



**Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway
Corridor Management Entity (CME)**
Minutes from July 17, 2013 meeting
City of Webster – 11 AM
49 SE 1st Street, Webster, FL

- I. **Call to Order and introduction of guests:** Meeting was called to order by Chair, Dan McCormic. Others in attendance included Joyce Hanson (VFW 10137), Gayle Teerman (SCORE and Native Americans), Ellen Didion (Sumter Sunshine Community Foundation), Kelly Williams (Mayor of City of Webster), Paul Remis (City of Webster, Dade Battlefield SP, Sumter Historic Society), Donna Lester (UF/IFAS Extension), Bruce Root (SCPW), Betsy Morris (Elite Brokers), Dell Morris (Elite Brokers), Bob Finck (Atkins, N.A.), Mike Palozzi (CB&I) and Garry Balogh (FDOT).

- II. **Review of June 19, 2013 Minutes** – Gayle made a motion to approve as written with Paul as second.

- III. **Coast to Coast Trail - Dan**
 - A. **Lake County Trails Program - public committee representative** – At last month’s meeting Mike Woods (Lake/Sumter MPO) indicated that there was an opportunity for someone from the Scenic Byway to sit on the public committee that meets to discuss the Trails program in Lake County. Ellen volunteered to be the Byway representative. Bob said that he would find out more details from Mike and send to her.
 - B. **Greenways and Trails Foundation quarterly retreat social – August 1-** The Byway’s executive committee members were invited to this event/gathering to network and share ideas with GTF board members regarding local and regional trail opportunities. Joyce said she will attend representing the Byway and Kelly will be attending representing the City of Webster.

- IV. **Marketing Committee Report - Bob**
 - A. **Designation Celebration (Oct.19) Planning** – Paul mentioned that the Bushnell Fall Festival was scheduled for October 19th and it would probably be better for the Byway to participate in this festival (information booth) than compete with it (with its own event). The group agreed. Additional group discussion resulted in consensus that it would be better to postpone the celebration event until January (after the reenactment at Dade Battlefield SP) when the best attendance could occur.
 1. **Dade Battlefield?** – DBSP had not been contacted yet due to a misunderstanding of who would call. The group agreed this would be a great place to hold this event and Mike said he would contact the park manager to inquire about availability.

B. Presentations to other groups – info – Garry has tasked Mike and Bob to help create an informational presentation for the Byway to use when visiting groups/clubs/organizations along the Byway. Before it is finalized, the committee has begun to identify groups to visit.

1. **Villages Club listings (reduced)** – Bob has reviewed the list of all clubs and organizations within The Villages (Dawn had provided) and reduced it to only those that may have similar interests with the Byway. The current list includes 2 bicycle, 2 motorcycle, 7 car, 4 photography and several wildlife, hiking, birding and fishing clubs that may be worth contacting.

2. **Motorcycle groups / RV parks** – Joyce has contacted several local groups/clubs since our last meeting and informed them of our Byway CME and intentions to present to them when possible. All responses were positive and she has a list of when their meetings occur. Most of them suggested fall will be the best time to present.

3. **Webster Travel Park and Florida Grand** – Kelly said that her and Judie Mueller have a good relationship with these groups and will check with them about presenting.

C. Next meeting schedule - The next meeting will be Monday July 29th at 11am at the Beef O' Brady's in Bushnell.

V. Signing Plan Update – Bob reported that Atkins engineers are currently working on the plan for placement of Florida Scenic Byway signs along the Byway and expect for them to be installed before the Fall Festival in October.

VI. Incorporation Application Info- Bob

A. Articles of Incorporation signatures – The completed AOI document is ready for signatures from Joyce and Dan but was not available at this meeting due to a miscommunication error. They will be signed at the marketing Committee meeting on July 29 instead.

B. Funding opportunities – Explore Sumter / other – Dan presented Joyce with a check for \$500 as a donation from Explore Sumter to the Byway for funding of the State Corporation and federal non-profit (501c3) application fees (photos were taken for Facebook). Gayle mentioned that there may be funds available from the TDC that should be applied for once Corporate/non-profit status is achieved.

VII. Achieving Excellence – FDOT District 5 Accreditation Program – Garry explained to the group that now that they have received official FSHP designation he would like for them to participate in the FDOT District 5 Accreditation Program. This program is the only one like it in the State and promotes long term sustainability of byway organizations through compliance with 24 different Best Management Practices in order to achieve three separate levels of Accreditation. Participation in the program allows for FDOT funding priority for the CME. Garry will provide training within the next few months from his Accreditation consultant team.

VIII. District Scenic Highways Coordinator Report – Garry updated the group on the plans for the District Scenic Highway Coordinator Quarterly Meeting in Sumter County in October. The actual Date has not been set yet, but Mike will check with the Dade Battlefield SP about hosting this meeting one or more days during the workweek. A quick presentation from the CME to start the meeting is encouraged. He also mentioned that the FSHP three-year work plan is almost complete and will focus on economic development of byway communities.

IX. Public Comment/Round Table Discussion – Dan mentioned that the Panfish Challenge fishing tourney this past Saturday at Lake Pan was a big success (but General Sumter was not caught). The results and more info can be found on the Florida's Great Lake website <http://www.floridasgreatlake.com/>

- Joyce reminded the group that the Byway will be the presenter at the Chamber Luncheon in September, and that the segment of CR476B from the Florida National Cemetery to I-75 will be the roadway that the Byway will represent in the county's Adopt-A-Highway program.
- Bruce informed the group that Deb Barsell will be retiring from the county on August 1st. The group all agreed that she would be missed.
- Betsy and Dell Morris told the group that they are both originally from the southern Sumter County area and are very supportive of the CME and the newly designated scenic highway corridor. Betsy actually attended the very first CAG meeting at the VFW many years ago. They own a local real estate company (Elite Brokers) and have professional and personal interests in the continued successes and preservation of the historic charm of southern Sumter County. They are very busy with their business but would like to participate with the CME whenever they have the time. The entire group expressed their pleasure and appreciation for meeting such nice people and great representatives of the local business community.

X. Adjournment

XI. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 21, 2013, 11:00 a.m. at Catfish Johnny's in Lake Panasoffkee.

Respectfully submitted through: Dawn A. Cary, Secretary/Treasurer