

Minutes
State Parks and Historic Sites Committee
Georgia Southern University
Engineering & Research Building
Room 3000
4012 Forest Drive
Statesboro, GA 30458

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
9:00 a.m.

Committee Members

Randy Dellinger, Chair
Joe Hatfield, Vice Chair
Nancy Addison
Nick Ayers
Duncan Johnson
Ray Lambert
Tim Lowe
Billy New
Miki Thomaston
Bill Jones, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Patrick Denney
Dwight Evans
Rob Leebern
Bodine Sinyard
Dee Yancey

Guests

Bryan Tolar, GA Urban Agriculture Council
Dr. Ryan McNutt, Georgia Southern University
Dr. Matthew Compton, Georgia Southern University
M. Jared Wood, Georgia Southern University
Jason Metzger, GA EPD

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Donald Kirkland
Cathy Barnette
Artica Gaston
Alexandrea Solomon
Thomas Barnard
Jeff Cown
Steve Friedman
Ted Will
Doug Haymans
Tina Johannsen
Antoinette Norfleet

Richard Dunn, Director
John Eunice
Karen Hays
Anna Truszczynski

The April 26, 2022 meeting of the State Parks and Historic Sites Committee was called to order by Bill Jones, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Jones called on Mr. Randy Dellinger, Chairman of the State Parks and Historic Sites Committee.

Mr. Dellinger called on Antoinette Norfleet, Grants Program Manager – Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, to present the proposed amendments to the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF), Chapter 391-5-13-.02.

Ms. Norfleet stated the proposed changes are to the pre-application criteria for the 2022-2026 funding cycles for local municipalities, state sponsored projects, and administrative changes to accurately reflect the Grants Unit physical location and biennial cycle dates. She stated this is an action item; however, a briefing was not necessary for this type of change and was confirmed by legal counsel, Kyle Pearson.

Ms. Norfleet provided background on the LWCF and stated the grant program is a federally funded program that was established in 1965 and is administered by the DNR at the state level. She further stated that these grant funds can be used to acquire land for parks, develop those parks, and renovate the existing facilities on the state parks. She added the LWCF Act requires that states create a 5-year Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). She further added that SCORP was recently updated and adopted by the Board on September 28, 2021, for the five-year period of 2022-2026.

Ms. Norfleet stated the LWCF application criteria must be adjusted to correspond to the new SCORP before the commencement of the next funding cycle, which is scheduled for the fall of 2022. She further stated a public hearing was held on April 21, 2022, and there were no comments.

Mr. Norfleet stated the Fair and Open Grants Act requires the DNR to provide notice of the grant program's terms and conditions and criteria for awards. She further stated the notice is published by the Secretary of State, and a resolution approving the notice is provided for the board's consideration. She added the Grants Unit is seeking Board approval of the recommended criteria, administrative changes, and corresponding resolution.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mr. Hatfield, seconded by Ms. Addison, and carried unanimously that the Committee recommends the Board adopt the resolution to approve the proposed amendment to the Rules for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, Chapter 391-5-13-.02.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.