

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021
9:00 A.M.
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MANTEO, NC 27954**

ATTENDING:

In-Person: Jeff Pruitt, Chair; Ervin Bateman, Treasurer; Bambos Charalambous, and Leo Holland.

Via GoToMeeting: Tim Cafferty, Vice-Chair; Doug Brindley, Jamie Chisholm, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Donna Peele, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Webb Fuller, Secretary; Monica Thibodeau, Assistant Treasurer; and Bobby Owens.

STAFF:

Lee Nettles, Executive Director (in person)
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration (GoToMeeting)
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist (GoToMeeting)
Aaron Tuell, Public Relations Manager (GoToMeeting)

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Via GoToMeeting: Brad Carey, First Flight Adventure Park; John Griffin, Chicamacomico Historical Association; and Philip Ruckle, The Coastland Times.

The meeting was called 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. Second by Mr. Charalambous. There was no discussion.

Yes: Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Donna Peele, and Jeff Pruitt.

No: None. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Bateman moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 21, 2021 meeting. Second by Mr. Holland. There was no discussion.

Yes: Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Donna Peele, and Jeff Pruitt.

No: None. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments made nor written comments received.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Lee Nettles reviewed the intentions behind the Long-Term Unappropriated Guidelines. Mr. Cafferty moved to accept the Long-Term Unappropriated Guidelines as presented. Second by Mr. Charalambous.

Yes: Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Donna Peele, and Jeff Pruitt.

No: None. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

Lee Nettles reviewed the request from Chicamacomico Historical Association for funds from the Long-Term Unappropriated line item in the amount of \$22,610.00 to repair water damage to the floor and adding historically correct "storm" doors to the 1874 Station. Mr. Bateman moved to award \$22,610 from the Long-Term Unappropriated line item to Chicamacomico for these items. Mr. Charalambous seconded. During discussion, Mr. Holland asked about the contingency budget in the request. Lee Nettles responded that Chicamacomico Historical Association had the contingency budget in case other repairs discovered while the floors were being repaired. There was no further discussion.

Yes: Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Donna Peele, and Jeff Pruitt.

No: None. The motion passed unanimously (10-0).

BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT: Mr. Bateman reviewed the meals and occupancy receipts received. Receipts for fiscal year 2020-2021 are up 12.06% compared to 2019-2020 actual receipts.

OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES: Lee Nettles:

- Reviewed the February meeting of the Soundside Ad Hoc Committee
- Noted that the Social Media campaign was halted in January but is in full swing now
- Reviewed the internet, fulfillment, and visitation figures

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

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Peele asked if the Board would consider speaking with Dare County Department of Health and Human Services Director Sheila Davies about moving the hospitality workers up a tier for the COVID-19 vaccine due to the anticipated early Spring visitors. Lee Nettles noted that he could ask, and Ervin Bateman stated that the Commissioners were speaking with state representatives today about this, and that the state health director was aware of this matter as well.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: The Chair and Ms. Chisholm thanked staff for their work. Mr. Brindley noted that the home sales were on the rise and this would take some rental properties off the market and have an impact on occupancy receipts.

SET DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Curtis Creech Memorial Boardroom, Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Administrative Office, Manteo, NC (virtual and in-person options available).

Mr. Holland moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Charalambous. There was no objection and the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

ATTESTED:


Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board