

**RECORD OF MINUTES
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022
9:00 A.M.
FESSENDEN CENTER ANNEX
47013 BUXTON BACK ROAD
BUXTON, NC 27920**

ATTENDING:

In-Person: Tim Cafferty, Chair; Monica Thibodeau, Vice Chair; Ervin Bateman, Treasurer; Ivy Ingram, Assistant Treasurer; Gray Berryman, Bambos Charalambous, Leo Holland, Dennis Robinson, and Mike Siers.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Jamie Chisholm, Secretary; Mark Ballog; David Hines, Bobby Owens, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

STAFF:

Lee Nettles, Executive Director
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager

OTHERS ATTENDING: Danny Couch, Dare County Commissioner; John Havel, Chairman, Outer Banks History Center and Board Member of Outer Banks Lighthouse Society.

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. Charalambous moved to approve the agenda. Second by Mr. Holland. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Holland moved to approve the meeting minutes from October 20, 2022 meeting. Second by Mr. Charalambous. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Ivy Ingram arrived at 9:03 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Commissioner Danny Couch welcomed the Board to Hatteras Island, thanked them for their help with projects throughout the island, and looked forward to continued partnership.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chair noted that stewardship reports were still being presented to Towns and organizations and touched on the Tourism Summit and Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina meeting.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Mr. Robinson moved to approve changing the Tourism Services Coordinator position from part to full time, pending approval of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget amendment. Second by Mr. Siers. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously (9-0).

BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT: Diane Bognich reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget amendment. Mr. Bateman moved to amend the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget. Second by Mr. Charalambous. The Chair asked about the additional funds for training and Lee Nettles noted that there were educational and certification opportunities related to the Long-Range Tourism Management Plan. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (9-0).

The county updated their software and were not able to provide the necessary reports for the monthly meals and occupancy reports.

OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES: Lee Nettles:

- Reviewed the marketing dashboard and visitation numbers
- Noted that the County Commissioners consented to the Tourism Impact Grant awards
- Resident survey for the Long-Term Management Plan was released and had received closed to 3,600 responses to date
- Noted that the Board had been awarded a grant to help fund the Boardwalk project at the Soundside Event Site
- Reviewed the Tourism Summit and Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina held at the Sanderling Resort
- Recent production/filming trips to the Outer Banks for advertising production

Lorrie Love noted recent and upcoming group sales missions, results of the tourism summit survey, and recent media coverage and public relations missions (on behalf of Aaron Tuell).

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

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

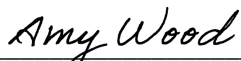
BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Mr. Holland noted that beach nourishment in Southern Shores should be finished soon
- Mr. Berryman noted that CAMA is likely to make changes to septic permits and OBAR is following this matter closely. He also encouraged the towns/county to continue to invest in sidewalks/multi-use paths and transportation infrastructure.
- Mr. Robinson thanked everyone for travelling to Hatteras Island and asked Commissioner Couch for an update on the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum renovations. Commissioner Couch updated the Board of funding for the museum exhibits and renovations.
- Ms. Thibodeau noted the Town of Duck was awaiting beach nourishment
- Mr. Charalambous reviewed the Seafood Festival
- Ms. Ingram thanked the Board for their grant for sidewalks and noted upcoming holiday markets

SET DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at the Curtis Creech Memorial Boardroom, Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Administrative Office, Manteo, NC.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

ATTESTED:



Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board