



**Rock Hill Accommodations Tax/Tourism Commission**  
**Wednesday, January 16, 2019 – 9 AM**  
**City Hall – Room 371**

### **Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Connie Delaney, Melvin Clark, Wayne Holmes, Sharad Patel, Betty Plumb

**ABSENT:** Jason LaBarge, Charlie Robinson

**STAFF:** Laurie Helms, Wendy Hill, David Linder

**WELCOME:** Chair, Connie Delaney, opened the meeting at 9 AM.

**MINUTES:** There were no minutes to approve.

#### **STAFF**

**HIGHLIGHT:** Andrew Jordan, Manchester Meadows Maintenance Supervisor

Andrew supervises two full time employees and six seasonal employees - managing their schedules so that the park and athletic fields are always ready for leagues, tournaments, events and everyday operations. Andrew pays close attention to the seasonal budget constraints and provides appraisals for his staff.

#### **DEPARTMENT**

##### **UPDATE:**

**Tourism Related Construction Projects** - David Linder

- Construction of the Rock Hill Sports and Event Center continues. PRT staff has kept event right-holders informed as to the progress to allow for necessary changes in scheduling and planning.
- Construction on the Cherry Park alternate entrance/exit project has been delayed due to the weather.
- The Cherry Park Tower renovation progresses with staff moving back into their offices in February.

##### **Monthly Report**

In Commissioner Packets; No discussion

**Tourism Coordinator's Report** - Wendy Hill

**2019-2020 ATAX Grant Cycle:**

- Fourth Quarter ATAX Collection (monies collected in 2018) have not been received from the state. Typically, the final collection will be received by the end of January. Total funds available for grants will be made known at the February Commission meeting.
- ATAX Grant applicants are required to schedule a meeting with PRT staff to discuss the application process and applicable expenditures – prior to February 8. The Grant is announced through news media, social media, website and through email distribution lists to tourism groups and past applicants.
- Potential applicants having met with PRT Staff/Commissioners to date are: ChristmasVille, Old Town Summer Concert Series, Food Truck Fridays, Camp Canaan, Light Bright Boxing, VisitYorkCounty, Juneteenth and Discoveries.
- Others with scheduled appointments are: Historic Rock Hill, Arts Council of York County, York County Library, Bethelwoods, Culture & Heritage Museums and York County Fashion Week.
- Atax Grant Applications will be due to PRT on February 15, 2019, and will be distributed to Commissioners on or before February 20.
- The Tourism Commission’s recommendations to City Council regarding grant funding amounts must be completed by April 26 due to the first City of Rock Hill’s Budget Meeting taking place on May 9.

**2018 Annual Economic Impact Report:**

- Estimated Event Economic Impact for 2018: Under Review
- Estimated Room Nights based on formula: 46,104
- Estimated Total Attendance: 184,335 with a tourism attendance estimated at 70%

**Host Hotels:**

- The 2019 Host Hotel Program will include 19 properties. Three of these are in the Fort Mill area.
- LaQuinta and Staybridge Suites are new to the program and are new-builds in Rock Hill.
- The former Super 8 Rock Hill is now the Best Western Rock Hill and has been totally renovated.
- Country Inn & Suites is under new ownership and is undergoing a complete renovation.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Election of Officers**

- Connie Delaney has accepted the Chair position for 2019.
- Betty Plumb has accepted the Vice Chair position for 2019.

**2019 Sports Calendar**

- There are 86 events currently listed on the Master Sports Schedule. This does not include the SC Youth Soccer Association Leagues at this time.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting concluded at 9:35 AM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at 9 AM at City Hall - Room 371