

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION
COUNCIL MEETING
Camp Glisson
Dahlonega, GA
October 29, 2015

MINUTES

The GMRC Council held its regular meeting on Thursday, October 29, 2015, 6:00 p.m. at Camp Glisson in Dahlonega, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by Lumpkin County and City of Dahlonega.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Scarborough called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for their attendance. He explained that we would be doing things a little different for this meeting. The devotion, invocation, and pledge would be done in the foyer and then will go into the Dining Hall for the meal and meeting.

INVOCATION/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/DINNER

L.J. Harrison, GMRC Chaplain, gave our devotion, invocation, and followed with the pledge of allegiance.

WELCOME

Chris Dockery, Lumpkin County Commission Chairman welcomed everyone to Lumpkin County and Camp Glisson. Mr. Dockery recognized former Lumpkin County Sole Commissioner J.B. Jones, Commissioner Bob Pullen, County Manager Stan Kelley, Planning Director Larry Reiter, David Whimpey, and Finance Director Lisa Davis. City of Dahlonega was represented by Mayor Gary McCullough, City Clerk Kim Smith, County Commissioners Bruce Hoffman, Terry Peters, Roman Gaddis, Sam Norton, and Mitchell Ridley; and City Manager Bill Schmid.

Mr. Russell Davis with Camp Glisson welcomed everyone to Camp Glisson. He gave a brief history and showed a video of the camp. The delicious meal that was served to the Council was prepared by camp staff.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Vice-Chairman James Grogan recognized Kathy Papa, DCA; Cheryl Smith, GDEcD; Danette Smith, Department of Labor; Amy Turner, Sen. Isakson's Office; Joel Katz, Cong. Collins' Office; and Tate O'Rourke with University of North Georgia.

PROGRAM

GMRC Planning Director Adam Hazell, Caleb Davidson and Joe Rothwell, Regional Planners presented a program on "Redevelopment Plan". They presented a power point presentation and discussed three projects in our area that they are currently working on which redevelops specific

areas in our region and how the Planning Department can help the cities and counties with redevelopment and revitalization in their area.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES AND ATTENDANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Scarborough asked for any comments regarding the minutes of the September 24, 2015 meeting. Jim Conley made a motion to accept the minutes and attendance report as presented and was seconded by Doug Wayne. Motion carried unanimously. (Attendance report attached)

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis stated that the GMRC had been covered up with auditors for the last few months. The Department of Audit and Accounts auditors were previously in our office for approximately three weeks doing their preliminary audit work. This past month, auditors from Rushton and Company have been in our office working on the 2015 Financial Audit.

Mr. Lewis thanked each and every city and county that signed up to host one of our 2016 Council Meetings. All 2016 monthly meetings have been spoken for.

The staff went to The Links Golf Course in Toccoa for their staff retreat and photo day. Chairman Scarborough, Gary Fesperman, and David Austin took time out of their busy schedules to join us for the day. Mr. Lewis thanked Billy Morse and the City of Toccoa for allowing the RC to use the Golf Course and Pro Shop for photo purposes.

The 2015 Annual Report will be sent out to the Council around December 1st.

Mr. Lewis recognized and thanked all Council Members that would be attending the GARC Annual Conference on November 4-6, 2015 on St. Simons Island.

Financial Report

Becky Sievers, Director of Finance, presented the Financial Report for September. The Cash Position as of September 30, 2015 showed a bank balance of \$1,071,252, receivables of \$259,485 and payables of \$660,355, with an uncommitted cash balance of \$670,382. Bill Chafin made a motion to accept the report and was seconded by Jim Conley. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

2015-16 GMRC Financial Audit Review

Bill Chafin, Audit Committee Chairman, informed the Council that the Executive Committee had previously reviewed the 2015-16 GMRC Audit and approved for it to be sent to the Council for their review. This Audit will be emailed to the Council for their review before the November Council meeting. Mr. Chafin stated that there is one finding in the Audit. This finding is due to the fact that when the new bank accounts were set up, the bank failed to collateralize the funds. This was no fault on the RC's part. The bank was informed when setting up these accounts that

these were public funds and must to be collateralized. The RC Finance Department found the error and reported it immediately to the bank. Mr. Chafin stated that overall this was a good audit.

DOAA Audit

Sam Norton informed the Council that the RC had received the draft Audit from the Department of Accounts and Audits. In the Audit, he stated that the auditors found some things that needed to be fixed, some things were suggested to be done a different way, and some items that the RC have already changed. He discussed some of the findings in the report and how the RC has handled them. The Regional Commission had sent their response on the findings back to DOAA. The final Audit should be sent by DOAA to the Council Members by the end of the month.

Friends of Georgia Mountains 501(c)(3)

Kevin Tallant and Wendy Kraby with Miles, Patterson, and Tallant, LLC have been working on setting up a 501(c)(3) for the Friends of Georgia Mountains. This account handles all the funds received for the GMRC Annual Meeting. This is in the final stages and the application will be filed and hopefully finalized before the December 4th Annual Meeting.

Voting for the Council Members of the Year

Each year at the Annual Meeting, an award is given to the Council Member of the Year. This award is voted on only by the Council Members. Ballots will be emailed to the Council tomorrow along with a list of eligible Council Members that served last year. Each Council Member will vote on the top five members that they feel has done the most for the RC and the region during this past year. Ballots are to be returned by email, fax, or mail to Peggy Lovell. This award will be presented at the Annual Meeting on December 4th.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Report

Leslie George, Annual Meeting Committee Chair, reported that the Committee had decided on a "Blue Christmas" theme and entertainment has been secured for the December 4th event. Each Council Member was encouraged to secure at least one sponsor for this event due to the fact that the \$40 ticket price does not cover all the cost of the event.

ANNOUCEMENTS

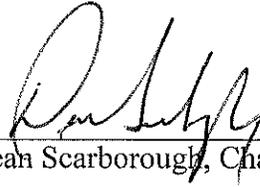
The November Council meeting will be hosted by City of Dawsonville at the City Hall.

DOOR PRIZES

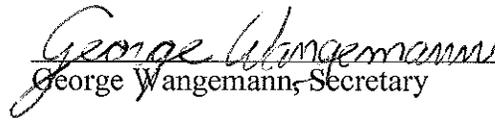
Lumpkin County and City of Dahlonega provided a number of door prizes which were awarded to the lucky winners.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Dean Scarborough, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary

GMRC COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE SHEET
2015-2016

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COUNTY	COUNCIL MEMBER	7/30/15	8/27/15	9/24/15	10/29/15	11/19/15	12/4/15	1/28/16	2/25/16	3/31/16	4/28/16	5/26/16	6/30/16
BANKS	Danny Maxwell	P (R)	P	P (R)	A								
	Jerry Payne	P	P (R)	P	A								
	Leslie George	P	P	P	P								
	Mike Berg	P	A	P	P								
DAWSON	James Grogan**	P	P	P	P								
	Charlie Auvermann	A	P	P	P								
	Brian Tam	A	A	P	P (R)								
FORSYTH	Welch, Chuck			P (N)	P								
		V	V	V	V								
	David Strickland	P	P	P	P								
FRANKLIN	Ralph Owens	A	P	P	P								
	Gerald Voyles	A	P	P	A								
	Sonny James	A	A	P	P								
HABERSHAM	Audrey Turner	A	P	P	P								
	Ken Schubring	P	P	A	P								
	Dick Mecum	P (R)	P (R)	P (R)	A								
HALL	George Wangemann***	P	A	P	P								
	Deborah Mack	P	P	A	P								
	Ricky Carter	P	P	A	P								
HART	Tray Hicks	A	P	A	A								
	Bill Chafin	P	P	A	P								
	Chris Dockery	A	P	A	P								
LUMPKIN	Sam Norton	A	P	A	P								
	J.B. Jones	A	P	P	P								

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RABUN	Greg James	A	P (R)	P (R)	P (R)								
	Debbie Chisholm	A	P	A	P								
	Douglas Wayne	P	P	P	P								
	Dean Scarborough*	P	P	A	P								
STEPHENS	David Ausfin	A	P	P	A								
	L.J. Harrison	P	P	P	P								
	Bill Kendall	A	P (R)	P (R)	P (R)								
	Joan Crothers	A	P	P	P								
TOWNS	David Stovall	P	P	A	P (R)								
	Lamar Paris	P	P	A	P								
	Jim Conley	P	P	P	P								
	Mitch Griggs	A	P	P	P								
WHITE	Travis Turner	P (R)	A	P	P (R)								
	Annie Sutton	A	P	P	A								
	Bill Black	P	P	P	P								
	Rex Farmer	A	P	P	P								
GOV APPT.		V	V	V	V								
	Will Wade	P	A	P	A								
		V	V	V	V								
	Peter Hill	P	A	A	P								
SPEAKER APPT.													

P = PRESENT A = ABSENT R = REPRESENTED V = VACANCY E = EXCUSED N = NEW MEMBER

* Chairman
** Vice Chairman
*** Secretary