

**Northwest Georgia Regional Commission
Bike! Walk! Northwest Georgia Meeting
Thursday, March 13, 2014
Chattooga Academy, LaFayette, GA**

Meeting Minutes

Introductions: Andy Arnold-Mayor, Lafayette, Ron Underwood-Lafayette, Jennie Chandler-Walker Co Historical Society, Jim Hunter-TRED, Rome, Cindy Pinion-Walker Co Citizen, James Bacon-Walker Co Citizen, David Howerin-NWGRC, Mike O'Neal-Walker Co Messenger, Dan Wright-City of Ringgold, Connie Forester-Walker Co Historical Soc, Matthew William-Lafayette, David Boyle-Walker Co Historical Soc, Sue Underwood-Lafayette, Charlie Jones-NWGRC, Julie Smith-NWGRC

Join Me participants: Alicia Hatcher-SRTS, Kevin Howard-City of Rome Planning, Erica Parrish, Paudling Co DOT, Chris Carson-BW Chattanooga, Lisa Stone-NWGPB, Tim Jones-Cartersville, Kelly Jordan-Arabia Mountain Heritage Area

-Georgia Trail Summit-Julie explained that it is April 11-12 in Athens, registration can be found at www.georgiatrailsummit.com , and BWNWGA is a sponsor. The summit will be in an "unconference" format with four tracks: trail economics, growing community, planning trails, and a open format for organic discussion.

-Willie Weir-He will visit Rome/NW GA the week of April 28 and there are few openings. Lafayette HS will check to see if he can speak to a social studies class.

-SCT counts: The counts will be Wednesday, May 7/14 from 4-6pm and Saturday, May 17, 10-2pm. The counts continue the efforts of the SCT economic impact assessment last year so gain metrics yearly. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE COMMUNICATE WITH CHARLIE.

-Other business-Connie briefly gave the historical background of the Marsh House and Chattooga Academy and how it fits into the cultural fabric of Walker County.

Alicia touted the recent Walk to School day on March 10 with participating from 110 schools. The first SRTS forum will be in Decatur on June 3 and Bike to School day will be May 7.

David Howerin asked if anyone had any suggestions to make BWNWGA better. If suggestions are thought of, please email Charlie Jones at cjones@nwgrc.org.

Chris Carson of BW Chatt (sub advocacy chapter of BW TN) gave background on what BWC was doing to promote bike/ped initiatives in the city. On March 27 there will be a city planning meeting on the bike implementation plan. For more details about BWC and the meeting, visit: www.facebook.com/bikewalkchattanooga

The next meeting will be April 10 at 9am in Rome.