

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020
9:00 A.M.
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MANTEO, NC 27954**

ATTENDING:

In Person: Myra Ladd-Bone, Chair; Jeff Pruitt, Vice Chair; Ervin Bateman, Assistant Treasurer; Doug Brindley, Jamie Chisholm, and Leo Holland.

Via Telephone: Pat Weston, Treasurer; Webb Fuller, Secretary (joined at 9:15 a.m.); Chuck Burdick, Tim Cafferty, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Bobby Owens

STAFF:

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

OTHERS: None.

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. Chisholm. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Holland moved to approve the meeting minutes from February 20, 2020. Second by Mr. Burdick. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There was no public in person or on the telephone [The public was welcome at the meeting and the conference call number was made available].

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT: The Chair noted the Committee recommendations for the Firework Grants:

<i>Association/Municipality</i>	<i>Recommended Award Amount</i>
Avon Property Owners Association	\$11,838.00
Town of Kill Devil Hills	\$12,831.00
Town of Manteo	\$12,831.00
Town of Nags Head	\$12,500.00

Mr. Bateman moved to approve the awards. Second by Mr. Holland.

Yes: Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Chuck Burdick, Tim Cafferty, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Myra Ladd-Bone, Karen Loopman-Davis, Jeff Pruitt, and Pat Weston.

No: None.

The motion passed unanimously.

Lee Nettles asked the Board to table the Budget Amendment and Event Grant Award Recommendations until the April meeting in light of the recent events with COVID-19. Ms. Chisholm moved to table the Budget Amendment and Event Grant Award recommendations until the April meeting. Second by Mr. Holland.

Yes Ervin Bateman, Doug Brindley, Chuck Burdick, Tim Cafferty, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Myra Ladd-Bone, Karen Loopman-Davis, Jeff Pruitt, and Pat Weston.

No: None.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed how COVID-19 and the recent closure of the Outer Banks to visitors has, and will, impact the local industry. Lee Nettles noted the pause in advertising and plans for it to resume when the restrictions are lifted.

Ms. Ingram asked if there had been any discussions with the Board of Education about employment of high school students during the season in consideration of the delays to J-1 Visas.

Mr. Cafferty brought up the research study. Messrs. Cafferty, Burdick, Brindley, Holland, and Bateman felt it was best to postpone the study at this time. Lee Nettles agreed and said he would contact the research company.

Lee Nettles noted staff was working on different budget options for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Mr. Burdick suggested regular updates from Lee Nettles during the pandemic.

SET DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in Curtis Creech Memorial Boardroom, Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Administrative Office, Manteo, NC.

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Board. Hearing none, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

ATTESTED:

Secretary, Dare County Tourism Board