

MINUTES

NASH COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

January 13, 2015

The Nash County Tourism Development Authority met on January 13, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at Hampton Inn in Rocky Mount, N.C. Present were Robbie Davis, Chairman and members Dan Daly, Robert Johnson, David Joyner, Charlie Wells, Zack Dorovic, Ernestine Neal, Peter Varney, Tracey Jackson, Tara Nelson, Marvin Johnson and Lydia Davis.

Also present was Donna Wood, Nash County Finance Officer.

Chairman Davis welcomed all members and guest and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order then asked for approval of the minutes of the May 20, 2014 meeting. Motion was made by Peter Varney seconded by Robert Johnson and duly passed that the minutes of May 20, 2014 be approved.

Chairman Davis then called upon Finance Officer Donna Wood to present the financial information. Total collections from July through November 2014 totaled \$546,852. The Nash County portion is \$328,111. This is an increase over prior year of 2.9%. Collections are at 45% of budget for the first 5 months and are on target to meet FY2015 budget projects

Donna reported that expenditures through December 31, 2014 were \$244,587 however, this only included five months of utility payments and noted that USA South, Economic Development, NC Wesleyan Tennis and Nashville Blooming Festival Funding had not been paid. Chairman Davis indicated in regard to the utility expenditure for the additional Winstead Ave. that TDA was only responsible for paying \$12,000 and City of Rocky Mount would cover the remaining. Peter Varney would be the contact with City of Rocky Mount if necessary.

The June 30, 2014 Audit Report was distributed. Donna informed the board that TDA received an Unmodified Opinion, net position increased \$32,503 primarily due to decrease in Tourism promotion funding in FY2014. Restricted fund balance as of June 30, 2014 represents 82% of total General Fund expenditures compared to prior year of 66%.

Question was raised if Travel and Tourism obtained approval from the Board of Commissioners for their prior year funds. Chairman Davis indicated they received approval in July.

Another question was raised regarding the accountability of Travel and Tourism for reporting to the TDA Board so they could see more marketing and promotion of Nash County events, activities, Social Media updates and website visits etc. After discussion of the issue, Robbie Davis indicated that he would attend the Travel and Tourism Board meeting to discuss the concerns of the TDA Board in regard to specific plans for budget and strategy of Tourism and most notably accountability with promoting Nash County.

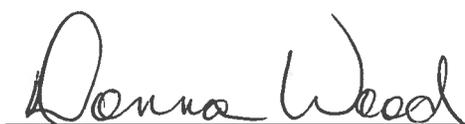
Chairman Davis asked Lydia Davis to update the Board on the new funding request that would be presented to the Board in May. The new request is from the C.C. Spaulding Alumni Assoc. Inc. for the Teacherage Home Restoration. The funding request is for \$10,000 to be used to restore the 1922 Teacherage Home in which the alumni association would like it to be considered as a destination for studying and exploring black history in Nash County. In addition funding will be requested for updating the old Spaulding Gym to be used as a Senior Center in the Spring Hope area. According to Lydia Davis, the Nash Rocky Mount School Board has approved use of the facility and the plan is to setup the Senior Center the same as the Rocky Mount Senior Center. Chairman Davis asked if they had contacted Nash County Senior Center to consider coordination and Lydia Davis responded they had not at this time.

In other discussion, Peter Varney asked if the TDA should consider looking into larger long term projects for Nash County Tourism. In response, a committee including Peter Varney,

David Joyner, Tracey Jackson and Charlie Wells was created to present ideas at the May Board meeting.

Other discussion included the question of the purpose of two Boards for Nash Tourism and the number of members on each Board. Zack Dorovic indicated that there are 15 members on the Travel and Tourism Board and they meet at least monthly, with Committee meetings throughout the month. He indicated that all Board meetings are open and others are always welcome to attend. The Travel and Tourism meetings are typically held the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Wood". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Donna Wood
Finance Director