

## **Governmental Affairs Committee**

Tellico Village POA

Minutes of the Meeting on Feb 9, 2021

The meeting of the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) was called to order at 2:00 pm on Feb. 9, 2021 by Susan Kirk.

### ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Susan Kirk, Tom Lee, Carey Brown, Sharon Jones **Absent:** Ray Byers, Tom McCrystal

POA Liaison Rick Blough. Visitor Mark Pantley (HOA VP Advocacy)

### REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Meeting minutes of January 12, 2021 were approved.

### CONTINUATION OF PREVIOUS TOPICS

#### **Volunteer Hours and Contributions**

In addition to organization contacts (e.g. churches, civic groups), GAC will solicit individual hours and contributions (e.g. The Good Samaritan Center, CASA) through a regular notice in the Telegram. We especially need this information from Kahite. *John Baucom and Tom McCrystal*

#### **Update on Commissioner Cullen at Conservative Group Meeting**

He is our representative at Tellico Reservoir Development Agency (TRDA). Susan led discussion about TRDA and TVA issues, such as process and proposals for change. We do not have a commercial marina, but Tennessee National, a similar community may build one. This could put us at a competitive disadvantage. The committee agreed to invite Cullen to a future meeting.

#### **Integrity of Voting System**

According to Representative Russell, no Dominion machines were used in the county. A system not connected to the Internet was in place. No mail-in voting was permitted. The county did accept absentee ballots.

#### **Congressional Burchett is speaking Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> at Calhoun's.**

Susan Kirk volunteered to attend the meeting and provide feedback to the committee.

#### **Potential 2021 Goals**

- 1) Survey Tellico Village residents about GAC presence? Another survey topic could be about "pain points" with local government agencies. After discussion, a decision was made to have Carey continue to monitor sessions of the school board, county commissioner and planning meetings. He will bring problems to the attention of GAC. A village survey will not be pursued at this time.

- 2) Reapportionment results from the census. Rick Blough requested that the committee obtain this information and brief the POA board. Sub committee: *Susan Kirk, Tom Lee, and Ray Byers*
- 3) Create relationships with similar communities. The GAC will schedule establish contact with Rarity Bay, Tennessee National, Wind River, Foothills Point, and Fairfield Glade to determine advocacy issues in common. One example is Asian carp. The POA has informal relationships with some of them, especially Fairfield Glade. Rick asked that the committee delay meetings with other communities due to some current discussions. *John Baucom, Sharon Jones, Tom Lee*
- 4) The need for a Niles Ferry traffic light. Continue to monitor request and advocate as needed.
- 5) Increase Tellico Village voter participation in local elections to increase leverage with local politicians.
- 6) Federal, state, and county goals. State: Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) is collecting invasive carp of 9" or less caught in Tennessee waterways. It asks residents to put Bighead or Silver Carp on ice or freeze and contact the agency. Sharon will send to Tom McCrystal to be put in Telegram. County: Monitor needed improvement to highways, broadband (Kahite), and local transportation services. Meals on Wheels has refused to deliver in Tellico Village. Check with Mark Pantley, HOA for advocacy. Carey Brown will monitor county organizations (see above number 1) for issues.