

Land of Sky Regional Council
February 22, 2017
Regular Meeting



Please mute all electronic devices, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and recorders. Also, Delegates are requested to state their names when moving on orders of business. Thank you!

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Roll Call
- V. Modification and Approval of Agenda
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Recognition of Special Guests
- VIII. Chairman's Comments and Roundtable
- IX. Approval of Minutes from the January Regular Meeting
- X. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items
 - A. January FY2017 Treasurer's Report
- XI. Presentations/Recognition
 - A. Mayor's Day 2017 – Ann Whisenhunt, Senior Companions Program Coordinator
 - B. Outreach from NC Department of Insurance-Western Regional Office – April Riddle, Deputy Commissioner
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
- XIV. Executive Director's Report
 - A. Nominating Committee
 - B. Executive Committee/Officers
 - C. March Meeting Location
- XIV. Important Dates
- XV. Adjournment



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** January Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
- Item Number:** IX. Approval of Minutes from the January Regular Meeting
- Responsible Party:** Zia Rifkin, Administrative Services
- Attachment(s):** Minutes from the meeting of January 2017
- Background:** Attached is the January 2017 Board of Delegates meeting minutes
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend acceptance of the January meeting minutes.
- Suggested Motion(s):** Move to approve the January meeting minutes as submitted

**Meeting of
Land of Sky Regional Council Board of Delegates
January 25, 2017**

Minutes

- I. Call to Order - Chairwoman Mennella called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
 - II. Invocation - The invocation was given by Charles Dickens.
 - III. Pledge of Allegiance - All stood as the Chairwoman led the Delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - IV. Roll Call – Justin Hembree called the roll. The following members were present: Denise Braine, Wayne Brigman, Gwen Wisler, Jonathan Kanipe, Larry Harris, Anne Coletta, Bob Davy, Steve Caraker, Dona Mennella, Shelia Norman, George Morosani, Josh Hallingse, Charles Dickens, Gaylyn Justice (Alternate for Volunteer Services). Justin Hembree announced quorum.
 - V. Modification and Approval of Agenda - The agenda was presented for consideration with no modifications requested. Charles Dickens moved to approve the agenda as presented. Bob Davy seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
 - VI. Public Comment – The public comment period opened. No comment was heard.
- I. Recognition of Special Guests –
 - II. Chairman's Comments and Roundtable – Dona Mennella - Shared that the Town of Laurel Park had a meeting with the transportation folks to discuss the type of project needed for Route 64. Gwen Wisler – Shared that the City of Asheville passed three separate bonds totaling \$74 million. City Council is in the process of determining how to spend the monies and the process to get there. She shared the City's appreciation to the citizens of Asheville for passing those bonds. Wayne Brigman – Shared that Madison County has opened its new library this week that will provide many services to folks on the Appalachian Trail. Larry Harris- Shared that the Town of Black Mountain is excited about the Avadim business expansion and is working hard to get the details figured out. He expressed appreciation to Erica Anderson for her presentation at the Rotary program. Charles Dickens – Shared for the Aging Programs that LOSRC's Executive Committee approved appointments to the Regional Aging Advisory Council (RAAC), the Senior Volunteers Services Board, and Senior Tar Heel Legislature. Steve Caraker – Shared that the City of Hendersonville has launched an exploratory effort to develop an urban redevelopment commission to support the area between 7th Avenue and Martin Luther King to about 6th Avenue to Duncan Hill Road to develop some property and revitalize the area. He also shared that there has been a little controversy over the high school in Hendersonville and everyone involved is working to provide a good outcome. Anne Coletta – Shared that the Village of Flat Rock received a \$40,000 grant from NCDOT to develop a bicycle/pedestrian plan for the Village. The first public input session for the plan had a very nice turn out. At this time, there are not funds for implementation of the plan. The Village received a grant from Duke Energy to put in two charging stations in the Village Hall parking lot that should be ready by summer. She announced that the Village would host a Shred Day in May for paper and medication (pill acceptance through TRIAD). George Morosani – Shared that there have been quite a few inquiries for industrial buildings in Henderson and Buncombe counties. Space is getting slim and rates are beginning to rise. In the next year, it is anticipated that the housing market will tighten up. He stated appreciation for Larry Harris and the Town of Black Mountain- there is a lot of activity going on and we should all be very pleased. Steve Caraker mentioned that there are not enough construction-trade folks to go around- things are really looking up. George Morosani mentioned that the low unemployment rate is making it hard to find folks for open positions. Jonathan Kanipe – Shared that the Town of Biltmore Forest is scaling back the public works project a little bit so it will be more of a renovation than originally planned. The Town is also getting into budget talks. Bob Davy – Shared that the Town of Fletcher is undergoing streetscape improvements on

Route 25 that goes right through the heart of Fletcher. The Town is also constructing two buildings over by the Public Works area that includes a storage building with an indoor washing bay and a building for citizens to use.

- III. Approval of Minutes from the December Regular Meeting – Bob Davy moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting as submitted. Wayne Brigman seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
- IV. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items – Larry Harris moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Items A. December FY 2016 Treasurer’s Report; and B. NCDEQ- Upper Swannanoa River 9-Element Watershed Management as presented. Bob Davy seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.
- V. Presentations/Recognition -
 - A. Farmer Training Program – Lee Warren, Executive Director for the Organic Growers School (OGS) shared that the agency is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and has been around for over twenty years. She provided information on the spring conference happening March 10-12 that will cover all aspects of sustainable living and organic growing. The school is place-based (exists in a particular region) and does pop-up education at farms around the region, UNCA, etc. Education is specific to the WNC region. Programs serve home growers, farmers, and help develop organic living practices.

Cameron Farlow, Farmer Program Director provided an overview of the issues facing farmers (and consumers): farmers are aging, but folks are starting to see farming as a career path. Training is part of the journey to becoming a professional farmer. Emerging, training, startup and seasoned are the various groups that education is directed toward to revitalize farming in the region successfully. With funding from the WNC Community Foundation, an understanding is gained of the significant barriers folks have to a career in farming that includes access to land, capital, markets, etc. The OGS is working to develop a series of programs to address farmers’ needs during every stage of the journey. She provided a brief history of farmer training which has been around for over twenty years now. Farm Beginnings is the newest and most robust farmer training to date. Programs are farmer-led, community-based and sustainable. Farmer to farmer training provides mentoring to beginning farmers. Lee Warren shared farmers have to be far enough along in their farming journey to have done some farming. The long-term goal is to keep farmers on the land.

Discussion occurred regarding the economic impact the agricultural community has on Buncombe County. It was shared that programs through the school focus on the 16 western-most counties. Outreach to the high country could bring OGS service there too. Lee Warren noted opportunities exist beyond WNC.

Discussion occurred about the structure of the training and it was shared that the Beginning Farmer training is classroom based and begins in April, there will be farm tours as well. To help folks decide if farming can work with their lifestyle, OGS offers a one-day exploratory workshop. Organized apprenticeships provide farm work for job seekers and assists farmers to meet their workforce needs. Justin Hembree shared that this could be a model for any sort of workforce development training. It’s outcome driven and folks have to put skin in the game to participate.

Discussion occurred about restaurants and farmers markets that source locally grown food and it was shared that the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP) works on the consumer end to connect communities to their farmers.

Discussion occurred about the high level of development pressure pushing farmers out due to the high cost of land. Allies throughout the region provide support and outreach to farmers.

Dr. Milton Byrd shared that the new Hemp Commission has just passed their rules and regulations. The ASAP and the Organic Growers School can provide models to help develop farm enterprises that will be needed for that production.

- B. Transportation Demand Management Program –Ritchie Rozzelle, TDM Coordinator, shared that the program helps employers get their employees to work. Transportation modes are shifting into the future. Currently, it is single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips, but in the future, it might be multi-people, self-driving car travels, etc. Dating back to the 1970s, TDM is a set of principles and strategies to help to get folks to work and decrease volume demands on our roads, improving the environmental impact of traffic and in this transportation region, offers choices beyond SOV, providing a dual ability to grow workforce and mitigate traffic congestion. Key tactics include connected transit, vanpool, carpool, and active transportation among others. In WNC, Using TDM principles can overcome transportation obstacles to employment and growth. Tactics that reduce traffic provide: access and mobility essential to a higher quality of life, a reliably on-time and present workforce, the ability to hire from larger areas or a previously home-bound applicant pool, reduced parking demands in city and town centers, alignment of business interests with themes of environmental responsibility, increased ridership of existing transit options, and decreased emissions improving air quality. Ritchie Rozzelle shared that transportation costs range between 15-20% of family income, varies greatly subject to fuel costs affecting household stability, etc. Program goals include increasing the number of carpool and Park & Ride users, working with local industries to offer reliable and replicable vanpool models, increasing the number of bike/walk commutes, and introducing employers to ongoing TDM consulting services, etc. The online presence for the TDM program is www.gomountain.org. He shared about Transylvania Vocational Services in Brevard whose workforce is about 80% disabled. The program has been working with them to develop a vanpool service. Grant funding is being sought for that initiative. The TVS model could be replicated for other businesses.

VI. Old Business

XIII. New Business

XIV. Executive Director's Report –

A. 2017 Meeting Locations – Justin Hembree shared that some of the Board of Delegates meetings will be held off-site during 2017. Information will be distributed about hosted meeting sites.

B. Annual Meeting: Justin Hembree shared that the annual meeting for the election of officers will be March 29th. A request will go out soon for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Erica Anderson introduced Kyle Guie who is LOSRC's newest Planner.

XV. Important Dates – The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, February 22, 2017.

XIV. Adjournment – Chairwoman Mennella adjourned the meeting with no further business before the Board.



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** January FY2017 Treasurer's Report
- Item Number:** X. Consent Agenda, Item A
- Responsible Party:** Vickie Thomas, Finance Director
- Attachment(s):** January FY2017 Treasurer's Report
- Background:** Attached is the January FY2017 Treasurer's Report. The report outlines year-to-date revenues and expenditures. Also included is cash balance informaton, fund balance reporting, and member dues information.
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend acceptance of January's FY2017 Treasurer's Report.
- Suggested Motion(s):** The Treasurer's Report, if not pulled, will be accepted as part of the motion to approve the consent agenda.

**Land of Sky Regional Council
Treasurer's Report
January, 2017**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<u>YTD Report of Receipts & Expenditures</u>		
Total Annual Budget	<u>\$ 15,156,906</u>	
Year-to-Date Revenues	\$ 6,134,861	40.48%
Year-to-Date Expenditures	(6,241,294)	41.18%
Grant/Contract Cash Balance	<u>\$ (106,433)</u>	
Year-to-Date Target Percent		58.33%

Cash Balance Report

Total Cash Balance at beginning of month	\$ 1,892,288
Cash Received during month	1,271,443
Cash Expenditures for month	<u>(940,750)</u>
Total Cash Balance at end of month	<u>\$ 2,222,981</u>

Fund Balance Report at 6/30/15 (Audited)

Unassigned	\$ 421,440
Restricted-Stabilized by State Statute	683,850
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$ 1,105,290</u>

Assessments (Dues) Report

YTD Billed to Member Governments, 3rd quarter	\$ 163,719
Collected to Date	<u>(163,719)</u>
Balance Due	<u>\$ -</u>



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

- Subject:** 2017 Mayors and County Officials Recognition of National Service, April 4th
- Item Number:** XI. Presentation/Recognition; Item A.
- Responsible Party:** Ann Whisenhunt, Senior Companion Program Manager
- Attachment(s):** Registration
- Background:** The nation's mayors and county officials are increasingly turning to national service as a cost-effective strategy to address local challenges. By unleashing the power of citizens, Senior Corps programs have a positive and lasting impact – making our cities and counties better places to live. To spotlight the impact of national service and thank those who serve, mayors and county officials will participate in the fifth-annual Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service on **April 4, 2017**.
- The initiative is led by the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, Cities of Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- Staff Recommendation:** Registration from all Mayors/County Officials in Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, Transylvania Co.
- Suggested Motion(s):** There is no necessary motion for this item

Register for the 2017 Recognition Day for National Service

Please fill out the following form with your event details. This information will not be displayed publicly on our site or any other media.

Mayor or County Executive's or Tribal Leader's First Name *

What is your mayor or county executive's or tribal leader's first name?

Mayor or County Executive's or Tribal Leader's Last Name *

What is your mayor or county executive's or tribal leader's last name?

Title *

What is your exact title (Mayor, County Mayor, County Supervisor, Tribal Leader, etc.)?

Mayor or County Executive's or Tribal Leader's Email

Facebook Account URL

Twitter Handle/Account

Jurisdiction Name *

What is your city/county/tribe?

State *

What is your state?

Zip Code *

What is your zip code?

Is the Mayor/County Executive/Tribal Leader An AmeriCorps Alum?

Yes

No

Not Sure

What Jurisdiction do you Represent? *

County Officials: County | Mayors: City | Tribal Leaders: Tribe

Please describe your jurisdiction if you selected "Other" above

Term of Service Dates

What are the term dates for the elected official or tribal leader?

Start of Term

Use Month and Year (eg. September 2014)

End of Term

Use Month and Year (eg. August 2016)



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Outreach from NC Department of Insurance – Western Regional Office

Item Number: XI. Presentations/Recognition; Item B.

Responsible Party: April Riddle, Deputy Commissioner

Attachment(s):

Background: The NC Department of Insurance has trained experts who can answer questions about any kind of insurance. The agency regulates the insurance industry in the state, provides consumer assistance and houses the office of the State Fire Marshall..

Staff Recommendation: None

Suggested Motion(s): None



BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Executive Director's Report

Item Number: XIII. Executive Director's Report

Responsible Party: Justin Hembree, Executive Director

Attachment(s):

Background: The following items will be presented as part of the Executive Director's Report:

- A. Nominating Committee
- B. Executive Committee/Officers
- C. March Meeting Location

Staff Recommendation: N/A.

Suggested Motion(s): N/A