

TABLED

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA
MAR 06 2025

Resolution No. 418 (2025)

DATE

WHEREAS, The Cooper Property and hotels were purchased by the Tribe through Resolution 273 (2022), and,

WHEREAS, There is a question on how to use the Cooper Property as there was no clear intent for the use of this property, and,

WHEREAS, The land from the pasture to the river is a floodplain and is not well suited for further business development or Industrialized Agriculture, and,

WHEREAS, There have been pre-historical archeological materials discovered on the surface along the floodplain area and upslope along the pasture, and,

WHEREAS, There are a minimum of 22 plant species that are edible and medicinal for our People (see attachment), and,

WHEREAS, The land offers an ecologically diverse and rich plant landscape that is also private from the public eye under tourism which is important for those who want a place that is within the Qualla Boundary to be in Relationship with the land and ceremonially as there is privacy when accessing the river from this location, and,

WHEREAS, The community has a strong connection to and desire to keep this land in its natural state where the community will be allowed continued access to this land to be in relationship with it and to be further in community with each other.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Council assembled at which a quorum is present that Tribal Council designate usage of this land for community purposes as a medicine park and cultural use area.

Use of the land can include and is not limited to: community events, recreation, ceremony, plant gathering, classes, application of traditional knowledge and stewardship practices, monitoring remediation and invasive plant species removal (see attachment), area of study and facilitating learning.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Principal Chief is authorized to carry out the intent of the resolution, which shall remain in effect from now on and for future generations to come.

Submitted by:
Haley Atsei Cooper (Birdtown), Mary Crowe (Yellowhill)