

Georgia Council on American Indian Concerns  
Historic Preservation Division  
254 Washington Street SW  
Ground Level  
**Minutes**  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
May 14, 2014 1:30 p.m.

There was no quorum present, but we needed to move on financial matters and so absent member McCrary was reached by telephone. The Council passed spending requests for New Echota, and the Vann House.

Call to Order

Invocation –

Approval of April 9, 2014, minutes –

Treasurer's Report –

Communications to the Council

    Emails via web site - Nealie McCormick –

    Telephone calls – Debbie Wallsmith –

    Mail –

    Dig/Discovery Notifications – Heidi Altman

*New Business*

1. There is a request for permission to conduct an archaeological dig on a burial mound at the Newell Creek site on Ossabaw Island.
2. The website is being updated and needs new photos.
3. There are new developments in the ICWA policies.

*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 unprovenienced 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.

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. *Update:* Last month the Council had an 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.

2. Requests from Powers Ferry elementary school – 4<sup>th</sup> 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.*

Adjourned: