

Georgia Council on American Indian Concerns  
Historic Preservation Division  
VIA ZOOM  
Agenda  
Regular Meeting

June 9, 2021 1:30 p.m.

**Call to Order**

*Present:* Crews, Mccrary, Wood, McCormick, Kirkland,  
Altman & Jones

*Guests:* Vonnie McCormick, Kyra Matthews, Jane  
Winkler

*Invocation:* Frances Crews

*Approval of minutes:* Unanimous

*Treasurer's Report:* Funds were encumbered for webpage and  
other work; advertisements etc. Most funds  
spent down. Next round of funding to Be  
about the same.

*Reports from the Tribes*

- Lower Muscogee Tribes See Attached Report
- Georgia Tribe of Eastern Cherokees The are working hard and rebuilding booths,  
their April Powwow was very successful. 2  
presentations have been scheduled for youth;  
working with elected officials about the Twin  
Pines mining issue.
- The Cherokee of Georgia Tribal  
Council Everything is still on hold from the pandemic.

*Communications to the Council:*

Emails via web site – McCormick  
Telephone calls -- Altman  
Mail – Bouzigard  
Archaeo Notifications – Altman

Rachel Black reported to the council. See  
attached email notification.

*New Business:*

Braves event to be held June 30, at Truist field. Details to be provided

*Old Business*

Work with the ATL Braves  
Webpage updates

Positive interactions continue.  
The Website designer is working with DNR tech person to edit and finalize the web page.  
Altman to write up landing page info for GA tribes page.

*Announcements:*

Working on a Heritage Day or Month proclamation.

Next meeting 8/11/2021

*Adjourned:*

2:15

# **Council on American Indian Concerns**

**Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe Report:**

**June 9, 2021**

**We are continuing to work on the Tribe's Aquaponics Project. We have just purchase 100 fingerling Catfish for tank number two. We have 2,400 cups in systems one and two.**

**Continuing to attend the Family First Prevention Webinars. These are highly informative sections.**

**Continuing to work with Fair Count. Setting appointments with the two new Senators and bringing them up on the Tribes in the State of Georgia and what our needs are.**

**Elders Council with the Natural Resource Conservation Services. This is the only Elders Council that is still in existence with USDA. There are many programs available. It is important That our people learn the process and time schedules for all these programs.**

**I am continuing to work with Four Directions on Civic issue. We are continuing to make sure our people are registered to vote, will have transportation, and understand the issues at hand.**

**We hosted 4 Elders from Muskogee Nation. They talked about the need to come to Georgia and connect with their ancestors. We sang in the Muskogee Language; they were curious about us and how we had survived over the years. I spoke to them about the East and the West needing to reconnect and they very much agreed. Dr. Bigpond had sent me two of his books and he had signed them. Each of them expressed that this would not be the last time they came to see me.**

**Next year for the National Day of Prayer we are planning for Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe, Muskogee Nation and two other Tribes to pray together for the event. We agreed that we would not allow the Eastern and Western Creek to be separate. They presented me with a ring that is an arrow. This would represent them on one end praying and me on the other end praying**

**We will be starting our Youth Council on Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. This program will go all summer. We will meet each Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The children will arrive on Thursday by 4 pm and meet until 9 pm. On Friday they will come in at 8 am eating a light breakfast, have a short meeting concerning the day. They will be making gardening tools out of shell and wood handles, an axe out of a shell and will be planting tomatoes, beans and squash. (It is too late to plant corn in our area). The children will learn to finger weave sashes from yarn and weave a place mat or basket. We will be speaking Muskogee language to them the entire time. They will have language classes. Learning to play stick ball and making their own set of sticks. There will be a big camp feed every night that the parents will come to and then take the children to the Social Square to Stomp Dance and play stick ball.**

**I will be in Washington DC June 23 – 26. Will have meeting in the House and Senate and I will be speaking at the Buffalo Soldier Event.**



MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

JEFF COWN  
DIRECTOR

May 28, 2021

Heidi Altman  
Georgia Council on Indian Concerns  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Rm 1003 Carroll Building  
Georgia Southern University  
P.O. Box 8051  
Statesboro, Georgia 30460-8051

Dear Dr. Altman,

I am writing to notify the Georgia Council on Indian Concerns of excavations in Dawson County by the University of North Georgia, Department of History, Anthropology, and Philosophy. Dr. William Balco will be directing pedestrian survey, shovel test survey, and stratigraphic excavations using hand tools of no more than 100 square meters at 9DW276 (Rice Site) as part of UNG's Summer archaeology field school. Archaeological site 9DW276 is located on privately owned land and dates to the Middle Woodland to Mississippian Periods. Field work will take place from May 24 to June 25, 2021.

Sincerely,

Rachel Black  
State Archaeologist  
Office of the State Archaeologist  
Parks and Historic Sites Division  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources



**STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES**

MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

JEFF COWN  
DIRECTOR

May 28, 2021

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Georgia Council on Indian Concerns  
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Statesboro, Georgia 30460-8051

Dear Dr. Altman,

I am writing to notify the Georgia Council on Indian Concerns of the discovery of possible human remains on Saint Catherine's Island, Liberty County, Georgia by sea turtle researchers. The Georgia Office of the State Archaeologist was contacted by Sargent Cindy Miller with DNR Law Enforcement regarding a call she had received from Liberty County Sheriff's Detective Tracy Jennings regarding the discovery. The researcher indicated to Detective Jennings that he and his team had encountered a bone eroding from a sand bar while conducting a survey of sea turtle nesting sites on Saint Catherine's Island. Since Saint Catherine's is a privately owned island with an established archaeological program, the researcher notified "the archaeologists". Based in the location of the bone, not in an area with known burials, the archaeologists declined further involvement. The possible remains were secured in the archaeological facility on Saint Catherine's Island. Since the Saint Catherine's Island archaeologists declined involvement, the Georgia Office of the State Archaeologist recommended the Liberty County Sheriff's office confirm whether the remains are human and if this constitutes a forensics case. If the Council would like to pursue a different course of action, I am happy to facilitate that with the Liberty County Sheriff's Department.

Sincerely,

Rachel Black  
State Archaeologist  
Office of the State Archaeologist  
Parks and Historic Sites Division  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources