

Georgia Council on American Indian Concerns
Historic Preservation Division
254 Washington Street SW
Ground Level
Minutes
Regular Monthly Meeting
April 9, 2014 1:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Invocation – Crews

Approval of March 12, 2014, minutes – Approved unanimously

Treasurer’s Report – N/A, money needs to be encumbered ASAP

Communications to the Council

Emails via web site - Nealie McCormick –

Request for information re: wampum strings from Irene Mound site. McCormick will follow up.

Request for information from Newtown Park. Altman will follow up to provide relevant information.

Request from Frances Hunter-Imbert. Graduate student at Mercer wants to know about educational programs we are involved with. Florida’s Governor’s Council has some programs funded by GA, that are supposed to assist people in vocational issues. McCormick replied.

Telephone calls – Debbie Wallsmith – None

Mail – GA Magazine

Dig/Discovery Notifications –

Sabal Trail Pipeline

New Business

ICWA Policy discussion with guest Menelik Alleyne: He is an attorney from DHS who is charged with ensuring that ICWA policies are met, and to develop protocols and policies for GA. Wants to consult with the Council on an ongoing basis to make sure that the state takes good care of native children, especially in the counties where there are tribes. In addition, there was discussion of monies available/awarded for native youth, that are not being spent for native young adults.

Ongoing Business

1. Discussion of the disposition materials curated at West Georgia. Ongoing consultation with Muscogee Creeks and others. Bryan Tucker: There was a meeting with representatives of the Muscogee Nation, Coushatta, and Absentee Shawnee: repatriation

to include all human remains and associated artifacts to be returned to Mound C, which was once completely destroyed and re-constructed. Meetings are to be scheduled the first two weeks of December to begin the extensive negotiations about the process. *Update:* Tucker reports that they will be trying to schedule meetings in February with all of the tribal towns and the Muscogee Nation. *Update:* Meeting in OK date postponed again, but the THPO's office representatives will be in GA next month and will visit the conservation/curation lab. Request for repatriation of a child burial from New Echota by the EBCI. A historic burial and all three federally recognized tribes are in agreement that the EBCI should be the respondent. *Update:* Bryan Tucker has spoken to Ashley Smallwood at UWG and will continue to try to move the various unprovenanced individuals to UWG. Meeting over New Echota, EBCI will do GPR to find a spot for the child reburial. The Etowah meeting was postponed for weather.

2. Requests from DHS concerning meeting on Indian child welfare act – October 23, all day meetings at GaTech Conference Center. Judge Mantz will be there representing the GA Supreme Court. McCormick will participate and follow up. McCormick will call Weaver for additional input. *Update:* ICWA meeting at Georgia Tech postponed until February. *Update:* Ongoing.
3. Requests from Powers Ferry elementary school – 4th grade teacher trying to study early history. We will try to develop materials to provide to teachers that are in keeping with the Georgia Standards. Kirkland will try to find out who we need to talk to in the DOE, McCormick and Altman will try to meet with the person in November. *Update:* We will try to meet with Pamela Smith and Shaun Owens in January. In the process of setting a date. *Update:* Discussion of preparing materials to provide to schools (possibly based on existing materials) and discussion of individuals from the council to go give talks at schools. *Update:* David Petite will be asked to speak.
4. Visitor, Jim Langford: Head of the Coosawattee Foundation. Gave a discussion of the history of the legislation put forth by the foundation. Today he presents an archaeological site, near Cartersville, an early occupation site down river from Etowah. On private/commercial land, supportive landowner, etc. A pit with human remains was discovered recently. The land will continue to be disturbed. The Foundation advocates removing the remains to ensure that they are no longer disturbed by cultivation. Photographs presented to the council. The Foundation proposes to take control of the remains, to prevent further disturbance or looting. The Foundation will also keep the remains at the University of Georgia. The plan is to remove the burial Saturday 11/16/2013. McCormick requested that Langford report back in January. *Update:* None.
5. David Hurst Thomas may be able to visit in April or May to give a report on St. Catherine's Island. *Update:* None. *Update:* Wallsmith to follow up with Hurst Thomas.

Announcements.

Discussion by David Petite, and his associate Kim, about his organization, The Native American Inventors Association, which was designed to help native inventors get into the field. Intellectual property rights issues.

Adjourned: