

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017
9:00 A.M.
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MANTEO, NC 27954**

ATTENDING: Susie Walters, Chair; Leo Holland, Vice Chair; Tonia Cohen, Secretary; Stuart Pack, Treasurer; Ervin Bateman, Assistant Treasurer; George Banks III, Myra Ladd-Bone, Nancy Caviness, Bambos Charalambous, Mike Hogan, Wally Overman, Pat Weston, Martha Wickre, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

STAFF:

Lee Nettles, Executive Director
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager
Aaron Tuell, Public Relations Manager

OTHERS: Philip Ruckle, *The Coastland Times*; Mark Dowdle, Deputy Superintendent; Dave Hallac, Superintendent, Outer Banks Group, National Park Service; Lisa Murphy, Johnson, Mizelle, Straub, and Murphy, LLP.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Board then recited the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Holland moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Charalambous seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Ladd-Bone moved to approve the October 19, 2017 meeting minutes. Mr. Holland seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 AUDIT: Lisa Murphy reviewed the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 audit. The audit received an unmodified opinion. Following the review, Mr. Bateman moved to receive the audit. Mr. Holland seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously [audit on file at the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Administrative Offices].

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Superintendent Hallac reviewed the Pack It In/Pack It Out program, created in conjunction with the Outer Banks Preservation Association, to reduce trash on, and along, the Cape Hatteras National Seashore; an upcoming video regarding beach driving; visitation numbers at NPS sites and the recent light show at the Wright Brothers National Memorial; and changes in positions at the Park Service to help streamline how the agency is operated.

CHAIR'S REPORT: The Chair noted attendance at a meeting regarding a Sport Fishing Museum, noting that future Boards will be hearing more about this.

BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT: Mr. Pack reviewed the meals and occupancy receipts received. Receipts for fiscal year 2017-2018 are up 3.11% over 2016-2017 actual receipts.

Mr. Pack moved to close the Capital Project Fund and move the remaining funds to the Restricted Fund. Mr. Holland seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES: Lee Nettles:

- reviewed Seafood Festival, Brewtag, and the Marathon as well as upcoming Holiday events
- passed out the 2018 Travel Guide
- reviewed Inquiry, fulfillment, and visitation numbers

Lorrie Love reviewed recent motor coach marketplaces and upcoming FAM tours. Aaron Tuell reviewed recent influencer visits and media coverage.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Overman moved to grant an extension to June 30, 2018 to the Outer Banks National Scenic Byway. Ms. Wickre seconded. The Board discussed what areas the byway covered and what the grant was for. The Board asked that Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy give an overview to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chair reviewed the 2015 Dare County Tourism Board motion awarding \$1million to the County for inlet dredging. The County utilized other funding for the dredging project occurring in 2015-2016 Fiscal Year. The Tourism Board's dredging allocation also specified that the funds were only applicable in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and the dollars allocated have remained encumbered. Mr. Holland moved to unencumber the funds and return them to the Long Term Restricted Fund. Ms. Weston seconded. Diane Bognich asked what line items the monies should go to. The Board discussed unencumbering the funds and what line items to place the funds in. Mr. Holland withdrew his motion. Ms. Weston withdrew her second.

Ms. Caviness moved to turn the matter over to the Budget & Finance Committee to determine where to place the funds and make that recommendation to the Board. Mr. Pack seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Mr. Overman noted the drug drop off event being held in Kill Devil Hills. Ms. Wickre reminded the Board of the New Year in the New World event on New Year's Eve in Manteo.

Ms. Ladd-Bone moved to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(5)(i) to establish or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price or other material terms of a contract, or proposed contract, for the acquisition of real properties located at 6806 S. Virginia Dare Trail, and 6807 and 6813 South Croatan Highway, Nags Head, NC, for the purpose of use as potential overflow parking and supplemental utility for the Soundside Event Site. Mr. Charalambous seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting entered closed session at 10:08 a.m.

The open session meeting resumed at 10:32 a.m. Legal Counsel stated that the negotiating agents were given direction on how to proceed and will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

SET DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Administrative Offices, Manteo, NC.

Ms. Wickre moved to adjourn. Mr. Charalambous seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

ATTESTED:



Secretary, Dare County Tourism Board