

**Minutes from the GNRF Foundation Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 6, 2015**  
**Charlie Elliott Conservation Center**  
**11:00 a.m.**

Board Chair Amy Hillman called the meeting to order and welcomed Board members attending. Present were Amy Hillman, Ross King, Mike Clanton, Philip Wilheit, Jr., Dr. Richie Bland, Commissioner Mark Williams, Robert Brown, and Kali Beyah. Sara Clark participated by phone.

She especially recognized Rusty Garrison and his staff and thanked them for their fine assistance in helping to host the meeting and setting up the room, arranging the lunch and making everyone feel so welcome.

The Board approved the financial report prepared by DNR and presented by Lonice Barrett, in Paul Babaz' absence. (Copy attached.)

Mark Williams presented the Commissioner's Report and briefed the Board on the upcoming legislative session. He briefly discussed the concept of a hunting and fishing license fee increase that would be the first in Georgia since 1991. Said there would be upcoming briefings with the Governor. He said that the staff was hard at work on planning for the upcoming Weekend for Wildlife. He praised Chris Hodge who was instrumental in saving someone's life by some emergency action Ranger Hodge took.

Lonice Barrett's report focused on steps taken to get the Foundation books and records up to date, getting the checking account balanced, developing with DNR accounting a Chart of Accounts to track expenditures and receipts, making sure that all Thank You letters were up to date, maintaining a personal register of all receipts and expenditures, finalizing plans to receive the Smithgall Woods funds in a custodial manner for the Foundation, renewal of the Foundation Charitable Organization registration with the Secretary of State's Office, meetings with Friends of State Parks (Andy Fleming and Becky Kelley), phone conversations with Brooks Schoen of TERN, updated the Foundation Board on the final plans for the upcoming GALA, plans to be represented at the CoastFEST, purchase of the Commemorative Statehood rifles for auction at the WFW, and the successful Kaiser Permanente 5K Run and Walk which the Foundation helped sponsor, including about 100 from DNR.

Amy Hillman updated the Board on the work underway to revise and update the Foundation website and provided the Board some information as to how it will be improved with information from the Divisions and new Fulfillment information encouraging donations at certain levels. She said that we needed to attract a broader cross-section of support and supporters for the Foundation. She shared with the Board an early draft of the proposed new GNRF Sponsorship Levels for their info and comments. (Copy attached.)

Mike Clanton talked to the Board about the need to recruit some new Board members and urged the Board members to share their suggestions and ideas with him, but this is a critical need.

Lonice Barrett updated the Board on the upcoming Board Retreat at Sapelo Island and discussed the agenda for the gathering.

Sara Clark discussed the Foundation grant cycles, and in particular, how the Board wanted the Divisions to cooperate on the use of any surplus or leftover funds approved, particularly on Directed grant projects. It was affirmed that the Board wanted the Divisions to report back to the Board on any leftover or surplus funds for approval to spend those funds, and that such requests would be approved as a part of the grant cycle deliberations. However, it was also clearly stated that if there were urgent or emergency needs, the Commissioner and Division Directors could request the Board to act on requests on an as-needed basis and approve such requests, if necessary, in a tele-conference call.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned for lunch and they went over to the Shooting Range for some instruction and sporting clay shooting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lonice Barrett  
Interim Executive Director  
GNRF