

TO: PLANNING AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE

FROM: MR. CURTIS BROWN, JR., CHAIRMAN, PLANNING AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE
THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF PLANNING AND PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Planning and Projects Committee held a meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at the Turin Town Hall in Turin, Georgia.

WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Chair Curtis Brown, Jr. welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order. He also gave the invocation and led the committee members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Planning and Projects Committee Members in Attendance

Ms. Kay Pippin, Mayor, City of Jackson
Ms. Donna Armstrong-Lackey, Non-public member, Carroll County
Mr. Greg Wright, Non-Public Member, Coweta County
Mr. Bennie Horton, Commissioner, Lamar County
Ms. Shirley Hines, Chair, Meriwether County
Mr. Douglas Hollberg, Mayor, City of Griffin
Mr. Curtis Brown, Jr., Non-Public Member, Troup County

Three Rivers Additional Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Terry Nolan, Non-public member, Butts County

Staff Present

Mr. Kirk Fjelstul, Executive Director
Ms. Jeannie Brantley, Planning Director
Ms. Kim Dutton, Planner
Mr. Paul Jarrell, Planner
Ms. Amanda Turner, Deputy Director, Administrative Services Dept.
Ms. Jan Perez, Secretary, Administrative Services Dept.

APPROVAL OF MAY 2, 2019 MINUTES (action item)

Mr. Douglas Hollberg made the motion to approve the May 2, 2019 meeting minutes; Mr. Greg Wright seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (action item)

Mr. Wright made the motion to approve the agenda as presented; Ms. Kay Pippin seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – REGIONAL PLAN

Committee Chair Brown asked Ms. Jeannie Brantley and the Planning Staff to preside over the Public Hearing portion of today's meeting. Ms. Brantley opened the public hearing and advised everyone that this was the third (3rd) public hearing for the Regional Plan. Mr. Paul Jarrell told everyone that the Planning Staff is continuing to make adjustments to the Regional Plan according to the Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) remarks during their preliminary review. The Conservation and Development Map (for the Regional Important Resources Plan- RIR) was not well received since the green infrastructure layer for this map was not included. The staff is working to revise the map as well as review and tweak the plan as needed before formally submitting the Regional Plan. The staff will conduct another public hearing next month concerning the Conservation and Development Map and the green infrastructure layer. Mr. Jarrell noted that there were not any individuals from outside the committee or council attending today's hearing and ended his presentation. There were no questions asked, but Ms. Donna Armstrong-Lackey remarked, "it's good" with agreement from a few other members. Ms. Brantley closed the public hearing and Committee Chair Brown thanked them for a "very efficient public hearing."

Committee Chair Brown proceeded to the Strategic Planning portion of the agenda.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mr. Kirk Fjelstul advised the committee that he would like them to identify elements of the Regional Plan to be incorporated into the Strategic Plan as well as including ideas from the council retreat sessions. Ms. Brantley presented the committee members with a document that contained the mission and vision statements as well as several strategies and plans with the objective of "work(ing) with member governments to obtain desired results, through the implementation of regional planning strategies." The members viewed a slideshow with this material; she reiterated that these are proposed items for the committee's consideration. Broadband is one of the items listed and the possible creation of a Three Rivers Regional Broadband Committee; the committee had a few questions about the West Georgia Regional Broadband Authority (composed of Heard, Meriwether, Troup and Upson Counties), as well as the possibility of creating a liaison between the Broadband Committee and state representatives. There was some dialogue on the EMCs and broadband and the recent rural broadband bill. Ms. Brantley finished the slideshow presentation; Ms. Brantley received positive feedback regarding the presentation.

Mr. Fjelstul proceeded with a discussion of the different aspects of the Strategic Plan. Members discussed a “report card” with breakdown of programs along with who is being helped by the programs and where the money is going. The topic of a fact sheet was mentioned; the planning staff is developing a fact sheet for each county which will contain information about what the regional commission is doing for that particular area. The fact sheets should be available for the committee’s review at the next meeting.

The members questioned if the council would have another retreat this year. Mr. Fjelstul advised them that we were not certain at this point and that it would be according to the budget. Ms. Pippin added that, “We should put some of the expenses on the council...their lodging and transportation and let the RC take care of the meetings and meals.”

Committee Chair Brown advised, “The Strategic Plan stays as a strategic plan and not a ‘tactical’ plan. How do we keep it living? What are the next pieces that keep this a living, growing document?”

OTHER BUSINESS

There was nothing presented under this portion of the agenda.

DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The Planning and Projects Committee will meet on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.; the meeting location is the Turin Town Hall in Turin.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Brown adjourned the meeting after receiving a motion from Mr. Wright and a second from Ms. Pippin.

Curtis Brown, Jr., Chairman
Planning and Projects Committee