

## Council on American Indian Concerns

Regular Monthly Meeting, November 9, 2011  
DNR Conference Room, Atlanta

Council members in attendance: Nealie McCormick, Tom Gresham, Ralph Crews, Bobby Tuggle, JB Jones, MariaTeresa Tersigni-Tarrant and Jace Weaver

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nealie McCormick at 1:30 p.m.

The October, 2011 meeting minutes, which had been emailed to members earlier, were approved as presented.

The treasurer's report, which had been emailed to members earlier, was approved as presented.

Communications to the Council - Nealie McCormick reported that the Council received four telephone inquiries that were logged by Frankie Mewborn. One from Rick Muller regarded Mr. Muller's desire to establish a health care center in Atlanta that would focus on Native Americans. Jace Weaver said he would contact an Indian (Seneca) that he knows at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta to see if he can provide insight and possibly help in this matter. Frankie referred the second caller concerned about Indian blood to several web sites. A third caller wanting to know about Indian reservations in Georgia was referred to Vonnie McCormick. Tom Gresham contacted the fourth caller, who was a land surveyor, but she did not return Tom's call.

### *New Business*

Annual Report. Tom Gresham passed out draft versions of the draft, and possibly final, version of the FY 2011 annual report to the Governor that he had sent out electronically the day before. Tom pointed out that he had misspelled Parks and Historic Sites director Becky Kelley, and all agreed that this needed to be corrected. It was agreed that Council members would review the draft and submit any more corrections to Tom within 24 hours. If the corrections were simple, Tom would make the changes and send the report with a transmittal letter to the Governor and the five other officials cc'd on the submittal.

Election of Officers. Regarding elections of officers it was agreed that nominations and elections would both occur at the January meeting.

### *Ongoing Business:*

Council Funding Procedures. MariaTeresa Tersigni-Tarrant (MT) led a discussion regarding the Council's funding of projects related to its mission. Council members had been asked to review draft versions of a grant application (or "description of services form") and a follow-up reporting

form. MT revised the forms based on comments at the October meeting and sent out the revised forms. Tom Gresham said that he thought that given the proposed time line we adopted at the October meeting, it would be nearly impossible to fund programs that were to be delivered in the early fall, partly because the process spanned two fiscal years. After discussion, it was agreed that some slight rewording regarding the scheduling would address the issue. MariaTeresa agreed to reword the documents again and send them out to Council members

Rules and Regulations. Nealie McCormick reported that the 30-day public notice of our Rules and Regulations has taken place and that Council advisor Linda Moye has taken the R&R to the Secretary of State's office in Macon. The Secretary of State will take them to a printer and enter them into the Secretary of State's official records. They will be approved by a pro forma vote of the General Assembly in 2012

*Announcements, Other Business*

Nealie McCormick stated that he spoke with retiring DNR law enforcement officer Dan Parish about the two groundhog surveillance cameras the Indian Council purchased for DNR law enforcement. Dan Parish will turn them over to the central office so that they can be used where most needed by DNR law enforcement.

Nealie McCormick reported on the Governors' Interstate Indian Council meeting in Portland, Oregon on November 1 and 2, 2011. Both he and Vonnie McCormick are on the Board of that Council. It was a productive meeting and included Native Hawaiians. Nealie said that the next meeting will be in July or August and it would be important for Georgia to bring a report describing efforts by and on behalf of Indians in Georgia for that meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20.

Visitors: Frankie Mewborn, Marilyn McGaughey, Gisela Gresham, Frances Crews, Vonnie McCormick, Eleri Tarrant, Dan and Dola Davis