

**YORK COUNTY FOREVER COMMISSION  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

Monday, January 24, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.  
Large Conference Room  
York County Office Complex  
1070 Heckle Blvd., Rock Hill, SC

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**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance:** Nichol Druckemiller (Chairman), Creighton Hayes, Donny Mitchell, Ron Parks, Steve Hamilton (*ex-officio*), and Carey Tilley (*ex-officio*).

**Members Absent:** Johnny Walker

**Also in Attendance:** Trish DeHond (Open Space Planner), Diane Dil (Planning Manager)

**A. Call to Order**

Chairman Druckemiller called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**B. Adoption of Minutes**

Minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously, based on a motion by Commissioner Hayes and a second by Commissioner Mitchell.

**C. New Business**

1. The new District 6 Commissioner, Ron Parks, was introduced. He is a Music professor at Winthrop University and has lived in York County for about 20 years. He has served on outdoor trails and greenways committees for the City of Rock Hill, and has received good information about YCF from former chairman, Lindsay Walker. The commissioners and staff each introduced themselves and welcomed Dr. Parks, who prefers to be called Ron.

2. Chairman Druckemiller conducted the election of officers. Commissioner Mitchell's motion to nominate Druckemiller for chairman was seconded by Commissioner Hayes and approved unanimously. Commissioner Mitchell's motion to nominate Commissioner Walker for vice-chairman was seconded by Commissioner Hayes and approved unanimously.

3. Trish clarified that the schedule of upcoming meetings does not require a commission vote of adoption. The chairman sets the meeting schedule, which will also be posted on the YCF website.

## **D. Old Business**

Commissioner Hamilton gave an update on three approved projects.

1. Project 21.03 – Carter Property on Catawba Church Rd. Funding was approved by Council, but the project has not been completed due to family concerns about financial impact. Nation Ford Land Trust will stay in touch with the owner and re-activate the project if possible.

2. Project 21.04 – Woodend Farm (Van Every Property, aka Project Llama) on SC Hwy 557. The Bethel-Lake Wylie Land Acquisition and Preservation Parks District (B-LW LAPP) acquired the 86-acre property for \$4 million in November 2021, which included \$1 million in funding from the SC Conservation Bank (SCCB). Two underground storage tanks were removed last week. A celebration bonfire is planned for Saturday, January 29 at the site.

3. Project 21.07 – Papke Property (aka Project Thistle One) on SC Hwy. 49. The ~47-acre property was also purchased by B-LW LAPP. Commissioner Hamilton explained how the B-LW LAPP tax district was set up specifically for land acquisition projects. The conservation easement closed on December 14, 2021.

## **E. Matters of Contractual Negotiation Regarding Acquisition of Property (Executive Session)**

At 6:15 p.m., the Commission entered executive session unanimously, based on a motion by Commissioner Hayes and a second by Commissioner Parks. Discussion included Project 21.09, and an update only, with no action was taken, on ongoing Project 17.01.

The commission left executive session unanimously at 6:59p.m., based on a motion by Commissioner Hayes, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell.

After executive session, Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve \$39,575 in funding for Project 21.09 (Fishing Creek Tract), which was seconded by Commissioner Parks and approved unanimously.

## **F. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m. based on a motion by Commissioner Hayes and a second by Commissioner Mitchell.