

**MINUTES OF THE
COASTAL REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL
January 8, 2014
Richmond Hill City Center, Richmond Hill, GA
10:05 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman James Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Invocation was provided by Clarence Knight, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Reggie Loper, Jimmy Burnsed, Julie Martin, Craig Root, Sean Register, Walter Gibson, Herb Jones, Ken Lee, Shaw McVeigh, William Miller, Herb Hill, Harold Fowler, Tom Ratcliffe, Dan Coty, Margaret Evans, Donald Lovette, J.C. Warren, Jim Thomas, Linda Barker, Chap Bennett, Chris Blaine, Allen Brown, Edna Jackson, David Boland, John Morrissey, Jimmy Starline, Charles Wilson, Jr., and Jason Coley.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kelly Spratt, Jan Moore, Michael Browning, Hugh Hodge, Gwendolyn Davis, Matthew Barrow, Robert Long, Russell Keen, and Al Scott.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Dorothy Glisson, Screven County; Ron Elliott, Fort Stewart; and Clarence Knight, Kingsland;

GUESTS: James Brown, Justin Rison, and Jimmie Green, TRANSitions; Mayor Mary Warnell, Pembroke; Steve Crowell, St. Marys; Suzanne VanParreren, Sapelo Island NERC; Lewis Spears and Bonnie Martin, GA DHS; Bruce Bazemore; U.S Rep. Kingston; Jennifer Fordham, DCA; Patrick Graham, CHA; Jeff Ricketson, LCPC; Ramond Robinson and Jessie Craft, CAT; Kathryn Murph, U.S. Senator Saxby Chambliss, Jared Downs, U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson; and Cathy Hill, GA Power.

STAFF PRESENT: Allen Burns, Executive Director; Lena Geiger, Finance Director; Lupita McClenning, Planning and Government Services Director; Don Masisak, Transportation Director; Lauren Robesky, Economic Development Director, Beatrice Soler, Land Use Planner; Hunter Key, GIS Manager; Tara Merrill, Senior Planner; Meizi Wolven, Grant Specialist; Betty Sanborn, Fiscal Analyst, David Dantzler, Mobility Manager, and Colletta Harper, Administrative Services Director.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS: Mayor John Morrissey, St. Marys; Chairman Jimmy Starline, Camden County; and Charles Wilson, Jr., State, Education Appointment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Thomas requested approval of the minutes from the November 13th meeting.

Motion: Mayor Margaret Evans
Second: Linda Barker
Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Resolution to Enter into Commercial Credit Card Account Relationship with Southeastern Bank– (See Attachment 1, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.) Executive Director Burns reminded everyone that we had switched to Southeastern Bank when we moved to Darien, but kept the company credit cards with SunTrust. Now that all the accounts have been closed at SunTrust they want us to have an account in the amount of the credit card limit, so he is recommending that we get the Credit Cards from Southeastern Bank.

A motion was made to approve the Resolution.

Motion: Herb Jones
Second: Mayor Edna Jackson
Vote: Passed
Abstained: Craig Root

Approval of Resolution to Submit CIG Grant Application to DNR for a Regional Parcel Dataset for Coastal Georgia. *(See Attachment 2, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Ms. Lupita McClenning, Planning and Government Services Director provided a brief overview on the purpose of the grant. The match will be provided by DCA and by using various stakeholders from throughout the region. A motion was made to pass the Resolution.

Motion: David Boland
Second: Linda Barker
Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Resolution to Submit CIG Grant Application to DNR for Enhanced GeoPDF's. *(See Attachment 3, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* Ms. McClenning provided a brief overview on the purpose of the grant. Grant match will be provided through partnerships, volunteers and in-kind services.

Motion: Linda Barker
Second: Craig Root
Vote: Unanimous

PRESENTATIONS

Future Plans for Transit – Mr. Don Masisak, Transportation Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the coordination component of the transit program and what is scheduled for FY14. Received grant money for new tablets for the busses which will help efficiency and working to get security cameras inside the buses. A lot of emphasis will be placed on enhanced performance which is a no cost activity and the most critical. Five of the 16 new 14-15 passenger buses will be picked up on Friday. Looking to purchase a couple of the surplus vehicles from GDOT which will allow us to use them for specialized runs such as dialysis. Mr. Justin Rison, TRANSITIONS spoke briefly on his organization and ways they have worked to cut costs, make themselves more efficient, and ways they give back to the areas they serve.

A brief Q & A session followed the presentation. It will be next year before smaller vans can be obtained due to the “Buy American Act”. DHS riders do fill the busses in the mornings and afternoons; a number on load factor will be provided at the next meeting. Will be conducting a marketing campaign in the near future for new riders (including veterans); also, will be soliciting advertisers for signs inside the buses.

Ramond Robinson with CAT commented they have a five-year plan “Making Connections” available on their website, which may help the CRC.

Data Storage – Regional GIS – Mr. Hunter, Key, GIS Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Regional GIS. The purpose of a Regional GIS is to leverage strength, manage hardware and software costs; provide staff access to GIS with no additional licenses. Georgia’s regional commissions currently have an ELA agreement with ESRI. The Enterprise Agreement provides for leveraging some shared Geographic software for reduced local costs. A virtual server housed at the CRC would hold the data and provide backup to cities and counties. The CRC has met with GIS professionals throughout the region, a county and jurisdiction database

infrastructure has been developed and a web server has been created to host the GIS data. The next step is to work with a pilot community to test bandwidth and deployment scenarios. To request a demo, please contact Mr. Key

ESRI - Business Analyst: Mr. Key also presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the Business Analyst, a web tool, explaining what it could do and the information it could provide. Mr. Key referred to the handout which showed examples of graphic profiles and executive summary. *(See Attachment 4, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* The Business Analyst, using 2010 Census data, combines demographic and business data, detailed maps, and advanced spatial analytics. This is a powerful tool for economic development. ESRI will update estimates from multiple demographics. To request a demo or consultation, please contact Mr. Key.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on GARC – Mr. Clarence Knight reported that they will have a meeting next month.

DRI Reports: None.

Project Status Reports - *(See Attachments 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)* If anyone has any questions, please see staff after the meeting. A question was raised on the dollar amounts in transportation section of the financial report and Ms. Lena Geiger, Finance Director, responded that this latest report is through the first quarter.

CADDA Report: No questions were raised regarding the CADDA report. *(See Attachments 10, attached herein and made a part of these minutes.)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The RC executive and AAA directors met with Dr. Jay Bulot, DHS Division of Aging Services Director yesterday to discuss the future of the AAA and funding levels. At the end of the meeting each AAA was given a letter with three alternatives, one of which they have to decide on by January 15th - 1 – be a full service AAA providing all services; 2 – be a core service AAA, providing only the core Older Americans Act programming; or 3 – no longer interested in being a AAA.

After a brief discussion the following individuals volunteered to work on a committee with Chairman Thomas, Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director and Allen Burns –

Mayor Margaret Evans
Mayor Edna Thomas
Commissioner Walter Gibson
David Boland

The committee will meet to discuss funding issues and will report back to the Council at the February meeting

It was noted that elected officials needed to talk with their legislative delegation to voice their concerns, as that carries a lot more weight.

It was questioned if there had been any pitfalls with the new building or any new tenants. Burns responded that it has been a good move, with cost savings in what space we were having to lease. Currently, the Darien Police Department is the only tenants. There are a couple of groups looking at the Brunswick office and we hope to have it sold or leased this year. This is the first year we aren't worried about cash flow and that is a good thing.

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CHAIRMAN's REPORT. Chairman Thomas stated that this portion of the agenda was for anyone to make any announcements or comments.

Mayor Edna Jackson commended Chairman Thomas for his personal interaction with our legislative delegation regarding our military bases. Legislators indicate that local elected officials' presence does make a difference.

Mayor John Morrissey suggested inviting leadership from the Georgia Military Affairs Committee to receive an update on BRAC. Someone will be invited within the next quarter.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m., with lunch following.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 12, 2014, at the Richmond Hill City Center at 10:00 a.m.**