

**North Carolina Archaeological Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Review of Blue Banks Options
April 5, 1998, 1:00 p.m.
Research Laboratories of Archaeology, Chapel Hill, NC**

Attendance: Robert Graham, Micki Vacca, Steve Davis, Bill Conen, Linda Carnes-McNaughton, Danny Bell, Wayne Boyko, Ricky Langley, Bill Moxley, Charlie Ewen, and Vin Steponaitis (eventually).

Meeting was called to order by President Graham who also handed out an agenda and materials for the board members to review. Some discussion was devoted to clarify the use and definition of the terms “covenant” and “easement”. Information from the Coastal Land Trust was handed out regarding this topic. It was also noted that the Friends of North Carolina Archaeology is listed on the deed of Blue Banks property owner. Steve Claggett, state archaeologist, is listed as the contact “agent” in the tax files for the property.

A chart was passed out which projected the cost of continued ownership of the property to the year 2030. Maintaining current ownership was discussed at this point, but the board agreed to hear and possibly entertain other options for change of ownership. A motion was made by Ewen to “dispose” of property to an appropriate group; this was seconded by Conen. The vote was 7 in favor (unanimous of those present) with 3 board members absent.

Bob Graham passed out copies of the previous board meeting minutes to review the general history of discussions which involved Blue Banks over the past few years. Clarification was needed on a few points noted in the minutes (e.g. the property was placed on the study list for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, but is not at present ON the National Register). It was also clarified that this listing is an honorary position and does not by default guarantee its protection. The property owner’s permission is required to list the site, and a private owner still maintains the right to do whatever they wish to their property.

Next a series of pages were distributed regarding the various groups President Graham had talked to or approached regarding possible ownership of the Blue Banks Property. Each group was discussed individually and the pluses and minuses weighed for each. They were : 1. The Coastal Land Trust; 2. The Sons of the Confederacy, Greenville Chapter; 3. The City of Greenville (municipality); 4. The Water, Ship, Land Trust; 5. The University of North Carolina; 6. East Carolina University; 7. The Pamlico-Tar River Foundation; 8. The Archaeological Conservancy; 9. The Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites; and the neighboring landowners, Eric and Linda Lindbeck. After much discussion, it was agreed that two issues needed immediate attention in order to further the process of new ownership: 1. a new survey and property appraisal, and 2. a consultant identified to help write protective covenants. All board members agreed protective covenants/easements would be a necessity, but the how and who generated

further discussion. A motion was made by Davis to authorize the President to spend up to \$500 for easement-writing and \$200 for new appraisal. Ewen seconded and the motion was passed unanimously (of the 7 members present).

As of this meeting, the most likely option, favored by the board, is to offer the property to the Lindbecks once the appraisal and easements are finalized. Vin suggested the easements follow the general language for privately-owned site stewardship as stated in the NCARPA, G.S. Chapter 70, Article 4. Linda and Bob were to pursue getting a copy of this document to the Coastal Land Trust group (identified as the potential consultant to write protective easements for NCAS). Other potential easements (e.g. fencing vs no-fencing, access by future researchers, and vegetation maintenance) were discussed. President Graham will update the board on his continued progress at the May meeting.

The final minutes of the meeting were devoted to an update on the Archaeology Month poster. Vin read a report from Chris Rodning who had volunteered to head the poster committee for 1998. Because of academic responsibilities, Chris has suggested doing 4/5 poster cards in lieu of a larger poster which will still feature excavations at Occaneechi. The board decided to consider this offer and decide at the May meeting.

At 3:00 Ewen moved to adjourn the meeting and Davis seconded.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, Ph.D.
Secretary, NCAS