

**Gordon County Historic Preservation  
February 1, 2016**

**Members Present**

Kenny Padgett, Chairman  
Betty Ann Surdykowski, Vice Chairman  
Jeff Henderson  
David Mitchell

**Staff Present**

Ursula Desrosier, Planning & Development  
Sandy Padgett, Secretary

**Guests**

John King, County Administrator

**Regular Meeting**

Betty Ann Surdykowski called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m., welcoming all in attendance. Minutes from January 4, 2016 meeting were presented for review and approval. Kenny Padgett made motion to approve; seconded by Jeff Henderson. All voted aye.

**Commission Reports**

Jeff Henderson researched via Gordon County website's mapping system, to try and determine ownership of property that Nelson Cemetery is located on. Information was forwarded via email to commission members. (Copy filed with minutes) Jeff Henderson suggests obtaining deed information on property by visiting the Clerk's Office and researching deed information.

David Mitchell spoke with a neighbor who has adjoining property to Nelson Cemetery who would like to see the cemetery cleaned up.

Jeff Henderson had documents to share with HPC concerning the post office project he has been working on.

Chairman Padgett informed HPC that effective Tuesday, February 2, 2016, pending approval by Board of Commissioners; Gordon County will officially have control of Resaca Battlefield Site. The site will be operated under Gordon County Parks & Recreation department.

County Administrator John King gave a brief overview of progression of Resaca Battlefield Site since his tenure as County Administrator. Don Holley, Gordon County Parks & Recreation Director, will be in charge of the day to day operations of the site. Board Commissioners along with several county department heads toured the site on Friday, January 29, 2016. The Board of Commissioners was very pleased with the site. County Attorney, John Ledbetter, has drafted a resolution of acceptance. Joe Yaegar, Regional Operations Director, will be in attendance to address the Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 prior to their vote to accept the site from the State of Georgia.

Mr. King stated once the County has taken control of the property he will be authorized to apply resources to the site. One of the items that have been discussed to purchase is an automatic gate, opening the park at dawn and closing at dusk. Park benches may be purchased for the site as well as having pavilions on the site in the future. Once the County accepts the site the power will have to be turned over to Gordon County. Mr. King has asked Barry Hice, Director of Public Works, to place a traffic counter at the site. Brian McClellan, IT Director, will be preparing a website for individuals to obtain about the site. Operating schedule is tentatively Friday – Sunday, which can be expanded or collapsed depending on interest of the community.

Mr. King stated HPC will be responsible for overseeing policies of the site and to make recommendations to Board of Commissioners for park usage. Chairman Padgett has been working on HPC's mission draft for HPC, which has been sent to HPC via email. (Copy filed with minutes).

Jeff Henderson questioned the role of the Friends of Resaca. County Administrator John King gave a brief overview of Friends of Resaca and HPC roles concerning the Resaca Battlefield Site.

John King stated Board of Commissioners has placed funding through Parks and Recreation for the maintenance, insurance, utilities and the day to day operations of the site.

Chairman Padgett asked John King for a time to be set by the BOC for the May 13, 2016 grand opening; time needed for a publishing deadline this upcoming Thursday, February 4, 2016.

HPC briefly discussed positive impacts the Resaca Battlefield Site will have upon the Resaca area and Gordon County.

### **New Business**

Chairman Padgett encouraged HPC members to review the draft copy of the by-laws and email him with any concerns. The by-laws still need to be reviewed by Ursula Desrosier, Tom Burgess and Jim Ledbetter. Final draft will be presented to HPC for approval at the next scheduled HPC meeting in March.

Chairman Padgett presented a document, Resaca Battlefield Historic Site Agreements and Conservation Easement, for the HPC to review.

Vice Chairman Surdykowski questioned about phone service at the site. Chairman Padgett stated 911 phone service was tested this past Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, at the site. If 911 is called from northern end of park it will call Whitfield County 911; logistics will be worked out concerning this particular situation. Overall cell service is good at the site.

Jeff Henderson made motion for Kenny Padgett to be reappointed as Chairman and Betty Ann Surdykowski to be reappointed as Vice Chairman; seconded by David Mitchell. All voted aye.

## **Adjournment**

Next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 7, 2016 @ 5:30 p.m.. Jeff Henderson made motion to adjourn; seconded by David Mitchell. All voted aye.

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Kenny Padgett, Chairman

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Betty Ann Surdykowski, Vice Chairman

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Sandy Padgett, Secretary