

STONE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

September 18, 2018

A meeting of the Stone Mountain Memorial Association was held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, at the Stone Mountain Inn, 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
Mark Williams, Commissioner of DNR
Jeff Cown, Director of State Parks & Historic Sites

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Thurmond

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
Wes Robertson, DNR

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 Mr. Johnson, and unanimously approved to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous Board meeting on August 29, 2018 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

None

NEW MEMBER

Ms. Meadows introduced a new Board Member. Becky Kelley retired from DNR and Jeff Cown replaced her at DNR and as Mr. Williams' designee to the Board.

Ms. Meadows welcomed Mr. Williams, the Commissioner of DNR. He told the Board that Ms. Kelley did a great job and they were excited to have Mr. Cown on board. Mr. Cown has been in State government a long time.

Mr. Williams said the State Parks are running at an estimated 79 to 81 percent self-sustainable. They have a lot of construction and upgrades being done in several of the parks.

SILVER DOLLAR CITY/STONE MOUNTAIN PARK REPORT

Mr. Dombrowski updated the Board on upcoming events. He said they had a very successful Yellow Daisy Festival. It was one of the strongest Yellow Daisy Festivals they have had. He said they had a new team putting on the Event and while they had a few bumps, they learned some good lessons.

They are starting Pumpkin Festival a little earlier this year. They will have a Glow-by-Night experience. They have thousands of Jack-o-lanterns set up in Crossroads. It is fairy-tale themed. The train will be a "Red Riding Hood" Train ride. The dinosaur tour will be a "flash light" tour. The Pumpkin Festival will be the same in the daytime as in the past but will be expanded during the night. Some other upcoming events are:

A Tour of Southern Ghosts	Oct 11-27, 2018
Eggtoberfest	Oct 13, 2018
Stone Mountain Highland Games	Oct 20-21, 2018
The Country Living Fair	Oct 26-28, 2018
Native American Festival & Pow Wow	Nov 1-4, 2018

FINANCE REPORT – YEAR TO DATE

Ms. Zimmerman reported that year-to-date revenues through August 31, 2018 were \$7,086,655 compared to a budgeted amount of \$7,022,446. Total operating expenses year to date were \$4,398,519, compared to the budgeted amount of \$5,478,068. The net operating profit before depreciation was \$2,766,800 compared to a budgeted amount of \$1,571,378. The year to date deficiency of revenue over expenses was \$697,120 compared to a budgeted loss of \$2,475,286.

The statement of cash flows reflects net cash provided by operating activities of \$2,649,860 year to date. The net cash used by investing activities year to date was \$748,044. The net increase in cash year to date was \$1,901,816. The cash and investment balance at the end of the period was \$15,346,008.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Kelley thanked Commissioner Williams for all the help DNR Law enforcement gives to his department when needed. He said they were all great to work with and have never turned down a request.

Chief Kelley said that the Yellow Daisy Festival had a lot of traffic, so the use of a fifth lane was instituted at the entrance of the East Gate. The Police Department blocked one of the exit lanes and made it an incoming lane. Because they opened the fifth lane, the traffic never backed up on Highway 78. Chief Kelley said that there were more cars on Saturday than they ever had. There were also 45 EMS calls, mainly because of the heat.

NEW BUSINESS

None

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