



Minutes

APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Full Board of Directors Meeting

ACOG Board Room, Greenville, SC

Friday, August 24, 2018 – 10:30 A.M.

Members Present:

Cindy Wilson, Ed Elliot, David Cauthen, Willis Meadows, Butch Kirven, Joe Dill, Lillian Brock Flemming, Ennis Fant, George Fletcher, Don Godbey, Edda Cammick, Bob Winchester, Ernest Riley, Dana Moore, Roy Costner, Ensley Feemster, Larry Bagwell, Rep. Mike Forrester, Junie White, Jane Hall

Guests Present:

Spartanburg Blueways Coalition – Mr. Joe Wilson | 100 Year Celebration of Camp Sevier – Mr. Don Koonce, | Mr. Joel Dill | Mr. Daniel Gambrell | Jeff Cunningham | WWI Historian, Mr. Henry Johnson | Angie Omer

Staff Present:

Steve Pelissier, Chip Bentley, Brooke Ferguson, Tim Womack, Arlene Young, Don Zimmer, Denise Ernul

Chairman Joe Dill called the meeting to order. Mr. Willis Meadows offered the invocation. On motion by Chairman Joe Dill, seconded by Mr. Ernest Riley, the minutes of the August 24, 2018, meeting were unanimously approved with attendance correction for Mack Durham and Jane Hall to be noted as present.

Spartanburg Blueways – Spartanburg Blueways Coalition

Mr. Joe Wilson, Chairman of the Spartanburg Blueways Coalition

- Mr. Wilson, a chemical engineer for a chemical plant in Duncan, SC and volunteers for the Middle Tyger Area Council as Chairman.
- Summarizing Initiatives of the Blueways Coalition.
 - A blueway is defined as a water path or trail with launch points, vehicle access, and points of interest for canoeists, paddlers and kayakers.
 - Middle Tyger Area Council is one of several subsets of the Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce. The Middle Tyger council is the most active of the coalition. The coalition is a voluntary group of over 30 organizations that is developing and implementing a master plan for blueways in the county.
 - Recognizing other area groups (listed below) were interested in the growth and sustainability of the Blueways & greenways formed the Spartanburg Blueways Coalition about 4.5 years ago with a mission to support projects along the Tyger River for the benefit of water quality, provide recreational access, and to transform these hidden gems.
 - Middle Tyger Area Council
 - SPACE - Spartanburg Area Conservancy
 - Spartanburg County Parks Department
 - SJWD - Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District
 - TRF - Tyger River Foundation
 - Upstate Forever

- Initiatives to increase utilization through strategic planning by way of capitalizing on natural resources along the Tyger River and tourism objectives with five prioritized projects.
 - Tygerberry Landing (\$40K) – walking & riding trails & functional common areas with picnic area – funds mostly derived from TRF
 - Cooley Landing (\$50K) – gifted land to the coalition to increase activities for the use of canoes & kayaks & improving greenways to provide access to river, signage, and additional parking
 - Beech Springs Landing (\$45K) – increase activities for the use of canoes & kayaks & improving greenways to provide access to river, signage, and additional parking
 - ADA Accessible Docks (\$60K) – provide ADA accessibility for those with disability or mobility needs; closest access located in Anderson County and Rock Hill, SC
 - Nesbitt Shoals Park, formerly known as Tyger 10 Park (\$35) – upgrades to entrances: asphalt entrance to top of hill and two solar powered gates
- Spartanburg County has allocated of \$150K towards \$230,000 of the overall project cost.
- Duke Energy Grant provided \$60K towards ADA accessible docks

100 Year Celebration of Camp Sevier – US Army 30th Infantry Division

Mr. Don Koonce, Celebration Organizer

- Mr. Koonce, started over a year ago planning the memorial project for Camp Sevier, the training camp of the US Army 30th Infantry, after receiving a call from the Belgium government concerning the US Army 30th Infantry Division.
 - Camp Sevier Initiative
 - Throughout Belgium and France, statues memorializing the 30th Infantry Division of the Army, for their efforts in saving their county in War World I. However, they were not celebrated locally, so a project was fostered to celebrate their contribution and victory abroad.
 - Mr. Koonce spearheaded the project when asked to speak about Camp Sevier and the 30th Infantry at a foreign delegation meeting this past May.
 - The initiative is funded through Greenville City and County contributions to commemorate.
 - Raising money to build a small monument for the 30th Infantry Division in the new planned Veterans Park
 - Camp Sevier – Infantry Training
 - Soldiers from the 30th Infantry Division, many of them South Carolina natives, trained at Camp Sevier, a 1,900-acre facility off what is now Wade Hampton Boulevard, to fight in World War I.
 - Largest training facility in the country to train many soldiers to fight in World War I with supposedly
 - Some of the structures built on the camp still stand today, off Wade Hampton and Rutherford Rd.
 - US Army 30th Infantry Division – Victory
 - Named 'Old Hickory', in honor of President Andrew Jackson, were made up of soldiers from South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee, to include the 15th Regiment from Spartanburg which was moved to New York to form the 369th Regiment to fight solely for France due to racial division in the US in this era of President Wilson (170 African American men known as the 'Harlem Hellfighters' awarded the French Croix de Guerre, a medal awarded to soldiers from Allied countries for bravery in combat)
 - September 29th, 1918, the only infantry division to break through the Hindenburg line in France to end the war as the victor of World War I.

Executive Committee Personnel Recommendations

Chairman, Joe Dill then asked Mr. Riley to give a report from the Executive Committee on Personnel Requests. Mr. Tim Womack presented recommendation from the Executive Committee to approve the creation of a Homecare/Personal Care Coordinator position:

- Providing 350 to 400 seniors with house-keeping services contracted through ResCare at any given time since 2014 was unable to keep up with the demands, so remedied by giving clients a choice of agencies under the management of the family care-giver advocate and information specialist since July of 2018. With the transition from ResCare came overwhelming workload due minimal staff and the increase in providers rendering services, poses challenges with efficiency and effectiveness for servicing our clients, this position will assisting in servicing the growing senior population needing these services.
- Creation of a Homecare/Personal Care Coordinator position with a salary range of \$35,500 to increase efficiency and effectiveness for coordinating Family Care Giver services like housekeeping.
- Reporting to Nancy Childress and completely funded by Administrative dollars from the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

Following Mr. Womack's presentation of the Executive Committee recommendations Mr. Dill called for a vote on the motions. The board approved the recommendation unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Steve Pelissier, Executive Director, concluded the meeting with information on sustaining the growth of the SC Appalachian Council of Government with the introduction of Trey Eubanks.

- Hiring of a Government Service Manager provides consistent contact with local governments makes for sustainability of the organization through funding increases.
- With 22 years of experience, Trey Eubanks has tasked himself to promote the services the COG can provide will meeting the mission of enhancing local governments while increasing revenues.
- Established training sessions to local governments offering 7-week ICA management advisory training program starting September 13th, 2018, to include sessions focused on budgeting and funding goals, compensation & classification planning, and many more directives to increase internal revenues.

The next Board Meeting will be at 10:30 am on September 28th, 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Mr. Joe Dill, Chairman

The South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments has complied with the Freedom of Information Act in scheduling and conducting this meeting.