

**Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
Bike! Walk! Northwest Georgia meeting
Thursday, February 20, 2013
Meeting Minutes**

Welcome and Introductions-Ron Underwood-City of Lafayette, Jim Hunter-TRED, Kevin Howard-Rome-Floyd County Planning, John Johnston-Cave Spring, Julie Smith, Charlie Jones

Member Drive-Jim updated the group on the membership drive. He has cleaned up the mailing list and grouped the names by county so as to know what counties are lacking in representation at BWNWGA meetings. He would also like to have phone numbers of members in order to call them to find out the point person for their area/organization. Jim to draft a BW letter requesting phone numbers and Julie will send it via Constant Contact.

Charlie reported that city commissioner Buzz Wachsteter was interested in attending the February 13 BW meeting that was canceled due to the snow. Charlie is also going to speak to the Adairsville DDA at the request of the DDA Chair, Susan Gilmore, on March 4 about how Adairsville can become more bike and ped friendly.

GA Score Card-Lisa Stone was absent so Julie briefly shared with the group the handout on Georgia's STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program) score produced by the Alliance for Biking and Walking and the League of American Bicyclists.

Micro Grants-Charlie said that Lafayette and Summit Quest's grants are approved and have gone through the RC finance department. The NWGAPH bike racks still have some details to work out regarding the BW signage/logo, and Lisa will make arrangements to have the racks delivered to each county location.

Julie submitted two grant applications, one for a \$1000 sponsorship on behalf of BWNWGA to the Georgia Trail Summit in April, and a grant for t-shirts for the City of Lafayette's walking tour of the Civil War battles. They will go to the grant subcommittee for approval.

Willie Weir-as of now there are spaces for Willie to speak on Tuesday, April 29 and Friday, May 2.

Brag Session-Julie told the group about the Alliance for Biking and Walking highlighting the SPLOST vote and TRED in a recent blog post. She mentioned that the Alliance has wonderful resources and can be found online at www.peoplepoweredmovement.org.

SCT Counts-The counts this year to further validate the 2013 SCT EIA study will be: Saturday, March 8 from 10-2pm, and Wednesday, March 12 and 19 from 4-6pm. Julie will ask GRITS if they can cover the Polk County portion, leaving us with the three trailheads in Paulding County and hopefully Byron Rushing from the ARC can cover the Cobb portion. Julie will send an email to BW members asking for help.

Other Business-Kevin Howard updated the group on progress at Jackson Hill trails: 3 kiosks with maps/info, signage, and mile markers. This is being done in conjunction with an Eagle Scout project, the city, the Rome CVB, and TRED. He also mentioned that the three respite benches with shade sails are close to being installed on the Levee trail and three fix-it stands will be installed at the Town Green,

Heritage Park, and Ridge Ferry Park. Trailhead maps will also be installed at Cantrell Street and Kingfisher and 4th Ave. A dedication ceremony will be planned for all of these new amenities.

Jim gave a :30 TRED commercial and reiterated to Kevin that TRED wants to aid the city in any trail project that it can. Jim wondered if there was a reason to emulate the SCT counts with counts on the Heritage Trail for data and trends.

Next Meeting- Thursday, March 13, 9am at the Chattooga Academy in Lafayette. Julie will send an address and parking directions in the next CC meeting email.