



NORTHEAST GEORGIA MOUNTAINS TRAVEL ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING
Ty Cobb Museum, Royston
Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Attendees: Teka Earnhardt, Tobie Chandler, Margaret McLean, Vicki Wineland, Cheryl Smith, Regina Dyer, Hilda Thomason, Vicki Starnes and guest, Shea Aiken of Rabun County
The meeting was called to order at 10:11 am by President, Tobie Chandler.

Meeting Minutes: The October Board meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion to approve was made by Teka Earnhardt and seconded by Margaret McLean. Minutes stand as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Teka Earnhardt reported we are in good shape and able to approve payment of 2 large co-op bills (GPB and Hulu). We have started receiving membership renewal and map brochure ad payments. About half of co-op partners have paid with balance to be paid in January. Margaret requested a list of who has paid already. A motion to approve treasurer's report was made by Vicki Starnes and seconded by Margaret McLean.

Committee Reports:

Education: Tobie reviewed the proposed meeting dates for 2019 noting the urgency to confirm the January location and speaker. Margaret volunteered Babyland as the January meeting location. Tentative locations were discussed for remainder of year: April meeting at NEGA History Center in Gainesville, June at Goats on the Roof in Rabun, August at Hiwassee Fairgrounds, October at Folk Pottery in Sautee and December at Crawford Long Museum in Jefferson.

Membership: Teka reviewed a list of members that have not renewed since 2016 and the consensus was that she should send renewal invoices out to them. She will need updated contact info in order to do this.

An update on regional brochure sales is needed in order to wrap this up by January.

New Business:

2019 Budget: The proposed budget was reviewed and approved with a motion to approve by Regina Dyer and second by Hilda Thomason.

Air B & B Legislation: In order to give the travel association a voice, the consensus was to appoint Teka as the official liaison to represent our region. Teka also suggested calling the hotel/motel tax an "accommodations tax."

2019 board vacancies: A nominating committee of Cheryl Smith, Jerry Brown, Regina Dyer and Teka Earnhardt will handle proposing new members to join the board to fill the 3 vacancies in January.

State park memberships: There was considerable discussion regarding a discounted membership for the 11 state parks in our region to include; Vogel, Unicoi, Amicalola, Moccasin Creek, Smithgall Woods, Black Rock Mountain, Don Carter, Tallulah, Fort Yargo, Fort Mountain and Richard Russell. The consensus was to work with Colby to offer them a full panel ad for \$795 on the new brochure which would include membership for all the parks.

Unfinished Business:

-Table runner/signs-Regina to follow up on getting quotes

-Tourism Day to be focused on unveiling the state's new strategic plan, mission and vision. Cheryl advised to be expecting an email with further details from Kevin Langston soon.

-Winter Chautauqua planning – Tobie asked all to review the proposals received since we need to decide by February so it can be announced in March.

-Top of the Mountain Awards – need help in soliciting nominations.

Motion made by Vicki Starnes with second from Hilda Thomason to adjourn the Board meeting and join the gathering membership for the holiday luncheon. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted: Vicki Starnes, Secretary