

Georgia Council on American Indian Concerns
DNR Conference Room, 13th Floor
Twin Office Towers, Atlanta

Agenda

Regular Monthly Meeting
April 11, 2012 1:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Present: McCormick, Altman, Nicklas, Pettite, Wallsmith, McCrary.

Invocation: Royce McCrary

Approval of March, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve: Nicklas, Second McCrary, passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Ralph Crews

Motion by McCrary, Second Pettite, passed unanimously

Communications to the Council

Emails via web site - Nealie McCormick, emails: one requesting information about getting on the council, one about financial assistance, DFACS,

Telephone calls – Heidi Altman, none to report

New Business:

Fern Bank program request: Altman moved to deny, McCrary second, unanimously passed. Request for funding denied. Altman to send a letter to Fern Bank.

Excavation in Glynn County by University of North Florida – Dr. Bryan Tucker

Excavation at the Old Schoolhouse Site St. Simons Land Trust – Dr. Bryan Tucker

Excavation at Kelvin Grove Drive, St. Simons Island – Dr. Bryan Tucker

Bryan Tucker discussed the successful excavation and re-interment of a skeleton on the ??? River.

Atlanta History Center - Andrea Childress: re-doing school tours, and want to make materials at the History Center relevant to children at their level (2nd and 4th graders), more inclusive, thought-provoking, 1 tour on the civil war completed. Next on Native Americans in Georgia. Here to ask for participation, will provide drafts of new materials. No specialist on staff to help with this. The children will explore four different stations based on different topics. The four stations for Native America are: 1. Cultural values, overall cultural values; 2. (Drama) difficulties surrounding assimilation from Sequoyah's perspective; 3. Simulation re: Trail of Tears (specifically Cherokee); 4. Creek and Cherokee life today (current issues, struggles, native people still exist). Timeframe: pre-contact, post contact? McCormick suggests looking pre-1800 to avoid looking at assimilated people. Extended discussion of the details of the lessons. Decided to have Ms. Childress provide some questions and information via email or survey monkey for the council to discuss.

Dept. of Family and Children Services and ICWA: Rachel Davidson: In the process of revising policies related to ICWA. Trying to become more educated, and make sure that policies are in line with the law as well as with cultural differences. She is provides a copy of the draft of the new policy that incorporates the ICWA into the DFACS standards.

Working in Indian Country (Book): Notification of the publication of a Book by Larry Keown.

To the Arctic Film Premiere – Fernbank Museum: we are invited.

Presentation – Steve Nicklas: Improving relationships between amateur archaeologists and academic archaeologists. Appreciated the system in the UK, in which amateurs and academic archaeologists worked well together. That system, and the laws that support it, are the focus of the talk. Florida has also a more successful system. In the UK there is a law regarding Treasure Trove: Everything of value belongs to the Crown, initially tied to economic value, but has been amended to include historic and cultural significance. If you find an artifact on private property with permission (excluding known sites, and full scale excavation) it is the property of the state, but the government has the obligation to pay the individual the assessed value based on detailed records taken by the finder. If the museum has no use for it, the individual gets a certificate of authenticity and can sell it one the market. If it is of value the museum must pay the finder the fair market value. This prevent a black market in artifacts thus eliminating the loss of information and knowledge. In Florida, there is a law that pertains primarily to fossils, but when you get a fossil collecting permit, you also have the right to collect isolated artifacts. Works similar to the UK law, but without payment to the finder. This is particularly of interest with regard to artifacts, etc., in rivers, because the context is unidentifiable. In Georgia we do not get much cooperation between amateurs and academic archaeologists because there is not a legal means for interaction. If these laws were enacted in Georgia we could gain a lot of usable information at low cost. Food for thought. Discussion, with Bryan Tucker about the laws of Georgia.

Ongoing Business:

Frontiers in the Soil Program request approved, letter being sent for inclusion.

Rules & Regs, update – Linda Moye is waiting on the approval letter. Has finally been approved. Invoiced by Linda Moye, \$2000. We need the certification/notification from the Secretary of State's office and the official copy. Payment and further action postponed until the May meeting.

Indian Child Welfare Act See above.

Cherokee of Georgia Tribal Council....Language Training Program: Review of what to accomplish. Vonnie will call the Chief. Tabled.

SB 62: Tabled.

Announcements - Deb Wallsmith position is changing from Parks and Historic sites to Historic Preservation. Pam will not handle finances after next fiscal year because the budget will move to Historic Preservation as well. Discussion of restructuring.

Appreciation Presentation - Tom Gresham and Maria Teresa Tersigni-Tarrant: Nealie will determine a good time to have an honoring event.

Visitors: Vonnie McCormick, Dora Davis, Walker Dan Davis, Andrea Childress, Rachel Davidson, Bryan Tucker, Sarah Love

Adjourn Nicklas moved, Pettite seconded, unanimously approved.