

CLAYTON COUNTY GREENSPACE TRUST BOARD

MINUTES

The Clayton County Greenspace Trust Board held a meeting at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday September 4, 2007. The meeting was held in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Clayton County Administration Building, located at 112 Smith Street, Jonesboro, Georgia. Notification was sent to *The (Clayton) News Daily* and later published in this newspaper. Those present at the Board Meeting were:

Members: Chairman Eldrin Bell, Ms. Libby Torbush, Ms Lucy Huie, Mr. James Jenkins and Mr. Jack Bruce.

Attendees: Wayne Patterson, Jeff Metarko, Nathan Parrott, Chuck Ware, Jim Jackson, Abby Jordan, Christie Barnes.

Chairman Bell called the meeting to order at approximately 5:08 p.m. He welcomed those in attendance and presented the minutes of the July 3, 2007 meeting for adoption. Jack Bruce made a motion to adopt the minutes, Ms Libby Torbush seconded that motion and hearing no objections or corrections the minutes were adopted.

The Chairman now brought the Board to the first Agenda Item, which was a presentation by Mr. Jim Jackson. Mr. Jackson's presentation was titled "Southern Environments, Greenspace and Wetlands Program" and addressed property Mr. Jackson currently owns. The property is overwhelmingly composed of Flint River flood plain and is bounded by the Clayton County Water Authority's (CCWA) W.B. Casey Water Reclamation Facility to the north and their facility where Thomas Road dead ends into Highway 54 to the South. Mr. Jackson's presentation spoke of the numerous benefits associated with flood plains. The benefits included hydrological, hydraulic, ecological and aesthetic. Mr. Jackson went on to give the Board the history of this property and its potential for donation to the County. Mr. Jackson said he has been working with Congressman David Scott to arrange Federal dollars being granted to Clayton County for buying the subject property from Mr. Jackson. In order for Clayton County to not incur any costs Mr. Jackson stated that he would donate up to 25 percent of the retail value to be used as Clayton County's required match. The Trust Board thanked Mr. Jackson for his efforts and voted to form a sub-committee for this project. The vote to form a sub-committee passed and the Committee is to be composed of Mr. Detrick Stanford, Director of Parks and Recreation; someone from the Staff Attorney's office; the Grant Writer from the Department of Finance; Mrs. Lucy Huie and myself.

Next Ms. Abby Jordan, of the Southern Conservation Land Trust (SCLT), took the floor to give her presentation to the Board. Ms. Jordan discussed the various ways in which the County's partnership with her organization could be beneficial to all involved. The benefits ranged from her organization serving as a third party intermediary for negotiating acquisitions, to holding conservation easements and managing preserved lands. Ms. Jordan spoke of the SCLT's past successes and future ambitions. The Board members found Ms. Jordan's presentation to be very informative and look to form a connection in the future. Mr. Parrott informed the Board of his

intentions behind having Ms Jordan give her presentation. Mr. Parrott recommended the Board begin to consider forming some public private partnerships, because; having those partnerships in place prior to receiving the final Trails Master Plan, will allow him to immediately begin pursuing the financing necessary to construct the trail.

At this point the Chairman noted the shortage of time remaining and asked Mr. Patterson to only address the pertinent agenda items remaining. Mr. Patterson responded that would be no problem because several of the items were carried over from past meetings and there wasn't much to report. With that said, Mr. Patterson introduced Ms. Christie Barnes to provide legal council on seating new Board members. Ms. Barnes informed the Board there were two documents governing them; one is the Declaration of Trust and the other is the Trust Board Bylaws. She said these two documents exhibit minor contradictions, but ultimately the current Board Members are responsible for nominating new members. However, once the Board has voted to seat a new member, that member will not be officially seated until the appointment is approved by the Clayton County Board of Commissioners.

With time running out, the Chairman made a motion to adjourn, that motion was seconded by Mr. Jack Bruce.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.