

STONE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

August 29, 2018

A meeting of the Stone Mountain Memorial Association was held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 29, 2018, at Evergreen Conference Center, Stone Mountain Park, and Stone Mountain, Georgia.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT

Carolyn Meadows, Chairman
Ray S. Smith, III, Vice Chairman
Dick Childers
Scott Johnson
Roy Roberts
Joan Thomas
Perry Tindol

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Thurmond
Becky Kelley, Director of State Parks & Historic Sites

OTHERS PRESENT

Bill Stephens, C.E.O.
Bob Cowhig, Director of Planning and Development
Edna Zimmerman, Director of Finance
Chief Chuck Kelley, Director of Public Safety
Michael Dombrowski, VP/General Manager, Silver Dollar City/Stone Mountain Park
Debbie Blihovde, Benefits Administrator
Duane Studdard, Administration Manager
Mike Lee, Assistant Chief of Police & Fire
Naomi Thompson, Education Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Meadows, Chairman, called the meeting to order and stated that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Thomas, and unanimously approved to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous Board meeting on June 19, 2018 and to adopt the minutes as printed. There was no meeting in July of 2018. A draft copy of the minutes was sent to each Board Member prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SILVER DOLLAR CITY/STONE MOUNTAIN PARK REPORT

Mr. Dombrowski updated the Board on upcoming plans for Labor Day. They will have a lasershow with extra fireworks September 1st thru September 3rd. There will be a new show. Todd Oliver from America's Got Talent and his talking dog will be performing in the 4D Theater.

This year is the 50th Anniversary of the Yellow Daisy Festival. It will be held September 6th through the 9th. There are over 520 vendors this year. The festival will have 140 new vendors.

CONSIDERATION OF INCREASE IN PARKING AND SKY RIDE FEES

Mr. Dombrowski discussed with the Board a request to increase the allowable daily parking fees from \$18 to \$20. He also requested an increase in the Skyride fee from \$12 to \$15 (round trip) and from \$8 to \$12 (one-way). He also discussed the comparable parking and skyride fees for area and national attractions.

Ms. Meadows told Mr. Dombrowski that the Board had a lengthy discussion about the request in the committee meeting and Mr. Stephens answered their questions.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Thomas, and unanimously approved to allow Stone Mountain Park/ HFE to increase the allowable daily parking fees from \$18 to \$20 with no other increase on holidays and increase the Skyride fee from \$12 to \$15 (round trip) and from \$8 to \$12 (one-way) to go into effect on September 1st, 2018.

FINANCE REPORT – YEAR TO DATE

Ms. Zimmerman reported that preliminary year-to-date revenues through July 31, 2018 were \$6,183,229 compared to a budgeted amount of \$6,145,571. Total operating expenses year to date were \$3,749,139, compared to the budgeted amount of \$4,652,511. The net operating profit before depreciation was \$2,434,090 compared to a budgeted amount of \$1,493,060. The year to date deficiency of revenue over expenses was \$545,247 compared to a budgeted loss of \$2,023,771.

The statement of cash flows reflects net cash provided by operating activities of \$1,738,221 year to date. The net increase in cash year to date was \$1,066,213. The cash and investment balance at the end of the period was \$14,510,405.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Kelley shared a video news clip with the Board about a woman whose life the Department of Public Safety helped to save. She was at the Evergreen Conference Center when she had an allergic reaction to shell fish. She stopped breathing and subsequently went into cardiac arrest. Two police officers were nearby at the Campground and were able to get to the scene in two minutes to start CPR. Fortunately, she was saved. She later shared her story with the media and came to the Park to publicly thank the police officers who saved her life. The woman was very grateful and said the experience changed her outlook on life and changed her relationship with police officers.

An 80-year-old man training for a marathon fell and hit his head just pass Police Headquarters. He went into cardiac arrest. Police officers had to shock him three times before he was transported to the hospital. He is still in the hospital with head trauma.

NEW BUSINES

Ms. Thompson discussed the Education Department program and events happening in the natural district. She discussed classes and programs they provided for school groups

for the 2017/2018 school year. They also have virtual field trips for Barrow County schools. The department also loans out science kits to schools to assist teachers. Ms. Thompson discussed several public outreach programs that the Department provides or hosts with a partner. She also discussed plans for the different land management areas of the Park and provided maps.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Carolyn Meadows, Chairman

Submitted by Debbie Blihovde