

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

January 27, 2010

Attending:

Committee Members

Jim Tysinger, Chairman
Dennis Billew
Jenny Lynn Bradley
Joe Hatfield
Mabel Jenkins
Ray Lambert
Loyce Turner
Philip Watt
Bill Carruth, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Bill Archer
Earl Barrs
Warren Budd
Dwight Davis
Walter Hudson
Phyllis Johnson
Jim Walters
Tom Wheeler

Visitors

Honorable Brian Kemp, Secretary of State
Honorable Chip Pearson, State Senator, District 51
Alvin Townley, Boy Scouts of America
Scott Sorrels, Boy Scouts of America
Donna Yeomans, Senator Pearson's Assistant
Tracy Bonds, Aiken Grading
Shannon McGhee, Attorney General's Office
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Stone Workman

Staff Members

Chris Clark
Allen Barnes
Paul Burkhalter
Todd Holbrook
Spud Woodward
Dan Forster
Becky Kelley
Marlin Gottschalk
Dave Crass
Doug Haymans
Thomas Barnard
Terry West
Jeff Weaver
Jim Ussery
Doralyn Kirkland
Tim Banks
Megan Gray
Lacey Avery
John Martin
Vonetta Pryor
Mike Harris
Mark Whitney
Wally Woods
Sally Winchester
Homer Bryson
Walter Rabon
Lynn Barfield
Connie Buck
Linda Patrick
Emily Hitchcock
Hellen Harris
Mary Ann Evans

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Susan Holmes

Daryl Kirby, Georgia Outdoor News

Waldo Bradley

Andy Fleming, Friends of Georgia State Parks

Shirl Parsons, Georgia Wildlife Federation

Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club

Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company

Lindsay Averett, Oglethorpe Power Company

Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation

Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation

Patrick Pilkington, Tyson Foods

Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia

Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce

Sally Bethea, Upper Chattahoochee RiverKeeper

Scott Tanner, Joe Tanner & Associates

The January 27, 2010 meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Bill Carruth. Chairman Carruth called on Jim Tysinger, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee.

Mr. Tysinger called on Dave Crass, Acting Director of the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) for a briefing on the status of the organizational structure and programs of HPD.

Dr. Crass stated that HPD was originally known as the Georgia Historical Commission, created in 1952, and was incorporated into the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 1973. He further stated that for the past ten to 15 years, there has been a gradual accretion of responsibilities and programs, including a large increase in the Environmental Review load. He added that over those years, there has never been a change in the HPD structure.

Dr. Crass stated that as a result of continuing the same organizational structure, the director has been unable to focus on broader policy issues and relationship management with partner organizations and DNR divisions. He further stated that HPD has become insular, and he hopes to remedy that situation.

Dr. Crass stated that he discovered that there was one program for every 1.5 employees. He further stated that the functions that were carried out did not correspond to their organizational structure. He added that funding in HPD was limited largely to personnel costs, which means that very little financial tools available to consult out some of the functions that had been accreted over the years.

Dr. Crass stated that the following programs in HPD that will be eliminated or consolidated: cemetery preservation, community planning, disaster relief, Historic Resources Survey, Preservation Achievement Awards, and State Stewardship Awards.

Dr. Crass stated that the following A-list programs within HPD would be enhanced: support to other DNR divisions, Heritage Tourism technical support, outreach/education, Certified Local Governments, and state and federal tax incentives.

Dr. Crass stated that the Environmental Review Program is critical to economic development in the state and that HPD has streamlined the review process and added high-level supervisory support to emphasize outcome.

Dr. Crass stated that he is addressing employee morale by implementing staff development measures including: (1) developing internal quality circles; (2) enhanced strategic planning; (3) leadership training; and (4) shifting staff culture. He further stated that this will shift the staff culture from one which is inward directed to one that is team oriented or outward directed.

Dr. Crass displayed HPD's new organizational chart and stated that he had assigned a staff member to develop an economic impact study that could be updated each year. He further stated that the number one responsibility in the division is to take care of the resources over which HPD currently has jurisdiction.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.