

STONE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

April 17, 2006 DRAFT

A meeting of the Stone Mountain Memorial Association was held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, 2006, at Evergreen Conference Center, Stone Mountain Park, Stone Mountain, Georgia.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT

Greer Johnson, Vice Chair

Mark Baxter (by telephone)

Bill Chappell

Noel Holcomb

Mike Pentecost

Ray S. Smith, III

Joan Thomas

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ABSENT

Tom Gilliland, Chairman

Brent Brown

OTHERS PRESENT

Curtis Branscome, C.E.O.

Bob Cowhig, Director of Planning & Construction

Gail Durham, Director of Finance

Jerry Spicer, Director of Administration & Public Safety

Sonny Horton, VP Marketing, HFEC

Members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Greer Johnson, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ray Smith, seconded by Mike Pentecost, and unanimously approved to

waive the reading of the minutes of the March 20, 2006 meeting and to adopt the minutes as printed. A draft copy of the minutes was sent to each Board Member prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bill Burns from Stone Mountain, Georgia addressed the Board. Mr. Burns stated that he was interested in what action had been taken to address the tram safety issue that he had brought to the attention of the Board at the last meeting.

Mr. Branscome stated that the issue had been responded to in writing to the Board and by email to Mr. Burns.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT & ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2005 AUDIT

Mr. Branscome introduced Ms. Meredith Lipson of Mauldin & Jenkins, Certified Public Accountants, LLC. Ms. Lipson stated that she had presented the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005 to the Finance Committee earlier this morning. The opinion issued by her firm was an unqualified or clean opinion. The financial statements are the responsibility of management and the auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on their audit.

The Statement of Net Assets or balance sheet reflects total net assets of \$93.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2005. A large part of this is in property, equipment, cash and investments. The liabilities are about \$683 thousand and the total assets are \$94.1 million leaving a net asset balance of \$93.4 million.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets shows an increase in operating revenues of \$266 thousand compared to the prior year. This increase is a result of the increase in lease revenues. Operating expenses increased by about \$1 million due to the payment made by the Association to the Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Tourism Foundation to support the advancement of tourism in Georgia.

Depreciation expense, a non-cash item, was just over \$4 million. The net effect after all expenses was a net loss of about \$870,000. Overall, the Association is in a strong net asset position and good financial shape. There were no findings to report and no reportable conditions. Ms. Lipson expressed her appreciation to perform the audit work for the Association. She also expressed thanks for the Finance Department for the good job they do and for keeping things on track. Ms. Lipson said that she would be happy to answer any questions for the Board and that they should call her if questions arise in the future.

Ms. Branscome reported that the Finance Committee recommended in their earlier meeting that the audit report be accepted as submitted. Mr. Chappell, Chairman of the Finance Committee motioned that the audit report be accepted. Noel Holcomb seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Ms. Durham reported that Tom Gilliland, Chair, was unable to attend today's meeting, but had stated last week that he has reviewed the audit report and concurred with its findings.

STONE MOUNTAIN PARK REPORT – HFEC

Mr. Branscome said that Gerald Rakestraw, Vice President and General Manager for Stone Mountain Park, was representing the Park today at a luncheon with the Chancellor of the University of Georgia system and the HFEC report would be delivered by Sonny Horton.

Mr. Horton distributed a packet of promotional materials and recapped the events that have occurred and additional ones planned for the 2006 season. The Big Apple Circus was held in February and has been enjoyed by many families. Noel Holcomb said that his family attended and had a wonderful time. The Cool Car Festival was a one day event in April attended by about 3,000 automotive enthusiasts. Spring Fun Break was an offering for many children and their parents held during the K-12 school spring break week. The World's Largest Easter Egg Hunt took place the week prior to Easter Sunday. The event was recognized and recorded by the Guinness World Records. Over 10,000 people attended this event. Yesterday, was celebrated the sixty first Easter Sunrise Service. The Latino Festival, Frontier Days, and the Memorial Day celebration with a special laser show are planned to honor the military troops. The Extreme Summer Adventures will be a 55 day event offered for families and guests.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Branscome recognized Stone Mountain Golf Club for receiving certification in environmental planning from the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System. This is an international program administered by Audubon International to help land owners preserve and enhance the environment and natural resources. This planning will go forward with wildlife and habitat management, chemical use reduction, water conservation, and water quality management certification. Mr. Branscome recognized the personnel at the Stone Mountain Golf Club for this achievement including the Grounds Supervisor, Anthony Williams. the Director of Golf, Steve Hupe, and the General Manager of the Stone Mountain Marriott properties, Randy McMichael. Mr. Branscome stated that they are doing an excellent job of managing two golf courses within the Park environment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Greer Johnson, Vice Chairman

Submitted by

Gail Durham, Secretary