

**RECORD OF MINUTES  
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021  
9:00 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
MANTEO, NC 27954**

**ATTENDING:**

**In-Person:** Jeff Pruitt, Chair; Tim Cafferty, Vice-Chair; Ervin Bateman, Treasurer; Monica Thibodeau, Assistant Treasurer; Webb Fuller, Secretary; Doug Brindley, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Karen Loopman-Davis, Ivy Ingram, Bobby Owens, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

**Via GoToMeeting:** None.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Hatteras-at-large Representative

**STAFF (in person):**

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

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

**In Person** Ralph Buxton, Bradley Carey, First Flight Adventure Park; Tonia Cohen, Outer Banks Hotel/Motel Association; John DeLucia, Albemarle & Associates; and Danielle Puleo, *The Coastland Times*.

**Via GoToMeeting:** Sarah Emmerton, C.H. Johnson Consulting; Peggy Shen.

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 Ms. Thibodeau. There was no discussion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

**SOUNDSIDE EVENT CENTER CONCEPT:** Lee Nettles reviewed the composition and charge of the Ad Hoc Soundside Advisory Committee and reviewed the work leading up to the concept being presented (on file). He reminded the Board that they were focusing on the concept of the center at this time, not final plans as there is still work to be done before reaching that point.

Lee Nettles then reviewed the size of the building, parking and septic needs, events that could be held there, variances needed, and community needs. The Board discussed these, and the pros and cons of a hotel. Ms. Chisholm noted that the Hotel/Motel Association opposed a hotel on the site as it would use occupancy taxes currently collected to compete with them but did support a stand along event center.

Following discussion, Mr. Charalambous moved to approve the [Soundside Event Center Ad Hoc] Advisory Committee's renderings (including the absence of a hotel] on the Tourism Board's property and authorize staff and attorney to explore and determine the next steps in pursuance of the concept. Second by Ms. Thibodeau. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Board. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

**ATTESTED:**

  
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Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board