

Governor's Council on Travel and Tourism

Minutes: August 2, 2019

Board of Regents, Curtis Office Bldg, 5th floor.

Council members in attendance: Suzan Barnes, Jan Kessinger, Mary Madden, Bridgette Jobe, Jason Probst, Shannon Francis, Mary Ware, Diane Robinson, Kate Goad, Ken Corbet, Julia Lynn, Bridgette Jobe

Tourism staff in attendance: Logan Hildebrand, Kelli Hilliard, Andrea Etzel, Sue Stringer

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by Bridgette Jobe.

Council members made introductions.

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the March 22019 meeting by Jan Kessinger. Second by Susan Barnes. Passed unanimously.

Bridgette Jobe announced her position change as the Executive Director of the Kansas City Kansas Convention & Visitor Bureau to the Director of Tourism for KDWPT. With that change, Bridgette will now be serving on the Council at the KDWPT representative, so she will no longer be able to serve as Chairman.

There was a motion by Bridgette Jobe that Suzan Barnes be named as the new Chairman for the Council. Second by Shannon Francis. Passed Unanimously.

Suzan Barnes discusses re-appointments and term ending members. A list of all Council members with their term expiration dates was handed out. Those whose terms are expiring and wish to reapply should contact Bridgette for instructions on how to do so.

There was no one signed in for Public Comment.

Bridgette Jobe reported on beginning her new position as Kansas Director of Tourism by sharing what had happened in her first couple of weeks.

Suzan Barnes led a discussion on the importance of a strategic plan for Tourism. There was discussion on how this council can be involved in the process. Bridgette will reach out to agencies in Kansas who can assist with the facilitation of a plan. There was discussion on what should be included in a strategic plan and potential logistics for completing a plan.

Robin Jennison and Amy Bickell from the Kansas State Fair provided a remote presentation on the upcoming Kansas State Fair. There provided information on the new Kansas weekend event that will feature things to do in Kansas. There was discussion on the State Fair guides and their distribution.

There was a 40-minute break for lunch.

Susan Barnes called meeting back to order.

Bridgette gave a short presentation on the Attraction Development Grant program that is administered by Tourism. Three projects were funded in 2019; Lowell Milken Center, Osawatomie Trail, and Boot Hill Museum. Two of the awardees made presentation on their projects and the importance of the Attraction Development Grant in that process; Boot Hill Museum and the Osawatomie Trail. After the

presentations there was discussion on the importance of the grant program. Funding of the grant program was discussed and that this is one area that we need to focus on increasing.

Tourism Industry members provided updates:

Ken Corbett announced that on August 8th there will be a hunting convention at Rolling Hills Zoo in Salina. He also mentioned that the Hunting association is expecting a good year.

Suzan Barned provided a TIAK update. The annual Tourism conference will be held Oct 21-23 in Mulvane at the Kansas Star Casino. Destination Statehouse will be held in February and has been moved to Cyrus Hotel.

Shona Atwater provided a report on the Eisenhower Museum update and upcoming anniversaries.

Mary Madden provided a Kansas Historical Society update including a current exhibit about each county in Kansas. Future exhibits are Suffrage exhibit in November and Upward to Equality opens end of March 2020. Donations are still coming in. Bus trip to Atchison following Lincoln's path in Kansas. Re-interpreting KAW Mission in Council Grove as well as update the Last Chance Store in 2021.

Suzan Barnes reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting dates of Friday Sep 6 & Friday Dec 6. There was discussion on the meeting times, Ken Corbett suggested moving the meeting times to 9 AM to Noon. There was discussion on allowing digital attendance at the meetings. Bridgette said she would check into it. By a show of hands, there was agreement to move the meeting times to 9 AM to Noon.

Jan Kessinger made the Motion to adjourn, Ken Corbett seconded. The meeting was adjourned.