



TOURISM COMMISSION
Wednesday, August 21, 2019
City Hall, Room 371 – 9 AM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Connie Delaney, Wayne Holmes, Jason LaBarge, Betty Plumb

ABSENT: Sharad Patel

STAFF: David Linder

WELCOME: Chair, Connie Delaney, began the meeting at 9:00 AM.

MINUTES: Betty Plumb moved to accept the minutes of July 17 as submitted; seconded by Jason LaBarge; approved.

STAFF HIGHLIGHT: Sherri Banks, Manchester Meadows Office Assistant

Sherri handles rentals, reservations, prepares monthly reports and whatever else is requested for Manchester Meadows (MM). She says MM is always booked, and she is currently busy with registrations - citing Charlotte Independence Soccer Club (previously, Discoveries Soccer Club) as a big user. Artificial turf and irrigation renovations at the championship fields have been completed.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Tourism Related Construction Projects – David said that Manchester Meadows is ready to host the Charlotte Independence Fall Classic on September 8-9. The Sports & Events Center is coming along with no firm open date. PRT has worked with event organizers/sponsors to reschedule sporting events that had been planned for the center. A big volleyball tournament is on tap for November. The 1939 Building is projected to open August 28. Staff is already on site; a basketball programmer is in place, and meeting spaces are available. Miracle Park is still in the planning stages and legislation is needed to deed over the land to the city. A new park is planned for Rock Hill - in partnership with Duke Power.

Monthly Report – A very full two-page report was provided to the Commissioners. David mentioned that the UCI BMX Supercross world Cup is coming up September 13-

14 and invited the Commissioners to attend. There will be a Hospitality Suite. A special enclosed tent will also be located at the far end of the grandstands near the finish line side of the track for a great view.

Tourism Coordinator's Report – David Linder for Wendy Hill

Wendy's full report was provided to the Commissioners. David mentioned that the Yap Ye Iswa Festival may not have enough receipted expenses to match their portion of the grant funds for reimbursements. Other event/organization reimbursements are on track.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Commissioners have reviewed the draft of the proposed revised Accommodations Tax Grant 2020-2021 application. All found it to be simplified and easy to follow for the applicants and for reviewing purposes. Jason LaBarge made the motion to approve the form and it was seconded by Wayne Holmes. Jason also suggested that we consider having the application online.

NEW BUSINESS:

As cited in Wendy's Coordinator Report, David brought to our attention that City Council appointed two new Tourism Commissioners to fill our recent vacancies: Letonia Gladden is the Events Program Manager with Cisco Systems. She will serve as a Hospitality member replacing Melvin Clark. Perry Sutton is a retiree who is active in the sports community; he will serve at-large replacing Charlie Robinson. Wendy will provide an orientation.

ADJOURNMENT:

Jason LaBarge made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Wayne Holmes at 9:28 AM. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 20, at 9 AM. It was suggested that we meet at the new 1939 Building. Wendy will confirm the location as other off-site suggestions have been made.

Respectfully submitted: Betty Plumb for Wendy Hill