Building Tomorrow ~ Preserving Today

Newton County Tomorrow
Executive Board Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2025 8:00AM

Executive Committee Members:

- Debbie Harper (Chairman)
  Fleeta Baggett (Vice Chairman)
- Nancy Schulz (Secretary/Treasurer)
  David Eady
- Michael Patterson
- ~~Gregg Ellwanger~~ Denise Spitler
- Blair Northen
  Marcello Banes
- Mike Hopkins
- Dr. Duke Bradley, III-via zoom
- Shamica Tucker

At-Large Seat Members:

Lindsey Petrini
Avis E. Williams
Duane Ford
Laura Gafnea
Michael Barr
Serra Hall
Stephanie R. Lindsey
Dr. Tavarez Holston

Hillary Edgar - Legal

Guest: Trey Bailey

Welcome & Call-to-Order : Debbie Harper, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05am

- Michael Patterson moved to approve AGENDA. Second, by Mike Hopkins. Unanimously approved.

Old Business:

- Michael Patterson moved to approve January 2024 Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mike Hopkins. Unanimously approved. Discussion by Michael Patterson that although the minutes are correct, subsequent to the meeting Porterdale City Council voted not to Opt out of HB581 and therefore no public meetings were held.
  Additionally, a consensus of the members agreed that **approved** minutes will be sent to all council members, commissioners and stakeholders.
- Nancy Schulz moved to approve December 2024 Financial Report. Second, by Michael Patterson. Unanimously approved.

New Business/Action Items:

Meeting Dates for Governance Unity Group. A consensus of the members to host meetings after the Executive Board Meeting every other month. A meeting is scheduled with Michael Patterson, Trey Bailey and Jeffrey Burke on February 24 to discuss a potential retreat and meetings with newly elected officials.

Matters of the Members:

- Mike Hopkins announced that Board Member/Chair Terry Smith passed away and Elsie Bell has agreed to serve as Chair of the NCWSA
- Michael Patterson announced that Porterdale is gearing up for monthly food truck nights. Additionally, Porterdale is working with GDOT on the bridge replacement which will be a 2yr project. During the project the road will be limited to one lane traffic. Porterdale will be hosting their retreat to discuss spending remaining 2017 SPLOST allocation and a possible Welcome Center
- Denise Spitler reported that Newborn celebrated Arbor Day February 15 by planting trees honoring Newborn residents who recently passed away.
- Shamica Tucker reported that recent HUD inspection recommended that Covington Housing Authority be a model for housing authorities.
- Dr. Duke Bradley thanked members for attending the State of the District meeting, a very powerful moment for our community.

Adjourn Michael Patterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33am. Mike Hopkins seconded.

Next Meeting: Executive Committee: March 21 2025 8:00am