

**Minutes**  
**Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites Committee**  
Lake Blackshear Resort Conference Center  
Ballroom A  
2459-H US Highway 280 West  
Cordele, GA 31015

**December 13, 2016**

**Attending:**

Committee Members

Mark Mobley, Chairman  
Brother Stewart, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Addison  
Duncan Johnson, Jr.  
Bill Jones  
Ray Lambert  
Matt Sawhill  
Miki Thomaston  
William A. Bagwell, Jr., Board Chairman, Ex-officio

Board Members

Dwight Davis  
Dwight Evans  
Aaron McWhorter  
Paul Shailendra  
Bodine Sinyard  
Philip Watt  
Philip Wilheit  
Dee Yancey

Guests

Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Ronnie Just, Georgia Power  
Bill Hodges, Hodges, Harbin, Newberry & Tribble  
Mark Walker, Georgia Natural Resources Foundation  
Mark Osterhaus, Coral Hospitality  
Christopher Schaeffer, Coral Hospitality

Staff Members

Mark Williams  
Walter Rabon  
Artica Gaston  
Kyle Pearson  
Melanie Johnson  
Wes Robinson  
Cathy Barnette  
Amber Carter  
Dave Crass  
Steve Friedman  
Rusty Garrison  
Col. Eddie Henderson  
Becky Kelley  
Spud Woodward  
Bill Donohue  
John Erbele  
Jac Capp  
Richard Dunn  
Lauren Curry  
Jeff Cown  
John Bowers  
Chuck Mueller  
Bill Murphey  
Josh Purdy, *Parks*  
James Hamilton, *NGMA*

The December 13, 2016 meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites Committee was called to order by Chairman William Bagwell.

Chairman Bagwell called on Mark Mobley, Chairman of the Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites Committee.

Mr. Mobley called on Becky Kelley, Director of the Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites Division, to brief the Board on revisions to the Proposed Dock Extension Policy and Procedure and the Proposed Gun Carry Policy and Procedure.

Ms. Kelley stated that the Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites Division manages private property owner dock access to High Falls State Park lake via DNR Rule 391-5-12.04(b). She further stated that the current rules limit our ability to consider and authorize dock extensions of more than 25 feet, potentially creating dry-dock situations where silting or other conditions impact water access at full lake pool levels. She added that to address this matter and give residents on High Falls Lake an avenue to request a dock extension of more than 25 feet, the proposals being presented for your consideration establish amended extension criteria and procedures for application for extensions greater than 25 feet.

Ms. Kelley stated that she would return before the Board for consideration and adoption of this proposal at the February Board Meeting.

Ms. Kelley stated that the current rules for carry of weapons in Georgia State Parks, Historic Sites and Recreational areas is in conflict with the recent changes to Georgia law concerning carry (specifically the Safety and General Conditions of Use (4) Weapons). She further stated that the proposals being presented for your consideration establish an amendment that would allow persons with valid weapons-carry license to carry a handgun in all parks, historic sites and recreational areas except where carrying such handgun is prohibited by federal law. She added that she would return to the Board for consideration and adoption of this proposal at the February Board Meeting.

Mr. Davis asked for an example where federal law would trump state law.

Ms. Kelley stated that Corps of Engineers properties are examples of that situation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.