



NEWS

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Citizen's Academy Graduates First Class

GLYNN COUNTY Ga, The Glynn County Citizen's Academy (GCCA) held a graduation on Monday, March 25, 2019, for its inaugural class of twenty citizens who wanted to "Get to know Glynn County." Glynn County Board of Commissioners Vice-Chairman Bill Brunson lead the class to give some of his insights into local government, took questions, and gave the participants a small gift as a thank you for completing the academy.

The GCCA began on February 7, 2019, before a Glynn County Board of Commissioners meeting and was comprised of an evening class once a week for eight weeks to give the participants a look at Glynn County operations and to meet some of the elected officials and staff that carry out day to day tasks. These classes covered revenues and spending, public safety, community development, judicial, parks, public works, and finally a session encouraging the graduates to become members of County boards and committees and information on running for office. The class was provided with a textbook with basic overviews of each department for participants to refer to and was supplemented by exercises in some classes to give a better understanding of some of the processes that take place in local government.

The GCCA is an annual program that was included in the 2017 Glynn County Strategic Plan as a way to 'enhance citizen education and engagement' and 'engage civilian talent in problem-solving roles and prepares individuals for volunteer board service.' "The feedback that we received from surveys after each session was very positive and the participants gave great suggestions about what we could do to improve the classes not only for the 2020, but from week

to week,” said Public Information Officer, Matthew Kent. “We hope this isn’t the last time we see the participants of this class engaged with their local governments.”

Applications for the 2020 Glynn County Citizen’s Academy will open on December 9, 2019, at which time dates for each class should be set to begin in late January 2020. The participants are chosen in order of application receipt as long as they are a Glynn County resident or business owner, are over 18, and can attend the class dates.

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Pictured from left to right:

Vice-Chairman Bill Brunson, Larry Johns, Tim Nelson, Cedric King, Robbie Tucker, Ernest Jones, Michael Ferguson, Tom Pfaffenbach, Michael Lehman, Ellen Smith, Julian “Puddy” Smith, Amanda Roland, Patricia Ann Lawrence, Helga Lynch, Kendra Rolle, Edward Farley, John Taylor, Kenneth Gandy

Participants not pictured:

Audrey Gibbons, Cleveland Cook, D’Wana Walker