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| Georgia Council on American INDIAN CONCERNS | |
| mEETING minutes | |
| Date: | September 6, 2023 |
| Location: | Zoom |
| Time: | 11:30am |

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| **Council Members Present**  Nealie McCormick, Chair  Donald Kirkland, Vice Chair  Heidi Altman  Royce McCrary  Terry Raber  Christian Dane – Executive Assistant (non-member) | **Guests Present**  Mary Barmore  Vonnie McCormick  Paul Brannen  Rhonda Bennett  Sherry Richardson |

# Approval of minutes

The meeting minutes for the meeting on June 24th were distributed for review and approved unanimously via a motion made by Terry Raber with a second by Royce McCrary.

# Tribe Reports

**Lower Muscogee Creek Tribe**

Report provided by Chief Vonnie McCormick

1) We had a free vision clinic service for people 55 and older.

2) We have received our third-year approval for funds on our 5-year cycle for our Vocational Rehabilitation Program.  We can train and put people back into gainful employment. This is our 23rd year.

3) We had our Little Green Corn Ceremony

4) Attended training on Census.

5) I have been setting up the hotel for the Governors’ Interstate Indian Council for November 12th.

6) The Tribe has been approved and is set up to receive funding for the Muskogee Language program.  This is direct funding from Congress.  We have produced our third quarter workbook.

7) Starting Friday, September 8, 2023, we are starting a lady’s night on Health Issues.  Dr. Sherry Rowe will be speaking on health issues.  We will enjoy a meal and have a craft to learn. This is to bring our ladies together.

8) Valdosta State University has communicated with the Tribe regarding We talked how we can organize and scan (persevere) our documents.

**Georgia Tribe of Eastern Cherokee**

Report provided by Co-Chief Rhonda Bennett

I am meeting with UNG president tomorrow about ideas for promoting things in county and coordinating with the university to work towards building a heritage center.

**Cherokee of Georgia Tribal Council**

Report provided by Tribal Council member Paul Brannen

We have our next powwow October 6-7.

Sept 23 – Chinese Cultural Exchange program presentation at Gwinnett Arts Center. I will wear regalia and perform a song or two at the event.

# project Reports

**Teaching Trunks**

Discussion on what to do with trunks. Christian to secure an archaeological trunk and Indian trunk for Council to view at October meeting in person.

**Remains Transfer**

Alice will provide update soon.

**Council Records**

Camryn will be hired soon to do this.

# External communication report

Over 100 emails and phone calls related to heritage/membership, speaking engagements, burial mounds, etc…

Website has been updated to reflect most current, accurate information.

**BUSINESS**

**DFCS Update**

Mary Barmore, from DFCS, provides Council with update related to their data collection on tribal members.

**Georgia Tribe of Eastern Cherokee Discussion**

Discussion was had about how to proceed. Christian to send Recommended Guidelines for State Recognition of Indian Tribes to Council.

**October Meeting Location**

Next meeting to be held in Jekyll Island on either October 14-16 or October 21-23. Christian to finalize details as soon as possible.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Terry Raber and seconded by Heidi Altman. Council approves unanimously. Meeting concludes at 12:43pm.