

Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
Bike! Walk! Northwest Georgia Meeting
Thursday, January 9, 2014

Introductions: Charlie Jones-NWGRC, David Howerin-NWGRC, Connie Forester-City of Lafayette and Walker Co Historical Society, William James-Summit Quest, Ron Underwood, Lafayette, Kevin Howard-Rome-Floyd Planning, Lisa Stone-NWGPH, John Johnston-Cave Spring, Julie Smith, Larry Madden-Pinhoti Trail, Tim Jones-Cartersville, Jim Hunter-TRED, Missy Phillips-Bartow Co-Keep Bartow Beautiful, David Kenemer-NWGRC via phone

*Janet Cochran-GA Tourism and Alicia Hatcher-SRTS tried to call in via conference call but weren't able to get through.

-Charlie introduced everyone explaining that he was leading the meeting due to David Kenemer's physical absence. David called in on speaker phone. He apologized for the conference call technology not working and said it will be working for the February meeting.

-Membership drive/marketing BWNWGA: Jim Hunter explained the goal behind the letter (draft passed to members) which is to update the roster, have detailed list of each contingent within each county/city, and to know who is on board to be better able to mobilize the group. A few edits were suggested for the letter and Jim will clean up and Julie will send out mid-month. Larry suggested having a yearly (or biyearly) membership drive to attract more members in the north and south of the region. Julie mentioned having the March meeting in Dalton to pull from that area, maybe lunch at the Depot and then a visit to the Mt Rachel Trail. The February meeting will be in Rome. Ron invited the group to come to Lafayette as well for a future meeting.

-Silver Comet Trail Counts-Charlie mentioned that in keeping with the SCT EIA counts need to be done again on the SCT but we are not surveying this year. To be consistent with the 2013 counts the tentative dates are: March 8, 12, 19, Saturday from 10-12p and Wed. 4-6pm. Hopefully GRITS can help with the counts as will the ARC for the Cobb Co portion. ARC has 3 sites, NWGRC 6 sites. David K said that a baseline trend is needed year to year and in the future possibly auto counts can be set up and a small contract with ALTA can be worked out for them to interpret the data.

-Willie Weir visit-WW will be in Rome/NW GA again April 28-May 2. Connie and Lisa inquired about him visiting their areas. Julie to work out details.

-Micro Grants-David K gave the back story of the funding from GDOT and the reasons behind formalizing the process to the application and follow up metrics on projects from funding received.

Applications received:

- Lafayette applied for \$575 for Walking Tour brochure
- NWGPH applied for \$5,000 for bike racks at all but one public health department in region
- Summit Quest and Pinhoti grandfathered in from May meeting but Pinhoti funding on hold due to lack of formal application

-It was decided that the micro grant subcommittee (Jim, Julie, David H, Charlie, and Lisa) will meet to review the applications and an answer to the first two applications received above will be given at the February BWNWGA meeting.

-Other Business-The February meeting is on the 13th at 9am. Meeting adjourned.