

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

January 27, 2009

Attending:

Committee Members

Mabel Jenkins, Chairman
Bill Archer
Jenny Lynn Bradley
Joe Hatfield
Walter Hudson
Ray Lambert
Bob Rutland
Loyce Turner
Jim Tysinger
Philip Watt
Phyllis Johnson, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Earl Barrs
Warren Budd
Bill Carruth
Jim Walters
Tom Wheeler

Visitors

Tony Kiene, Stateside Capital, LLC
Rick Beacham, Stateside Capital, LLC
Ronny Just, Georgia Power
Carol Hassell, Georgia Piedmont Land Trust
Thomas Farmer, The Nature Conservancy
Bettie Sleeth, Home Builders Association of Georgia
Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
Scott Hitch, Balch & Bingham
Kelly Clark, Office of Planning and Budget

Staff Members

Noel Holcomb
Chris Clark
Paul Burkhalter
Carol Couch
Susan Shipman
Steve Friedman
Dan Forster
Marlin Gottschalk
Becky Kelley
Ray Luce
Jim Ussery
Doralyn Kirkland
Linda MacGregor
Dave Crass
Todd Holbrook
Jac Capp
Mark Whitney
Wally Woods
Kristina Sorensen
Sarah Dearman
Emily Hitchcock
Kyle Pearson
Mary Ann Evans
Hellen Harris

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Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power

Shirl Parsons, Georgia Wildlife Federation

Shana Udvardy, Georgia Conservancy

Steve Chapman, Georgia Forestry Commission

Frank Green, Georgia Forestry Commission

Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation

Jim Stokes, Sustainable Solutions Georgia

The January 27, 2009 meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Committee was called to order by Board Chairman, Phyllis Johnson. Chairman Johnson called on Mabel Jenkins, Chairman of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Committee.

Ms. Jenkins called on Becky Kelley, Director, Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Division (PRHSD), to give a briefing on Georgia Performance Standards at Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites.

Mrs. Kelley stated that current Georgia park programs include Junior Rangers, Get Outdoors Georgia, and a Library Loan Program, which provides park guides and passes to the public through the library system. She further stated that in addition to these programs, PRHSD recently developed the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) and Interpretive Program to meet the new educational performance standards identified by the Georgia Department of Education and to promote Georgia parks and historic sites as outdoor classrooms. She added that the new program includes a web page at gastateparks.org, which enables teachers to connect to GPS standards offered by nearby state park programs, which include the new GPS Social Science, Earth and Life Science studies. She demonstrated how teachers could interact with the web page, link to park and historic site GPS educational materials, and find valuable resource and field trip information.

She stated that the new GPS and Interpretive Program is an effort to connect Georgia's teachers and school children to the State's natural, cultural and recreational resources and activities that make learning exciting, real and fun. She added that PRHSD is working through several networks to provide information to school systems regarding the new GPS and Interpretive Program. In conclusion, she further added that as an incentive, free park passes would be available to teachers who visit park or historic sites during National Teacher Appreciation Week in May. (PowerPoint attached hereto and made a part hereof)

In response to a question from Mr. Archer, Mrs. Kelley stated that PRHSD keeps a score card of groups that visit State parks and historic sites.

Mr. Archer requested that PRHSD provide information to the Board on the scope of visits by groups to State parks and historic sites.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.