Opposed were Mayor Pro-Tem Justin Tanner and Councilperson Keith Braswell who was not present, but was on the phone. Braswell cited his reason for opposition is the downsizing of the number of Council members; Tanner stated he was not in favor of the City Manager.

Attorney Kelly remarked that without unanimity, the City is at risk that the General Assembly will not approve the Charter.

"Because you’re going to be asking your local Legislative delegation to carry this before the General Assembly and if you all do not have unanimity, the City may be without a Charter and runs the risk that the City could be in serious jeopardy – not just with the Georgia Municipal Association, but with existence," explained Kelly.

Councilperson Brown remarked that the City needs to move forward.

Mayor Pro-Tem Tanner voiced his concerns about having a City Manager by saying that he doesn’t think that the City Manager should have the power to hire and fire — that should be left up to the City Council.

Kelly went on to say that there’s question as to whether or not the Charter passed in the 1980s is binding; if the 1980s Charter is not valid, then the City is operating under a 1916 Charter that is largely unconstitutional.

As an example, Kelly remarked that only men could vote with the 1916 Charter.

“I don’t want the City of Davisboro to cease to exist,” said Kelly.

Joy Norris of Moye’s Insurance followed up on Kelly’s comments by saying that in...

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**Sandersville Walks!**

*By Elizabeth Jordan - Staff Reporter*

It’s a means to get in shape while learning about all that downtown Sandersville has to offer with its rich history and a variety of points of interest ranging from architecture, to shops, to trees – Sandersville Walks!

Mario Cambardella, a Master of Landscape Architecture candidate at the University of Georgia recently discussed his project, Sandersville Walks!, with members of the Sandersville Downtown Development Authority, the Washington County Historical Society, and Washington County Regional Medical Center.

Chair of the Sandersville DDA, Trey Sheppard, remarked that the DDA wanted to do a fitness walking trail in the downtown area while the Historical Society wanted to do a walking trail to highlight historical sites.

“We got together with Mario, and sort of combined this into one project,” said Sheppard.

Cambardella followed up on Sheppard’s remarks by saying that Sandersville Walks! is the beginnings of a pedestrian master plan that the City of Sandersville could adopt.

“ Sandersville Walks! is a way to bring all this collaborative effort into one program that the City can offer for tourists, for schools in the local area, for people who want to seek out exercise routines, or maybe for other organizations that want to get involved,” said Cambardella.

In his report, Cambardella states that “walking is the oldest and most efficient, affordable, and environmentally-friendly form of transportation.”

“Walking helps to build strong communities and is the primary way that neighbors get to know one another,” said Cambardella, adding, “Walking is also great exercise and an easy way to improve your mental and physical health.”

Through his work with the Archway Project, Cambardella explained that Sandersville Walks! is a proposed urban trail system for passive recreation, transportation, cultural awareness, and beautification of the streetscape to make Sandersville and Washington County a more walkable, livable, and healthy city and community.

The two different types of trails discussed at the Sandersville DDA meeting were the fitness trail and the historical trail.

With the History Trail, Cambardella explained that map cards printed onto a heavy card stock paper could be a stand-alone take away for a participant. Points of interest on the walk include the Brown House, the Old Jail, and the Old City Cemetery, just to name a few.

Also, a QR code, or Quick Response code could be featured on the maps or at the destination points for participants to “zap” with their smartphones to learn more information about the sites via websites.

“It gives the user a little more information on the trail itself,” said Cambardella.

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A pre-session conference on the role of city government in education was held on Friday afternoon. State School Superintendent John Barge outlined some of the opportunities and challenges facing schools and the state, and participants engaged in breakout sessions to establish ways cities can address transportation spending in Georgia and projects the federal government is funding.

"Attending Mayors' Day gives us an opportunity to hear about legislation affecting our cities so we can then discuss these issues with our legislators, and it also gives us a voice in shaping GMA's legislative policies," said Mayor Andrews.

Tennille Mayor and Council will hold their workshop on Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. at Tennille City Hall. However, their regular monthly meeting will take place on Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. (Wednesday) at the Tennille Woman's Clubhouse. A representative from the Georgia Rural Water Association, Bill Powell, will be present at the meeting to discuss changes to the water/sewer rates and answer questions from the public.

Sandersville Walks!

With the fitness walk, Cambardella is comprised of two types of trails: a 5K or a One-Mile trail. The fitness walk would incorporate Washington County Regional Medical Center's "walking trail" located behind Wellness Works.

"I chose a lot of the routes because they hit the hot spots: the parks, the hospital's walking trail, amenity areas, and the downtown," said Cambardella.

Mario Cambardella is currently a Master of Landscape Architecture candidate at the University of Georgia (UGA) and expected to graduate in the spring of 2013. At UGA, he was the 2010 Bruce Rado scholarship recipient and served as a graduate assistant for the Archway Partnership for three years. Before returning to school, he worked for ValleyCrest Companies as a landscape designer, construction estimator, and project manager. Cambardella holds a professional landscape architect license in the state of Alabama, a Master of Environmental Planning and Design and a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture. His drive for design stems from his passion for creating experiences in the built environment that deliver positive ecological impacts, and provide benefits to both the social and economic capital of a place.

Davisboro Approves Proposed Charter

In an effort to help prevent the spread of flu to hospital patients, Washington County Regional Medical Center is temporarily limiting visitors. Children under the age of 12 will not be permitted to visit patients. Children under the age of 12 will not be permitted to visit patients.