilities of the Commission Members as outlined in Chapter 2, Article IV, Division 9 Sec 2-393 through Sec 2-398 dealing with purpose and objectives.

Mr. Ward also discussed the structure, organization and composition of the Commission noting that the members are advisory to County Council with respect to making recommendations on identifying significant parcels of land for inclusion in the master plan for use of Greenbelt funds for conservation of said parcels of lands via outright purchase, lease, preservation, protection, etc.

Mr. Ward discussed the role of the Commission in helping to identify other funding sources to leverage the County's Greenbelt funds for acquisition and conservation purposes; referencing other programs such as South Carolina Conservation Bank and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Mr. Prohaska referenced funding opportunities that may be also available through the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation.

### **Discussion of Schedule and Process for Development of Master Plan**

Mr. Ward shared that the County advertised a request for proposals of consultants to prepare a Master Plan for the County's Greenbelt Program. The Selection Committee recently met and shortlisted the firms that responded and completed formal interviews and were going to make a final selection in the upcoming weeks. He was hopeful that the Selected Consultant Team would be on board and be in attendance at the CGAC's September 21, 2023, meeting.

### **Other Considerations**

- (a) Discussion of Limehouse property purchase and application to the South Carolina Conservation Bank.
  - Mr. Ward updated the Commission Members on the application submission made a few weeks ago and reviewed the attached one (1) page handout which provided a summary of the project.
  - Commission members asked that a copy of the application submitted to the Conservation Bank be shared with them.
  
- (b) Commission members discussed assembling and compiling a directory of conservation resources available to aid the Commission's work.
  - Identify key Stakeholders, Allies, and Current Leaders in the Conservation Community was referenced.
  - Members asked to bring ideas back to next meeting.
  
- (c) Commission members discussion of the Charleston County Greenbelt Advisory Board.
  - Members are asked to review the Board's website and Interactive Map for Lands Currently Open, before the September Meeting.
  
- (d) Publicity – Discussion ensued of using the County's Website and working with the Public Information Officer to develop information about the Dorchester County Greenbelt Program and the Application process once it is developed. It was recommended commission members review Greenville's website which serves as a good example.
  - It was also suggested for future meetings to invite Mr. Davis and Mr. West to provide input on Charleston County's Program and the State's Conservation Bank Program.

### **Public Comment**

Susan Wehman suggested that Jennifer Howard is a good resource person because she has a strong forestry background. Steward Firm is a good resource person as well.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Edsel Taylor, seconded by Ms. Catherine Brownlee, the Commission voted five-in favor with two absent to adjourn at approximately 5:59 p.m.

*Bryan T Havir*

Bryan T. Havir, Assistant County Administrator





**AGENDA**  
**CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING**  
**COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**500 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 2**  
**SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483**  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**  
**5:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. MINUTES**

3A. Adoption of Minutes from the July 20, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting

3B. Adoption of Minutes from the August 17, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting

**4. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

4A. Continue Discussion of Assemblage of a Directory of Conservation Resources to Aid the Commission's Work

4B. Discussion of the South Carolina Conservation Bank as an Alternative Source of Funding

**5. ADJOURN**

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## **CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

500 N. MAIN STREET  
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483

### **MINUTES DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified:  
The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier,  
WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Ray Walsh, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Catherine Brownlee  
Ms. Rhonda Pereira  
Ms. Edsel Taylor  
Mr. Joseph Wells  
Mr. Jason Ward, County Administrator  
Mr. Bryan Havir, Assistant Administrator/Community Services  
Ms. Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning and Zoning

**ABSENT:** Mr. Daniel Prohaska, Chairman  
Ms. Phyllis Hughes

Mr. Ray Walsh called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission at 5:37 p.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Taylor, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **MINUTES**

1. On the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Pereira, the Commission voted five in favor, with two absent (Prohaska and Hughes), to adopt the minutes from the July 20, 2023, CGAC Meeting.
2. On the motion of Ms. Brownlee, seconded by Ms. Pereira, the Commission voted five in favor, with two absent (Prohaska and Hughes), to adopt the minutes from the August 17, 2023, CGAC Meeting.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Vice-Chairman Walsh recognized Mr. Ward to discuss other considerations. Mr. Ward gave an overview of discussions from the last meeting regarding the creation of a directory of resources and the application submitted by the County to the South Carolina Conservation Bank for funding. The Conservation Bank quarterly meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in Columbia and the application is on the agenda for consideration at that meeting.

Ms. Brownlee asked about the consultants for the Conservation & Greenbelt Master Plan. Mr. Ward announced that the contract had been awarded to Weston & Sampson and Audubon.

Mr. Taylor asked about the commission's ability to encourage property owners to conserve their property through this program. Mr. Ward suggested those properties be identified by TMS number and owner and included as part of the master planning process.

The Commission asked questions about and discussed the application and criteria process.

Mr. Ward indicated the Commission would be well served to set aside some time to go over the South Carolina Conservation Bank application process.

Vice-Chairman Walsh asked about scheduling a separate meeting to discuss. Mr. Ward indicated this could be accomplished virtually.

Ms. Brownlee mentioned having Eric Davis, with Charleston County's Greenbelt Program, discuss their greenbelt program with the Commission at one of their meetings. Mr. Ward indicated that Raleigh West has also indicated that he would be willing to meet with the commission.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Pereira, the Commission voted five-in favor with two absent to adjourn at approximately 6:00 p.m.

*Kiera Reinertsen*

Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning & Zoning



**AGENDA**  
**CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING**  
**COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE**  
**OCTOBER 19, 2023**  
**5:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. MINUTES**

3A. Adoption of Minutes from the September 21, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting

**4. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

4A. Introduction of Weston & Sampson and Audubon, consultants for the Greenbelt Master Plan, and discussion of the master planning process

4B. Continue Discussion of Assemblage of a Directory of Conservation Resources to Aid the Commission's Work

4C. Presentation of Interactive Open Space Map

**5. ADJOURN**

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## **CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

500 N. MAIN STREET  
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483

### **MINUTES DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE OCTOBER 19, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified: The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier, WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Daniel Prohaska, Chairman  
Mr. Ray Walsh, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Catherine Brownlee  
Ms. Rhonda Pereira  
Ms. Edsel Taylor  
Ms. Phyllis Hughes  
Mr. Bryan Havir, Assistant Administrator/Community Services  
Ms. Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning and Zoning

**ABSENT:** Mr. Joseph Wells

Mr. Daniel Prohaska called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission at 5:35 p.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Prohaska, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **MINUTES**

1. On the motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the Commission voted unanimously, to adopt the minutes from the September 21, 2023, CGAC Meeting with the correction that Mr. Wells be shown as attending in-person.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Ms. Reinertsen introduced Weston & Sampson and Audubon as the consultants for the Conservation and Greenbelt Master Plan.

Kim Morganello, Weston & Sampson, introduced herself as the Project Manager. Jeannie Lewis and Lucas Hernanadez, both with Weston & Sampson, introduced themselves and discussed their roles.

Ms. Morganello reviewed the proposed project schedule and noted that pre-draft public workshops would be held in December/January, with the final product being completed in April. Chairman Prohaska suggested holding the public workshops in January, not December, to avoid conflicts with the holidays.

Ms. Morganello went over existing plans that are being reviewed and asked if there were any plans that were missing from the list for initial analysis that should be added. Mr. Prohaska mentioned the Resiliency Plan that was released by the Governor's officer earlier this year and the Scenic Ashley River Management Plan. Ms. Hughes addressed the Historic Resources Survey conducted by Sarah Fick with Preservation Consultants, Inc., in 1997. Ms. Hughes and Mr. Prohaska mentioned the survey being conducted by the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust to record American Revolutionary War assets within Dorchester County. Mr. Prohaska asked if any of the smaller towns have plans. Ms. Reinertsen answered that each will have their own Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Lucas addressed the data sources they are compiling for use in developing a GIS prioritization matrix. Ms. Morganello asked if the Commission was aware of other sources for GIS data. Ms. Brownlee mentioned the Givhans Ferry Watershed-Based Plan being completed by BCD COG. Mr. Prohaska mentioned the Avian Conservation Center's annual study on protected species.

Ms. Morganello touched on the Level of Service analysis and mentioned that Rachel Cotter with Weston & Sampson would like to come to the December meeting to further discuss a prioritization matrix.

Ms. Morganello discussed with the Commission the community engagement plan to include a county-hosted project website, a public survey, and promotional materials. Ms. Morganello asked about other groups to reach out to. Mr. Prohaska mentioned the Ashley Scenic River Advisory Council, Dorchester Heritage Center, Summerville Museum, and Lions Club. Ms. Morganello indicated that two workshops would be held. The first for the general public and the second would be content specific and focused on landowners. Mr. Prohaska requested Workshop One be held twice, one in Summerville and one in St. George to give everyone a chance to engage equitably.

Mr. Prohaska mentioned the need to make documents ADA compliant and accessible. Ms. Lewis agreed and will be working to ensure compliance and accessibility. Mr. Prohaska mentioned Able South Carolina.

Ms. Brownlee asked about the potential for keeping a shared folder to stay up to date in addition to monthly meeting updates. Ms. Reinertsen will look into a shared Teams folder.

Ms. Reinertsen gave each member a binder with information on the Commission and Greenbelt program. Ms. Reinertsen also updated the Commission on the virtual discussion held October 5<sup>th</sup> with Raleigh West, Executive Director of the South Carolina Conservation Bank, to discuss the grant application process. A link to view the meeting would be e-mail to members who were unable to participate.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to adjourn at approximately 6:34 p.m.

*Kiera Reinertsen*  
Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning & Zoning



**AGENDA**  
**CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING**  
**COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE**  
**NOVEMBER 16, 2023**  
**5:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. MINUTES**

3A. Adoption of Minutes from the October 19, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting

**4. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

4A. Discussion with SC Audubon and Weston & Sampson regarding the Public Engagement Strategy for the Dorchester County Greenbelt Plan

4B. Adoption of the Conservation & Greenbelt Advisory Commission 2024 Meeting Schedule

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**6. ADJOURN**

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## **CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

500 N. MAIN STREET  
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483

### **MINUTES DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE NOVEMBER 16, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified: The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier, WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Ray Walsh, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Catherine Brownlee  
Ms. Rhonda Pereira  
Ms. Edsel Taylor  
Mr. Joseph Wells  
Ms. Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning and Zoning

**ABSENT:** Mr. Daniel Prohaska, Chairman  
Ms. Phyllis Hughes

Mr. Ray Walsh called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission at 5:40 p.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Taylor, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **MINUTES**

1. On the motion of Ms. Brownlee, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the Commission voted 5-0, to adopt the minutes from the October 19, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Kim Morganello, Weston & Sampson, gave a brief update on their status. They spent October and November reviewing plans and have started working on GIS. They are looking to finalize their engagement strategy at this meeting.



Matt Johnson, Director of Beidler Forest Center, introduced himself and discussed several engagement approaches they are considering. The first approach is online opportunities and surveys as well as direct public outreach and engagement. Several in-person targeted engagement sessions would be held prior to the draft of the plan. Mr. Johnson reviewed the proposed engagement session strategy with the Commission. Additional engagement opportunities include an online survey to be released in December with a second survey to be released in January. Finally, passive and active feedback stations would be set-up at various locations in the county. Passive would include informational displays for residents to engage with. Active would involve in-person engagement with the consultants.

Ms. Brownlee pointed out that there were no plans for feedback stations in the St. George area of the County. It might be worthwhile to place feedback stations in St. George. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Morganello agreed.

Ms. Pereira asked about how participants would be selected for the online survey. Ms. Morganello responded that they would want everyone in the County to participate – the more the better. Ms. Reinertsen discussed the County's ability to push information out through its distribution lists and channels.

Mr. Johnson and Ms. Morganello asked the Commission to think about how they would like to be involved in the public engagement piece. Ms. Brownlee asked if staff had come up with a way to share information? Ms. Periera indicated she wanted to be able to have access to handouts and information prior to the public engagement sessions. Ms. Reinertsen responded that staff could create a shared Teams folder that everyone would have access to.

Mr. Walsh announced that the Adoption of the Conservation & Greenbelt Advisory Commission 2024 Meeting Schedule would be deferred to the next meeting.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Maria Pettis, a resident of Summerset Acres, spoke about the proposed Yerby Road development and the desire of some residents to see the property protected. They are concerned about the effect of development on stormwater and wildlife. The community would like to see what can be done and would like the Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission to recommend protection of this property through the Greenbelt program.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Brownlee, the Commission voted 5-0 in favor to adjourn at approximately 6:13 p.m.

*Kiera Reinertsen*

Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning & Zoning



**AGENDA**  
**CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING**  
**COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERSVILLE**  
**DECEMBER 21, 2023**  
**5:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. MINUTES**

3A. Adoption of Minutes from the November 16, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting

**4. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

4A. Progress report on the Dorchester County Greenbelt Master Plan project

4B. Adoption of the Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission 2024 Meeting Schedule

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**6. ADJOURN**

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## **CONSERVATION AND GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

500 N. MAIN STREET  
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483

***MINUTES***  
**DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING**  
***COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE***  
***December 21, 2023***  
***5:30 P.M.***

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified: The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier, WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Ray Walsh, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Catherine Brownlee  
Ms. Rhonda Pereira  
Ms. Edsel Taylor  
Mr. Joseph Wells  
Ms. Kiera Reinertsen, Director of Planning and Zoning  
Mr. Daniel Prohaska, Chairman  
Ms. Phyllis Hughes

Mr. Daniel Prohaska called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission at 5:40 p.m. The invocation was given, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **MINUTES**

1. On the motion of Ray Walsh, seconded by Edsel Taylor, the Commission voted 6-0, to adopt the minutes from November 16, 2023, Conservation and Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Anna Kimelbatt, Resiliency Planner of Weston & Sampson, gave a brief progress report on greenbelt masterplan project status. A website had been created for the Dorchester County Greenbelt and is currently running. It will be kept updated with current project information. A survey has also been put out with over 400 responses received so far. A second survey will be conducted sometime in January. Guidance from the Conservation and Greenbelt Commission will be sought for input on questions for this second survey. Weston & Sampson has also been working

on GIS mapping for the Greenbelt area and has well-rounded data. Mr. Prohaska checked if swallowtail kite data had been considered in the datasets used. Ms. Kimelbatt mentioned a meeting was scheduled for January 4<sup>th</sup> to go over the data. Mr. Prohaska asked if commission members would be allowed to attend this meeting.

Ms. Brownlee asked about the prioritization matrix/GIS maps and if it would be available for public meetings.

A draft of the postcard was then presented to the commission for review. Feedback on which groups to distribute postcards to was then requested. Ms. Brownlee noted that the postcards should include a reference to the sales tax.

Ms. Brownlee asked when Survey 1 would end. Ms. Kimelbatt responded that survey 1 will run until survey 2 goes out in mid-January. The Farm Bureau Land Trust wants to be involved. Mr. Taylor asked about survey targeting strategies, asking who gets sent the survey. Mr. Prohaska wishes to make sure that recipients are made aware that the second survey is a separate survey from the first. Ms. Brownlee suggested that posters advertising the survey should be posted in county facilities. Mr. Prohaska listed several organizations to work with.

Ms. Hughes discussed considerations for developments and provisions for open space in proximity to development.

Ms. Kimelbatt will follow up with an email.

Ms. Pereira asked if zoning was included in the GIS datasets.

On the motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the 2024 meeting schedule for The Conservation and Greenbelt was brought to the table. The Commission voted 6-0 to discuss and adopt a 2024 meeting schedule. Mr. Prohaska proposed to change the meeting day from every third Thursday of the month to every first Wednesday of the month, at the same meeting time of 5:30 p.m. Ms. Brownlee proposed the location of the meeting alternate between the Summerville Council Chambers and the St. George Council Chambers. A motion to adopt these schedule amendments was made by Ms. Hughes and seconded by Ms. Brownlee. Commission voted 6-0 to adopt these schedule amendments. Commission then voted to adopt the 2024 meeting schedule 6-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Hughes, the Commission voted 6-0 in favor to adjourn at approximately 6:00 p.m.