

February 16, 2011

**Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government**

Department: N.C. Department of Cultural Resources - **Roanoke Island Commission**

Statutory Authority: GS 143B-129 through 143B-131 and 131.2 – 131.9

**Agency Mission:** The Mission of the Roanoke Island Commission is to involve residents and visitors of all ages in a creative and stimulating exploration of Roanoke Island's historical, cultural, and natural resources.

**Divisions:**

1. **Name:** Roanoke Island Commission

**Description:** The 24-member **Roanoke Island Commission** was established by legislation in 1994 to manage Roanoke Island Festival Park. The Commission is an independent commission located within the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources for historic resource management, organizational and budgetary purposes.

Roanoke Island Festival Park is a celebration of Roanoke Island's place in history as home to the first English settlements in the New World, sponsored by Sir Walter Raleigh during the years 1584 to 1587. Roanoke Island Festival Park celebrates this period through interactive, "hands on" history- made-fun. Roanoke Island Festival Park is a 27-acre island across from the Manteo waterfront on North Carolina's scenic Roanoke Island. Founded in 1982, the grounds and facilities include a representative 16th-century ship – the *Elizabeth II* – as well as living history exhibits that include educational programming for all ages. The newest exhibit is an American Indian Town, where you can explore Coastal Algonquian culture featuring, a long house, dance circle, planting and harvesting areas. The site also includes an interactive museum with 400 years of history, museum store, an art gallery, an outdoor performing arts pavilion with seating for 3,500, waterfront boardwalks and a variety of performing and visual arts offerings. Roanoke Island Festival Park is an important element of tourism for the northeast area, with over 130,000 visitors in 2009-10.

Fiscal Year 2010-11 Budget and Personnel (General Fund, only): Fund code 24802

Budget	Personnel
Total Requirements: \$1,874, 706	Total Positions: 35 *
Receipts: \$0	Received Positions: 2 - Gate Admissions
General Fund Appropriation: \$1,874,706	General Fund Supported Positions: 33

\* General Fund Appropriations is transferred to budget code 24802 Roanoke Island Festival Park for operations and salaries.