

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Currahee Military Museum  
Toccoa, Georgia  
August 29, 2013

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, August 29, 2013, 5:30 p.m. at the Currahee Military Museum in Toccoa, Georgia. This meeting was sponsored by Stephens County and City of Toccoa.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sam Norton called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The following members were present:

Executive Committee Present

Sam Norton, Chairman  
Dean Scarborough, Vice-Chairman  
George Wangemann, Secretary  
Bill Black  
Jim Conley  
Rex Farmer  
Leslie George  
J.B. Jones  
David Stovall

GMRC Staff Present

W. Danny Lewis, Executive Director  
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Norton asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 25, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Leslie George, seconded by Jim Conley, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis reported that the Council of Local Elected Officials (CLEOs) met on August 27<sup>th</sup> and approved for a letter to be sent to the landlord of the Workforce Development office and have agreed to pay up to 12 months rent if needed. The letter was mailed today. The Executive Committee and Council had previously agreed to go with the decision of the CLEOs. The same contractor that remodeled the GMRC Office, looked at the building that is owned by the City and gave an estimated cost of \$31,000 to \$36,000 to renovate. This would include replacing all the windows with triple pane windows,

painting, carpet, and electrical work. Mr. Lewis is negotiating with the City of Gainesville about repainting the metal on the outside of the building.

#### Chairman's Comments

Chairman Norton stated that Georgia Mountains is the fiscal agent for the Workforce Development Program and the decision needs to be made by the Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEO) as to what would happen with the Workforce Development office. The Council will be pleased to help in any way that the CLEO's need.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### Training Sessions

Mr. Lewis discussed the Council Training Sessions that are scheduled for September 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at the GMRC Office from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. He stated that if a Council Member had attended the Training Session in 2009, they do not have to attend. Council Members only need to attend one of these two sessions. GMRC will be hosting one or two training sessions per year.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### CEDS Report Review

The Regional Commission has done something that no other RC has done. They have combined the Annual Planning Update with the CEDS document this year. The CEDS document will be put on the table for the Council to review until the September Council Meeting, when it will be considered for approval.

##### Organization of Ethics

Chairman Norton discussed with the Executive Committee the idea of becoming an Organization of Ethics. The Chairman stated that he feels this organization is already an ethical organization. He referred to materials in the packet for discussion and stated that it would require a change in the Bylaws. A number of the cities and counties in our region have acquired this status. Leslie George made a motion to ask GMRC Attorney, Kevin Tallant to amend the Bylaws to contain the Ethics criteria and then let the Council review. Bill Black seconded the motion. The Chairman stated that he would inform the Council that we are considering adopting the policy. Motion passed unanimously.

##### Annual Meeting

Leslie George, Annual Committee Chair, reported that the Committee had met and concluded that the Council meets the required number of Council Meetings per year, so the December meeting could be considered a Christmas Party for the Council. Once again, this year we will be at the Dillard House Conference Center and the Committee has already secured great entertainment. Costs have gone up and we have not raised prices for the tickets in seven

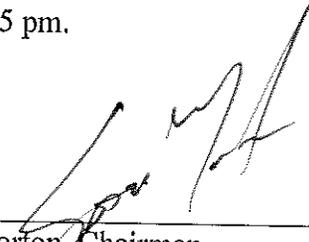
years. This year we will increase the price to \$40 per ticket. She encouraged every Executive Committee Member to secure at least one sponsor for this year's event.

#### GARC Annual Conference

The Georgia Association of Regional Commissions (GARC) Annual Conference will once again be held at the King and Prince Resort on St. Simons Island. It is scheduled for November 6-8, 2013. GMRC has a block of rooms for our attendees, but only has one room that is not spoken for. This year's conference has a lineup of great speakers. Mr. Lewis encouraged everyone that could to attend.

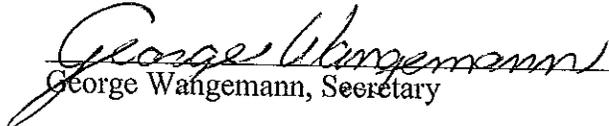
#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was recessed to the Council Meeting at 5:55 pm.



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Sam Norton, Chairman



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George Wangemann, Secretary