



MINUTES FROM GARC ED COMMITTEE MEETING
August 17, 2016 @ Middle Georgia RC

The meeting was called to order by chairman Burke Walker, NEGRC, at 10:35 a.m. Staff members introduced themselves to the group.

I. Welcome & Introduction of Attendees:

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| <p>1. <u>Northwest Georgia RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deana Perry• Brittney Hickom <p>2. <u>Georgia Mountains RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nancy Smallwood <p>3. <u>Atlanta Regional Commission</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Courtney Verdier <p>4. <u>Three Rivers RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jeannie Brantley <p>5. <u>Northeast Georgia RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Burke Walker• Jordan Shoemaker <p>6. <u>Middle Georgia RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laura Mathis• Greg Boike <p>7. <u>Central Savannah River Area RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABSENT | <p>8. <u>River Valley RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jim Livingston <p>9. <u>Heart of Georgia – Altamaha RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chris Williams• Hugh Darnley <p>10. <u>Southwest Georgia RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABSENT <p>11. <u>Southern Georgia RC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kimberly Hobbs <p>12. <u>Coastal Regional Commission</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lisa Fulton (via phone) |
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GUESTS

- Susan Miller, GIO
- Bo Causey, GDEcD
- Amy Hudnall, GDEcD
- Jo Claire Hickson, C.G. Greenway

II. May 3, 2016 Minutes

Motion to approve by K. Hobbs; second by N. Smallwood

Motion Passes

III. GARC Update – N/A

IV. Trail Connectivity Project

Each RC gave a presentation to the group. See attached documents.

Group discussion followed. Topics included focus on identifying an achievable goal; agreement on importance of biking/hiking trails; strategies for moving forward.

Susan Miller, State of Georgia GIO spoke about data uniformity challenges and suggested GIS staff of RCs could be engaged with process. Group consensus was reached to refer uniform cartographic standards to GIS staff committee for input.

Steering Committee members from GARC ED Pros committee will meet and continue to refine definitions of what resources should be included.

V. Office of Economic Adjustment Grants

Bo Causey, Georgia Department of Economic Development, gave a presentation on the Georgia GUARD initiative, funded through the state by the Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment. See attached presentation.

Mr. Causey asked for a point of contact for each region with whom to discuss regional planning charrettes related to the defense industry. Each RC provided such.

VII. Other Business

Meeting jumped ahead on agenda for a presentation from Ms. Jo Claire Hickson, Coastal Georgia Greenway. Brochure from her brief presentation is included.

VI. Future Meeting Discussion

Committee members discussed having a meeting in October for peer-to-peer training. Group consensus confirmed that this was a good idea. Discussion focused specifically on EDA training with the Grants Online system, as well as possibly having DCA do additional in-service training. October 19, 2016 was set as the date.

February 8, 2017 is on hold for the following meeting. Committee discussed possibly reaching out to Explore Georgia, Tourism Product Development staff, or VPs for economic development within the University System of Georgia.

GARC ED Pros who will be at the November conference at St. Simons may also have an informal meet-up there. ED Committee will also need to identify items of discussion that may be relevant for the remainder of GARC members to consider at November meeting.

VII. Other Business

Governor's High Demand Career Initiative will continue with region meetings in October and November (see attached handout).

Each RC also gave a brief update of activity within their region.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to approve by K. Hobbs; second by N. Smallwood

Motion Passes

Meeting adjourned at 2:23 PM.