

**Minutes**  
**Historic Preservation Committee**  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E.  
Suite 1252 East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**March 23, 2010**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Walter Hudson, Chairman  
Dennis Billew  
Dwight Davis  
Joe Hatfield  
Loyce Turner  
Steven Woodruff  
Jenny Lynn Bradley, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Bill Archer  
Earl Barrs  
Gene Bishop  
Warren Budd  
Bill Carruth  
Mabel Jenkins  
Phyllis Johnson  
Ray Lambert  
Jim Walters  
Tom Wheeler

Visitors

Dr. Mark Risse, Driftmier engineering Center, UGA  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund  
Thomas Farmer, The Nature Conservancy  
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce  
Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation  
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition  
Bettie Sleeth, Homebuilders Association of Georgia  
Helen Tapp, Trust for Public Land

Staff Members

Chris Clark  
Allen Barnes  
Paul Burkhalter  
Todd Holbrook  
Spud Wooward  
Dave Crass  
Marlin Gottschalk  
Terry West  
Paul Nelson  
Jim Ussery  
Doralyn Kirkland  
Linda MacGregor  
Thomas Barnard  
John Bowers  
Steve Friedman  
Emily Hitchcock  
Lauren Curry  
Homer Bryson  
Tami Morris  
Mark Whitney  
Connie Buck  
Mike England  
Jeff Weaver  
Mary Ann Evans  
Hellen Harris

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Mark Dickerson, Mountain Conservation Trust  
Jim Kidd, Trout Unlimited  
Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation  
Will Wingate, Georgia Conservancy

The March 23, 2010 meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Jenny Lynn Bradley. Chairman Bradley called on Walter Hudson, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee.

Chairman Hudson called on Dave Crass, Director, Historic Preservation Division (HPD), to present a PowerPoint update on the Environmental Review Program.

Dr. Crass stated that the Environmental Review Program grew out of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), which was passed by the U. S. Conference of Mayors, who became tired of the widespread destruction by federal agencies of state resources.

Dr. Crass cited the publication by Lady Bird Johnson, "With Heritage So Rich," which is a collection of essays on the importance of historic resources across the United States, stating that this was an important part of the process culminating in the passage of the NHPA.

Dr. Crass stated that the intention of the NHPA was to give states a voice in federal agency activities within their boundaries. He further stated that the NHPA set up the National Historic Preservation Program, which includes the National Register of Historic Places, State Historic Preservation Offices and the Section 106 Environmental Review Program.

Dr. Crass stated that the Section 106 Environmental Review Program ensures that federal agencies take into account state historic resources in their undertakings. He further stated that there are two triggers to the Section 106 Review process: (1) a permit by a federal agency (example: Corps of Engineers with a wetlands permit; and (2) federal agency funding of an activity (example: Federal Highway Administration funds going to Georgia Department of Transportation).

Dr. Crass stated that the Section 106 Environmental Review process is flexible and intended to give room for negotiations between the federal agency and the state and normally accomplishes its purposes. He further stated that the process begins with a federal agency notification to HPD that they are going to undertake an activity, then an inventory of any historic resources in the project area is done, and the federal agency then reviews that inventory and sends it to HPD to evaluate the inventory and either concurs or does not concur with National Register eligibility status.

Dr. Crass stated that in 90% of cases evaluated, there are no eligible resources that are affected; and the project proceeds. He further stated that if eligible resources are affected, consultations regarding minimization or mitigation of adverse effects are handled. He added that the federal agency has the ultimate decision-making power

over the project. He further added that HPD is obligated to consult with the federal agency and furnish them the best information possible.

Dr. Crass stated that he would like to commend the Environmental Review staff of HPD for reviewing over 3,300 projects per year. He further stated that the review process is a very time-intensive and detail-oriented course of action. He added that federal regulation allows a 30-day window for review, and that HPD staff does the review in half that time. He further added that some projects are reviewed in only eight days by HPD staff.

Dr. Crass stated that over the next month or two, he will be doing a program audit of the Environmental Review Program, and believes that even more efficiency will be accomplished as a result. (Powerpoint attached hereto and made a part hereof)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.