



HORRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT VEREEN MEMORIAL HISTORICAL GARDENS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Thursday September 19, 2024 9:00am
C.B. Berry Community Center, Conference Room
2250 SC-179, Little River, SC 29566

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Introduction of Members**
- 4. Public Input**
- 5. Minutes**
 - Approval of July, 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- 6. Old Business**
 - Donation and Budget Report – *Ray Dunham*
 - Staff Updates – *Ray Dunham*
- 7. Reports**
 - Maintenance & Volunteers – *Dick Patterson*
 - Historical – *Pat and Bennie*
 - Beautification – *Pat*
 - Budget – *Dick, Gary, and Rich*
 - Memorial – *Rich and Dick*
- 8. Discussion**
 - Rail Fence
 - Information Board
 - Next Meeting Date
- 9. Adjourn**

The Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee, via Ordinance 9-87 is appointed by County Council to oversee the maintenance, protection, development and renovation of Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens. The committee's purpose is to preserve the historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural interests and values that reflect the heritage of Horry County in keeping with the aims and desires of the donor, Jackson Hiram Vereen.

VEREEN MEMORIAL HISTORICAL GARDENS COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

Carol Patterson

e-mail: rcpatt@aol.com

VICE CHAIRMAN

Patricia Green

e-mail: apatriciagreen@yahoo.com

Richard Patterson

e-mail: rcpatt@aol.com

Bob Childs

e-mail: bob.childs@yahoo.com

Gary Weaver

e-mail: g.t.weaver@outlook.com

Rich Lavigne

e-mail: rcl1174lrsc@gmail.com

Debbie Vereen Givens

e-mail: debjonora@gmail.com

Bennie Dowty

e-mail: benniedowty1@gmail.com



VEREEN MEMORIAL HISTORICAL GARDENS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE 2024

Board Meetings are typically held at 9:00am in the Conference Room of the
C.B. Berry Community Center at 2250 SC-179, Little River SC 29566.
All interested citizens are invited to attend.

Date	Time	Event
January 18, 2024	9:00 – 10:30AM	Committee Meeting – Conference Room of the CB Berry Community Center
March 15, 2024	9:30 – 10:30AM	Committee Meeting – Conference Room of the CB Berry Community Center
May 17, 2024	11:00 AM	Committee Meeting – Conference Room of the CB Berry Community Center
July 11, 2024	9:00 – 10:30AM	Committee Meeting – Conference Room of the CB Berry Community Center
September 19, 2024	9:00 – 10:30AM	Committee Meeting – Conference Room of the CB Berry Community Center
November 14, 2024	9:00 – 10:30AM	Committee Meeting – Conference Room of the CB Berry Community Center

*There are no meetings scheduled for February, April, June, August, October, and December. If
needed, additional meetings can be scheduled.

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Chairwoman Carol Patterson invited Director, Ray Dunham to give an update on the staff liaison for the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee. Director Dunham updated the Committee that Ashley Cowen has left Horry County Parks and Recreation and that the goal is for Katrina Ward to take over as their liaison. He informed them that the Parks and Recreation Department is trying to streamline all boards so that they can function at their best. At this time,

Director Dunham told the Committee that the previous meeting minutes were not easily obtained and that due to staff changes, we will not be able to produce those accurately.

Voting

Chairwoman Carol Patterson then suggested that the Committee revote on the decisions from the previous meeting so that they were accurately recorded.

A service dog named Belwinkle, belonging to Alicia Bocian lost their battle with cancer and she would like to place a bench in memorial for the dog because Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens was “his place”

Chairwoman Patterson introduced the first proposal of a memorial bench for Belwinkle the service dog.

Bennie Dowty motioned for the approval of the bench, and Patricia Green seconded the motion.

The Committee put it to vote and a unanimous approval for the bench for Belwinkle.

The Horry County Memorial Library has received a grant to put in story walks through the community and has requested to do one at Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens.

Chairwoman Patterson introduced the proposal of a story walk from the Horry County Memorial Library. Patricia Green motioned for the approval of the story walk and Bennie Dowty seconded the motion. ***The Committee put it to vote and unanimously approved the story walk.***

Peter Gulliver was going to run for the board but passed away before he was able to complete that goal.

Chairwoman Patterson introduced the proposal of a memorial bench for Peter Gulliver. Rich Lavigne motioned for denial of the bench and Bob Childs seconded the motion. ***The Committee put it to vote and denied the memorial bench for Peter Gulliver.***

The Committee requested that Staff get quotes and building plans for benches for the new bench for Belwinkle and future benches in Vereen Memorial Historical Garden.

Chairwoman Carol Patterson asked for an updated budget and Director Dunham stated that he would have one for the Committee upon the next meeting.

Chairwoman Carol Patterson asked if the By-Laws were approved and Director Dunham confirmed they were at council and that he would have a copy of the meeting minutes to provide proof of approval in the next meeting packet.

Chairwoman Carol Patterson introduced that after July 1st, an election of officers needed to occur. Bennie Dowty motioned for Carol Patterson to remain as Chair, Debbie Givens seconded the motion. ***The Committee put it to vote and unanimously approved the motion.***

Dick Patterson motion that Patricia Green remain Vice-Chair, Debbie Green seconded the motion. ***The Committee put it to vote and unanimously approved the motion.***

Staff Updates

Chairwoman Carol Patterson addressed Director Ray Dunham to give staff updates. Director Dunham stated he would need the Committee’s help to understand and note what the Committee was relying on staff for.

Chairwoman Carol Patterson stated she had a list and would introduce the items on it to Director Dunham. She clarified that all of the items on the list had already been brought up in the past with the previous liaison. She stated that fourteen Encore Azalea bushes to be purchased to be planted in the fall when they have peak chance of survival and growth. She introduced that the new Angel at Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens needed repair from peeling paint and

weathering. Director Dunham stated he would look into the repairs of the Angel for the Committee.

Chairwoman Patterson introduced the need of four new, lidded, trash cans. She stated they had been previously requested but not delivered. Dick Patterson explained to Director Dunham the disrepair of the other metal trashcans. Director Dunham noted it to be purchased when other park trashcans were purchased.

Chairwoman Patterson stated that there is an immediate need for one-way arrows by the upper shelter house. She was unsure weather that was Public Works but was sure the previous liaison stated it was under a different department. She requested that it be relooked at and done.

Chairwoman Patterson stated that the split-rail fence around the parking lot and along the road needs to be replaced or heavily repaired. Dick Patterson explained the disrepair to Director Dunham and the importance of the fence for protecting the land. The Committee requested to be presented a quote for this project.

Chairwoman Carol Patterson introduced the swing mats. Bob Childs explained that the heavy duty 5x3ft mats work better, are less maintenance, and have better longevity. They requested that they need two more mats to match the one they already have.

Bob Childs continued to introduce the "Poo-lution" signs they need to put up and promote the initiative from previous meetings. Katrina Ward stated that the previous liaison was going to request help to design and distribute from Keep Horry County Beautiful.

Chairwoman Carol Patterson reintroduced the need for Broad Road signs inside the Vereen Memorial Historical Garden to indicate where they were. She stated that the previous liaison said they were in touch with the Historical Society for those signs because they needed to be done through the Society. She stated that she went to the last meeting for the Historical Society and spoke with their members, they did not seem to recall this information. Director Dunham stated that staff would reach out to them to get an update on the status of that project.

Debbie Givens reintroduced the topic of security cameras. Bob Childs and Dick Patterson stated that the entrance and the lower parking lot were both supposed to already have cameras coming to be posted but that the last update on that was quite some time ago. Katrina Ward seconded that there was also supposed to be one coming to be installed on the entrance of the C.B. Berry Community Center. Director Dunham stated that he would look into this because there was money allocated for this project but he is unsure of the status. Dick Patterson stated that they wanted security cameras further into the property but that an issue of electricity prevented that. Bob Childs introduced the issue of the gravel washout after heavy rains. Dick Patterson explained that it was becoming more and more of a problem and that it needed to be addressed. Bob Childs stated that a brim or curbing were needed to resolve the issue.

Rich Lavigne stated that he has been the one trimming the bushes boarding the road but that the maintenance is the only thing he is able to accomplish all summer. He asked Director Dunham who was in charge of trimming the bushes boarding the road. Director Dunham stated that it would be the maintenance and trade workers. Director Dunham explained that they would be happy to take it over but that the Committee needed to understand they are spread over multiple parks so they would add it into rotation but that it might not be done exactly when they want it done. Rich Lavigne will continue to trim the bushes at this time.

Bennie Dowty stated that the volunteer applications that are now required have lost Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens many volunteers. He and Dick Patterson asked if there was a way to shorten the application or not require it. Director Dunham stated that it was standardized by Horry County and that it was out of his control.

Dick Patterson introduced the topic of the tools in the tool shed being insured on the chance of burglary. Director Dunham stated that he did not believe they would be covered under any current policies. Dick Patterson stated that it might be in the Committee's best interest to get an insurance policy. Chairwoman Carol Patterson stated they would table this topic until the next meeting.

Dick Patterson stated that there is a desperate need for batteries for blowers. He stated that volunteers could not even get down one trail with the blowers without the battery going dead. He requested six new batteries. Bennie Dowty motioned for approval of this purchase and Bob Childs seconded his motion. ***The Committee put it to vote and unanimously approved the purchase of the batteries.*** Director Dunham stated he would have them delivered for the Committee prior to the next meeting.

Reports

Maintenance and Volunteer- Dick Patterson

Dick Patterson presented each Committee member with a paper report. The report stated: The volunteer appreciation for all of their hard work on trails, trimming, weed-eating, cleaning, and more. Parks and Recreation delivered their tool shed and requested supplies. Parks and Recreation staff have also done a great job keeping up with mowing and mosquito sprays. On June 29th and July 1st, there was torrential downpours that caused five washouts. Due to competing priorities, Parks and Recreation could not get out to them until July 15th. Dick Patterson had some concerns and stated there was a need for fill to be placed in the same spots it was located prior to the Blue Crab Festival so that they can fix more without having to wait on the Parks and Recreation crews. He requested wood chips for the children's area because there are none left.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Keep Horry County Beautiful Meeting – July 23, 2024 11:30am in Multipurpose Room B of the Government & Justice Center, Conway

Next Parks and Open Space Board Meeting – July 9, 2024 in Multipurpose Room B of the Government & Justice Center, Conway

Next Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee – September 19, 2024 at 9:00am in the Conference Room at C.B. Berry Community Center in Little River

ADJOURN

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:17am.



Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee
Briefing Memorandum
Horry County, South Carolina

Date: September 19, 2024
From: Parks and Recreation
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation
Prepared By: Michaela LeMay, Community Center Supervisor
Regarding: Donation and Budget Report

ISSUE:

What is the status of the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens budget?

CONCLUSION:

The Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee has used \$1,147.98 of the County budget.

There is \$12,350.49 remaining in the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens donation account.

BACKGROUND:

The Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee maintains two accounts. One account rolls over annually and has been accumulated via donations. This account no longer accumulates funds. The other account is allocated annually through the regular Fiscal Year budgeting process. Funds from both accounts are utilized by the Committee and staff to support the actions, projects, and needs of the Committee.

ANALYSIS:

The Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee has used funds from both accounts as follows:

FY 25 Funds Used: \$1,147.98

Items Purchased	Vendor	Cost	Comments
Equipment	Lowes	\$85.32	Craftsman Battery
Equipment	M & M	\$889.87	5 Batteries
Equipment	Walkers Hardware	\$172.79	Battery

Donation Funds: Remaining \$12,350.49

Items Purchased	Vendor	Cost	Comments
Gift Cards	Amazon	\$400.00	Vereen Volunteer Luncheon
Supplies for Luncheon	Sams Club	\$114.10	Vereen Volunteer Luncheon
Food for Luncheon	Lowes Food	\$371.86	Vereen Volunteer Luncheon

**Expenditures from May 2024*

Director Update
Vereen Requests From
July 26th, 2024 Meeting

<u>Item</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Quote for park bench	Complete	Options provided
Library Story Walk Children's Area	Michaela has report	Approved
Options and quote for park benches	Complete	Options provided
Budget Update	Provided	
14 Encore Azaleas	Plant in the Fall	
Angel repair / peeling	Coating was to make it look aged	Designed to look aged
Trash cans with lids need replaced	Ongoing	
One way arrows near shelter	Going with one way signs	
Split rail fence quote (Linear Feeet)	Complete	Quote provided
Broad Road Signs (Historically Accurate)	Ray will provide update	Historic Preservation Committee
6 x #30 Batteries	Purchased	
Insurance on shed	None	County purchased / not necessary
New mats for swings	Purchased/complete	
Security cameras	Ongoing	Updated quote/submitted request
Gravel Washout	Repair completed	
Horseshoe / pass through road	Investigating options	
Fuel Cans	Disposed	