

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017**

9:00 A.M.

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MANTEO, NC 27954**

ATTENDING: Tonia Cohen, Secretary; Stuart Pack, Treasurer; Ervin Bateman, Assistant Treasurer; George Banks III, Myra Ladd-Bone, Bambos Charalambous, Mike Hogan, Wally Overman, Martha Wickre, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Susie Walters, Chair; Leo Holland, Vice Chair; Nancy Caviness, and Pat Weston.

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: Mark Dowdle, Deputy Superintendent, Outer Banks Group, National Park Service.

Acting as Chair, Mr. Pack called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Board then recited the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Pack asked the Board to keep Pat Weston in their thoughts during the moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Ladd-Bone moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Hogan seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Overman moved to approve the September 21, 2017 meeting minutes. Mr. Bateman seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mark Dowdle reviewed visitation numbers at NPS sites and the recent light show at the Wright Brothers National Memorial. He noted the lighthouses were closed for climbing but campgrounds would be open through Thanksgiving.

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Pack noted the Short Term Restricted Fund Requests and the process leading up to the recommended award amounts:

<i>Municipality/Organization</i>	<i>Award Amount</i>	<i>Project</i>
Town of Duck	\$309,351	Pedestrian Improvements, Phase II
Town of Southern Shores	\$119,357	E. Dogwood Path Pedestrian Walkway
Southern Shores Civic Assoc.	\$14,178	Sea Oats Community Park Renewal, Phase II
TOTAL AWARDED AMOUNT	\$442,886	

Ms. Wickre moved to approve the awards as presented. Mr. Charalambous seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. As these awards are Restricted Fund awards, they will go before the Dare County Board of Commissioners for their consent. Mr. Overman noted it would be helpful to mention that the Tourism Board has consistently supported the construction of walkways throughout the County. Mr. Banks asked if the support was only for the incorporated towns. Lee Nettles responded that it was not, that the Board had helped fund the current walkways on Hatteras Island and was supporting the continued growth of those walkways.

BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT: Diane Bognich reviewed the meals and occupancy receipts received, noting the power outage had a negative impact on the numbers for meals and occupancy. Receipts for fiscal year 2017-2018 are up 2.87 % over 2016-2017 actual receipts.

OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES: Lee Nettles:

- noted upcoming events. He reminded the Board that the Seafood Festival was this [Oct 21] weekend.
- working to complete letter for the audit
- named to Steering Committee for the Passenger Ferry. Lee Nettles and Wally Overman highlighted some points from the meeting, from ways to expand the benefits of the passenger ferry to Hatteras Village, to naming the passenger ferry.
- reviewed Inquiry, fulfillment, and visitation numbers

Lorrie Love reviewed recent motor coach marketplaces, upcoming FAM tours, and travel guide progress.

Aaron Tuell reviewed upcoming influencer visits and recent media coverage.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business before the Board at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business before the Board at this time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Ms. Wickre noted upcoming events in Manteo at the Maritime Museum-the Wooden Boat show Oct 28-29 and Halloween Haunted House on October 31, 2017.

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 9:48 a.m.

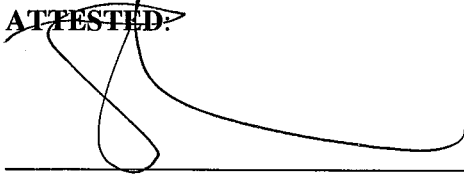
The open session meeting resumed at 10:00 a.m. Legal Counsel stated that the negotiating agents were given direction on how to proceed and will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

SET DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Thursday, November 16, 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 10:00 a.m.

~~ATTESTED:~~



Secretary, Dare County Tourism Board