



Present Mr. Joe Higgins, Chair
 Mr. Wyatt Batchelor, Vice Chair
 Ms. Samantha Brown-Parks, Secretary
 Mr. Andy Hilmes, Member
 Mr. Kevin Loncher, Member
 Ms. Meredith Magnus, Member
 Mr. Bob McMahon, Member
 Mr. John Phillips, Member
 Mr. Destry Rogers, Member
 Ms. Patricia Ross, Commissioner
 Mr. Pete Peterson, Veterans Service Board, Liaison to Foundation Board
 Mr. Mark Demers, Foundation CEO, Chief Development Officer, GDVS
 Mr. Kerry Dyer, Foundation COO, Chief Operations Officer, GDVS
 Ms. Julie Hammond, Foundation CFO, Commissioner's Executive Assistant, GDVS
 Donor (identity unknown)
 Ga. Citizen (identity unknown)

On Friday, December 27, 2024, the Veterans Service Foundation Board held a special board meeting by video/tele-conference.

There was a roll call of Board members to see who was present. The members listed above were present. Ms. Greentree notified Ms. Hammond that she was unable to attend.

Mr. Batchelor called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct officer elections and then discuss any new business any Board member wanted to discuss.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Magnus voiced some concerns about the meeting. She didn't believe the meeting was in compliance with the bylaws or the Georgia Open Meetings Act. She didn't believe there was a timely notification. It was explained to the members that the meeting was published with the Fulton County Public Message Board, which meets the requirement of the Georgia Open Meetings Act. It was not published on our website, but we can begin doing that in the future. Mr. Batchelor noted Ms. Magnus' objection to the meeting and asked Commissioner Ross to clarify that we were in compliance and could move forward with the meeting. Commissioner Ross confirmed that we could move forward.

Thursday, December 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
Minutes - Veterans Service Foundation Board Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia

Mr. Batchelor made a motion to nominate Mr. Higgins as Chair. Mr. McMahon seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Meredith Magnus	"I will not vote; this is an illegal meeting."
Wyatt Batchelor	Yes
Samantha Brown-Parks	Yes
Joe Higgins	Yes
Andy Hilmes	Yes
Kevin Loncher	Yes
Bob McMahon	Yes
John Phillips	Yes
Destry Rogers	Asked Joe if this was something he wanted to do. Joe answered in the affirmative and Mr. Rogers voted Yes.

Mr. Batchelor made a motion to nominate himself to continue as Vice Chair. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Meredith Magnus	"Objection to the meeting"
Wyatt Batchelor	Yes
Samantha Brown-Parks	Yes
Joe Higgins	Yes
Andy Hilmes	Yes
Kevin Loncher	Yes
Bob McMahon	Yes
John Phillips	Yes
Destry Rogers	Yes

Mr. Higgins made a motion to nominate Ms. Brown-Parks as Secretary. Mr. McMahon seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Meredith Magnus	"Object to the meeting"
Wyatt Batchelor	Yes
Samantha Brown-Parks	Yes
Joe Higgins	Yes
Andy Hilmes	Yes
Kevin Loncher	Yes
Bob McMahon	Yes
John Phillips	Yes
Destry Rogers	Yes

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Higgins announced the passing of Mr. Gordon Fenwick, a radio operator with the 8th Air Force during WWII. He was one of the last remaining WWII veterans in that area.

Commissioner Ross discussed the legislation we are trying to move forward this year. There is a license plate for the Georgia War Veterans Home that has never taken off. You have to have at least 1,000 prepaid license plates to move forward. If the Foundation approves, we will be requesting a broader reaching license plate that allows families and friends to show their support for veterans and the military by purchasing the license plate, and the proceeds will benefit the Foundation.

Ms. Brown-Parks made a motion to allow GDVS to proceed with changing the license plate. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Rogers asked the members to begin putting together a list of all the organizations they know of who support veterans in some way and make sure these organizations are aware of the Foundation and get them on board to help us in assisting veterans.

Mr. McMahon suggested that the Foundation Board and Veterans Service Board meet together in the near future to work through some issues and ensure the Foundation is aligned with them so that the Foundation can move forward. Mr. Higgins is going to work to put this meeting together.

After some discussion, it was decided that the Foundation will skip the January meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on February 6th at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Higgins adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:43 a.m.

The minutes were approved on February 6, 2025 with the following changes:

- Omission (Pg. 1): Ms. Magnus voiced concerns about the meeting not being in compliance with the Foundation Bylaws and Georgia Open Meetings Act. She did not receive 24-hour notice of the meeting, and the notice and agenda were not posted on the Foundation website. Mr. Batchelor asked Comm. Ross to confirm if we were in compliance. Comm. Ross stated under the Open Meetings Act we are required to publish 24 hours in advance, deferring to Ms. Hammond to confirm where publication was made. Ms. Hammond stated the notice was placed on the Fulton County Legals website. Ms. Magnus asked if it was published on the Foundation website. Ms. Hammond stated it was not, and that she does not ask Ms. May to include on our website. She and Comm. Ross both stated it had never been published on the website. Ms. Magnus asked if anyone had discussed this issue with the Attorney General's Office, and asked if there was a representative

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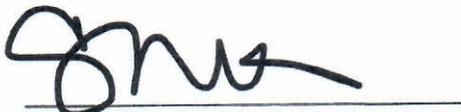
from the Attorney General's office on the call to verify compliance. Ms. Hammond stated there was not anyone from the Attorney General's office on the call, and that they were not required to attend since this is a Foundation meeting. Comm. Ross reiterated that we are in compliance with the Open Meetings law because we publish it to the public site that we are required to publish it to. Ms. Magnus asked how donors would know about that site. Ms. Hammond stated there is no way donors would know about that site, and if there are any particular people that you know would like to be invited to our meetings you can send me their email address and I will add them to the invitation, so the main people that are informed specifically about our meetings are the ones I know want to be invited... Ms. Magnus asked, so a donor cannot find this anywhere easily on the website, plug in and know what is going on with the Foundation board meetings, nor can the legislators, is that correct? Ms. Hammond stated the notices could be posted on the website in the future, and if legislators are interested in anything they contact us and ask us for information.

- Omission (Pg. 1): Mr. Batchelor stated that Ms. Magnus had been informed of the meeting in a scheduling email sent on December 18th, but did not respond. Ms. Magnus stated she did not receive a scheduling email. Later in the meeting, Mr. Batchelor apologized that in looking at the scheduling email chain he had not included her.
- Omission (Pg. 1): Mr. Batchelor asked if Ms. Magnus wanted an Attorney General representative in attendance at our next meeting. The decision was made to invite a representative to the Foundation meetings to make certain we are in compliance with the law.
- Omission (Pg. 1): Ms. Magnus stated she objected to the meeting continuing, and that it should be rescheduled until we are certain we are in compliance. Mr. Batchelor noted Ms. Magnus' objection and asked Comm. Ross if we are in compliance to move forward with the meeting. Comm. Ross confirmed compliance and that we could move forward with the meeting.
- Omission (Pg. 2): Number of votes cast to allow GDVS to proceed with changing the license plate.

SIGNED:


Joe Higgins, Chair

ATTEST:


Samantha Brown-Parks, Secretary