

**GAINESVILLE-HALL METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
ORIENTATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
GEORGIA MOUNTAINS CENTER
JANUARY 9, 2004**

**CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Members present: Ken Cochran, Maurice Robbins, Bruce Hallowell, Jim Syfan, Phil Kinsey, Harold Goss, Doris Evans, Frank Simpson, Cooper Embry, Amos Goudelock, Berlinda Lipscomb, Dr. J. R. Wright, Charles Mensinger, and Hugh Tyner

Members absent: Lee Steigele, Mack Jones, Bryan Puckette

Staff present: Bill Meyer, John McHenry, Livvy Cotton

Others present: Ruth Bruner, George Wangemann

CALL TO ORDER Bill Meyer, Temporary Chairman

MINUTES OF

Motion:

The following Minutes are not a verbatim transcript of the January 9, 2004, meeting of the Gainesville-Hall County MPO Citizens Advisory Committee. An audio tape of the meeting is available in the office of the Hall County Planning Department and may be reviewed by the public upon appointment or a duplicate copy of the tape will be provided in accordance with Government in the Sunshine recommendations and regulations, including fees charged for services rendered.

1. WELCOME

Mr. Meyer introduced himself and advised that since this is the first meeting and in the absence of an elected chairman, he would be happy to open the meeting. Mr. Meyer then suggested that items 2. and 3. on the Agenda be reversed.

2. MEETING TIMES FOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Meyer advised that in trying to coordinate the meetings of this committee with all other obligations, that it has been recommended that the CAC meet on the fourth Thursday of February, April, July and October at 4:00 p.m. in the Development Services Building (Community Service Center) conference room as indicted in the Bylaws. A brief discussion followed.

Motion: Mr. Syfan made a motion to approve the dates and time indicated in the Bylaws. The motion received a second from Mr. Hallowell and passed by unanimous vote.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Meyer then opened the floor for nominations for the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman. Elections will be good for the first year of the organization

Chairman: Ken Cochran entered the name of Maurice Robbins in nomination for Chairman with there being no further nominations.

Motion: Mr. Cochran made a motion approve the nomination of Maurice Robbins for the position of Chairman. The motion received a second from Bruce Hallowell and passed by unanimous vote.

Vice Chairman: Maurice Robbins placed the name of Ken Cochran in nomination for Vice Chairman. Mr. Jim Syfan was also nominated for the position of Vice Chairman by Hugh Tyner but declined the nomination.

Motion: Mr. Robbins made a motion approve the nomination of Ken Cochran for the position of Vice Chairman. The motion received a second from Bruce Hallowell and passed by unanimous vote.

At this point in the meeting Mr. Meyer asked that those present introduce themselves, give a brief work history, and specify the individual who made their appointment.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Dr. Wright questioned the staggered term identified under Article III – Composition and a discussion followed. Mr. Meyer suggested going back to the appointing authority and having them designate either two or three year terms so that no one rotates off after one year. In other words, each jurisdiction should stagger their appointments so that they are not on the same cycle. The multiple appointees by Hall County and the City of Gainesville could be staggered half and half. These Bylaws have been reviewed by DOT and are pretty much parallel with others being used throughout the state.

Mr. Meyer then addressed the newly elected chairman and commented he thought it would be a good idea to go back and more clearly define this paragraph. Mr. Robbins responded he agreed and suggested that a motion to approve the Bylaws be entertained realizing that this modification will be made.

Motion: Mr. Hugh Tyner made a motion to adopt the bylaws as presented, subject to the specified modification. The motion received a second from Mr. Hallowell and passed by unanimous vote.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PLANNING BOUNDARY

Mr. Meyer explained this is basically the recommendation from the Citizens and Technical Committees defining the planning area boundary for the Gainesville-Hall County MPO. There is a small portion of the Atlanta urbanized area that comes into South Hall County. A small portion of the Gainesville urbanized area actually goes into Forsyth County; one is across Browns Bridge Road and the other across Dawsonville Highway. A tentative agreement has been worked out between ARC and the Gainesville-Hall County MPO. Mr. Meyer further explained that during future meetings the CAC will be seeing documents from ARC further defining how this will be worked out so that all of Gainesville-Hall County will be under this MPO. Mr. Meyer recommended that this resolution be adopted, knowing that this situation will be resolved by the policy committee in a very short while.

Motion: Berlinda Lipscomb made a motion to adopt the resolution depicting the Planning Boundary as presented, subject to the noted exceptions. The motion received a second from Mr. Syfan and passed by unanimous vote.

6. UPCOMING MEETING DATE

Mr. McHenry advised the next meeting date will be **February 26, 2004.**

7. OTHER

- Mr. Meyer advised there has been a request for a roster of committee members and that one will be provided as soon as possible. It was not presented today as there are still two pending appointments to be made by the City of Flowery Branch. As soon as those names are submitted, the roster will be mailed to all CAC members.
- Mr. Syfan asked how CAC members go about putting items on the Agenda. Who will the contact be and how can he/she be reached. Mr. Meyer then introduced John McHenry who is the Transportation Planner. Mr. McHenry will be coordinating all MPO activities. Mr. McHenry commented committee members should not be shy about introducing all topics they feel need to be discussed; however, there will be many major focus items to be considered, especially during this first year of operation.
- The major focus items already defined are the Unified Planning Work Program, the Long Range Transportation Plan, and the Transportation Improvement Program. The DOT has already hired a consultant who is already working to put those items together.
- Mr. Tyner questioned staffing and Mr. Meyer advised that currently he and John McHenry are assigned to this project. Other members of both the Gainesville and Hall County Planning Departments are assisting on a part-time basis. GIS staff and facilities are also being utilized for data needs. Future staffing needs have not yet been mapped out.
- Mr. Tyner also questioned PL funding and Mr. Meyer followed with a brief explanation.

- A brief question-and-answer session followed regarding the new Comprehensive Plan, the possibility of additional meetings not currently scheduled, the duration of meetings, etc. Mr. Meyer addressed each item as presented.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice Robbins, Chairman

Olivia Cotton,
Planning Commission Clerk
City of Gainesville