**MEETING MINUTES**
**MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION**
**REGULAR MEETING**
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 4:00 pm
Middle Georgia Regional Commission

Executive Board Members Present:

Mayor John Harley, City of Centerville*
Councilman Clifford Holmes, City of Warner Robins*
Commissioner Sam Kitchens, Jones County*
Former Chairman Ned Sanders, Houston County *

Other Local Officials, Staff, and Stakeholders Present:

Mike Greenwald, Macon-Bibb Planning and Zoning
Michael Collins, Total Computer Solutions
Melvin Harris, Oglethorpe Power

***Denotes Voting Member or Local Government Staff Proxy for Voting Member**

Support Staff Present

Ray Clark, The Clark Group
Greg Boike, MGRC Director of Planning and Public Administration
Savannah Decker, MGRC Program Assistant
Alex Smith, MGRC Environmental and Land Use Planner
Kim Stanton, MGRC Executive Assistant

Welcome/Call to Order

Vice-Chair Clifford Holmes called the September meeting of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was determined that a quorum was not present, the committee was not able to conduct business, and so the committee began with discussion rather than business.

MGCAC 20-Year Review

Ray Clark gave an overview of the history of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition over the past 20 years. The presentation focused on the early development of the Coalition. Mr. Clark also highlighted several accomplishments and the individuals who were instrumental in spearheading the projects to bring cleaner air to Middle Georgia. Ray Clark and MGRC staff will continue working on a history document and will send out a content draft for comments.

Approval of Special Event – December 14

Greg Boike and Ray Clark reported on a special event celebration they would like to have to recognize the 20th anniversary of the MGCAC. The date they are suggesting is December 14. After further discussion, the MGRC will start working on specifics to get approval at the next meeting.

MGRC Activity Report

Greg Boike reported that the Georgia EPD was awarded $3 million for a planning grant to develop a climate pollution reduction plan. Applications for Implementation grants will be due in the first quarter of 2024.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Greg Boike proposed moving the MGCAC meeting from November 9 to November 16 to coincide with the MGRC council meeting due to a schedule conflict for many council members on November 9. Vice-Chair Holmes announced that change under his authority as acting Chairman.

Introduction of New MGRC Staff Member

Greg Boike introduced a new MGRC employee, Alex Smith, Environmental and Land Use Planner.

Discussion

Ned Sanders discussed the latest news and progress pertaining to electric vehicles, solar power, and technology independence. This included an article on micro-fibers and micro-plastics that are ending up in the environment and in our bodies, which can be harmful. More studies and research are still being conducted.

Vice-Chair Clifford Holmes asked the coalition to keep Chair Mayor Barbee in our thoughts and prayers as he recovers at home.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the September MGCAC meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

* * * * *

It was announced that the next meeting of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition will be held on October 12, 2023, at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.