

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD
LONG-RANGE TOURISM MANAGEMENT PLAN SPECIAL COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025
9:00 A.M.
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MANTEO, NC 27954**

ATTENDING: Richard Hess, Chair; Tim Cafferty, Shannon Castillo, Jamie Chisholm Reide Corbett, Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy, Dave Hallac, Natalie Kavanagh, Lee Nettles, Bobby Outten, Mike Remige, Chris Sawin, and Tim Sweeney,

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Outer Banks Forever Representative, Mark Ballog, Karen Brown, Donna Creef, Augusta Feldmann, Nick Graham, Elizabeth Morey, Ronnie Sloan and Chris Vlahos.

STAFF:

Jeff Schwartzberg, Community Engagement Manager
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager

OTHERS ATTENDING: None

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Reide Corbett moved to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2025 meeting. Second by Lee Nettles. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeff Schwartzberg introduced Richard Hess as Chairman for the Committee. Introductions were made.

OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES: Lee Nettles reviewed the presentation made at the Visit North Carolina Tourism Conference by economist Adam Sacks.

Jeff Schwartzberg shared highlights from the 3rd Annual Nonprofit Mission Mixer, as well as the plan to solicit input from local nonprofit organizations on the topic of voluntourism.

“OUR CHANGING COASTLINE” PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION :

Dr. Reide Corbett, Coastal Studies Institute; and Dave Hallac, Superintendent, National Park Service; made presentations regarding sea level rise and climate change [presentations on file].

Chris Sawin arrived at 9:24 a.m.

The Committee discussed the information presented, ways to addresses and educate visitors and residents on these issues, and potential ways to lessen the impacts.

COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES: Jamie Chisholm noted that hotel/motel bookings were down through the first quarter of the year. Shannon Castillo noted that Manteo Middle School was in the process of completing work on a 16-foot skiff boat as part of a STEM class project, in addition to a plane currently under construction, with guidance from the local boat-building community. Reide Corbett shared that the Coastal Studies Institute Open House will be held on May 17. Chris Sawin reviewed the Nonprofit Mission Mixer. Mike Remige noted that the next phase of the wildlife-friendly lighting project at Jennette's Pier was underway and that all parking lot fixtures will hopefully be replaced by Memorial Day. Bobby Outten shared that Dare County was in the midst of budget planning for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Tim Sweeney noted that College of the Albemarle graduation was May 13, enrollment was in the Top 5 among 58 community colleges in North Carolina and that 62 students of the 75 applicants had been selected for the Dare County Early College.

Tim Cafferty left at 10:00 a.m.

SET DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS: The next meetings will be June 11, September 10, and November 12, 2025, at 9 a.m.

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Committee. Hearing none, Lee Nettles moved to adjourn. Second by Shannon Castillo. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

ATTESTED:



Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board