

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

September 27, 2011

Attending:

Committee Members

Steven Woodruff, Chairman
Dennis Billew
Joe Hatfield
Mabel Jenkins
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Smith
Earl Barrs, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Warren Budd
Bill Carruth
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Rob Leebern
Loyce Turner
Jim Walters

Visitors

Kevin Chapman, Georgia Southern University
Sue Moore, Georgia Southern University
Matt Newberry, Georgia Southern University
Glenn Ivie, Friends of Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites
Walter Jones, Morris News Service
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
Andy Fleming, Friends of Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites
Abit Massey, Georgia Poultry Federation
Leah Barnett, Georgia Conservancy
John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Allen Barnes
Todd Holbrook
Homer Bryson
Spud Woodward
Becky Kelley
Dave Crass
Dan Forster
Wally Woods
Steve Friedman
Terry West
Lauren Curry
Karl Burgess
Danny Tatum
Emily Hitchcock
Kyle Pearson
Cathy Barnette
Sally Wincyhester
Joe Yeager
Bryan Tucker
Mary Ann Evans
Hellen Harris

The September 27, 2011 meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Committee was called to order by Board Chairman Earl Barrs.

Chairman Barrs called on Steven Woodruff, Chairman of the Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Committee. Mr. Woodruff called on Wally Woods, Chief of Operations, for Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division (PRHSD).

Mr. Woods called on Danny Tatum, Manager at Tallulah Gorge State Park and Chief of the Search and Rescue (SAR) Team.

Mr. Tatum presented a PowerPoint on the SAR efforts in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). He stated that SAR was founded in the 1970's and includes strictly volunteer associates from PRHSD, Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) and the Environmental Protection Division (EPD).

Mr. Tatum stated that SAR operational components include incident management, search management, high angle rope rescue, swift water rescue, cave rescue, helicopter operations, preventive SAR education, emergency medical response and structure and wildland fires.

Mr. Tatum gave several examples of SAR rescues and stated that between 1994 and 2011, there have been over 1,436 incidents that required SAR response.

Becky Kelley, Director of PRHSD, thanked Mr. Tatum for the presentation and stated that all of the SAR volunteers should be commended for their efforts.

Director Kelley presented the National Association of State Park Directors President's Award to Andy Fleming and Glenn Ivie of Friends of Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites, in recognition of their outstanding service and commitment, and leadership to protect and enhance our natural and cultural state park resources in Georgia.

Director Kelley gave an update about other items of interest, including the report that was given to Governor Deal about the state of state parks. She placed a copy of that report at each member's seat.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.