

**RECORD OF MINUTES  
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021  
9:00 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
MANTEO, NC 27954**

**ATTENDING:**

**In-Person:** Ervin Bateman, Bambos Charalambous, Leo Holland, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Jeff Pruitt.

**Via GoToMeeting:** Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Ivy Ingram (joined at 9:07 a.m.), Donna Peele, Monica Thibodeau, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

**STAFF:**

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

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

**Via GoToMeeting:** Dave Hallac, Superintendent, Outer Banks Group, National Park Service

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.

Appointed and reappointed Board members took their oath of office before the meeting.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel, presented the Nominating Committee's recommended slate of officers, as follows:

- Chair: Jeff Pruitt
- Vice-Chair: Tim Cafferty
- Secretary: Webb Fuller
- Treasurer: Ervin Bateman
- Assistant Treasurer: Monica Thibodeau

Legal Counsel then called for nominations from the floor for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. Hearing none, Mr. Bateman moved to approve the proposed slate as presented. Second by Mr. Fuller.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Donna Peele, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (12-0).

Legal Counsel then turned the meeting over to the Chair.

**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, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Donna Peele, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Holland moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 17, 2020 meeting. Second by Ms. Loopman-Davis. There was no discussion.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Donna Peele, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Superintendent Hallac reviewed visitation and other items happening in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

There were no further public comments made. No written comments were received.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT:** Mr. Bateman reviewed the meals and occupancy receipts received. Receipts for fiscal year 2020-2021 are up 11.43% compared to 2019-2020 actual receipts.

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES:** Lee Nettles:

- Reviewed the Request for Qualifications and interviews for firms to construct a boardwalk. Following the interviews, staff recommended Albemarle & Associates. Mr. Charalambous moved to approve Albemarle & Associates. Second by Mr. Holland.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Donna Peele, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (13-0).

- Noted the Soundside Advisory Ad Hoc Committee would be meeting on February 11, 2021. The company that runs a conference center in Mississippi and others of comparable size will join the call to discuss and answer any questions the committee may have about their facility types and operations.
- Internet, Inquiry, Fulfillment, and Visitation numbers
- Reviewed Tourism Sales and Media Relations

Ms. Chisholm asked if the people who operate the conference center have experiences with sports fields in addition to the conference center. Lee Nettles noted that they operate a variety of facilities. He was not sure about fields but felt confident they had ample experience with hosting indoor sporting events.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business before the Board.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** New Board member introductions were made. Mr. Brindley shared information about the early pacing of bookings.

**SET DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:**

- The Board set their meeting schedule for the third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 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).

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Board. Hearing none, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

**ATTESTED:**

  
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Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board