

## MINUTES

### NASH COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

January 14, 2020

The Nash County Tourism Development Authority met January 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Southern Bank Building in Rocky Mount, N.C. Present were Robbie Davis, Chairman and members Kay Mitchell, Judy Winstead, Faye Beddingfield, Brittany Parker, Retho Williams, Dan Daly, George Griffin, Bill Lehnes, Mark Cone and Wayne Murphy.

Also present was Donna Wood, Nash County Finance Officer.

Chairman Davis welcomed all members and guests.

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order and introduced the two new TDA Board Members, Mark Cone and Brittany Parker. Chairman Davis asked for approval of the minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting. Motion was made by Kay Mitchell and seconded by Wayne Murphy and duly passed that the minutes of May 14, 2019 be approved.

Chairman Davis then called Finance Officer Donna Wood to review the June 30, 2019 Audit Report prepared by Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co out of Whiteville, NC. Donna informed the board that TDA received an Unmodified Opinion and net position increased \$197,470. The Fund Balance as of June 30, 2019 is \$1,218,535. Restricted fund balance as of June 30, 2019 represents 130% of total General Fund expenditures compared to prior year of 133%.

Chairman Davis asked the Board to accept the audit as presented. A motion for acceptance of the June 30, 2019 audit was made by Dan Daly and seconded by Faye Beddingfield and duly accepted by a unanimous vote.

Chairman Davis then called upon Finance Officer Donna Wood to present the financial information for the current fiscal year to date. TDA occupancy tax collections from July through November 2019 totaled \$459,404.65 compared to \$458,029.35 from July through November 2018. This is an increase of approximately 3% over prior year.

Ms. Wood reported that expenditures through December 31, 2019 were \$458,941.48 however, this only includes five months of utility payments consistent with prior year. In addition, the Nashville 58/64 Lighting is not currently in place. It was also noted that Nashville Blooming Festival and the NCWC Tennis Facility FY 2020 appropriation was not included in the expenditures through December 2019.

Old Business:

1. City of Rocky Mount 2 cent Occupancy Tax Update- TDA Board must approve use.
  - Originally approved to be used for Debt Service for Sports Complex and Imperial Center
  - The Sports Complex has been paid off
  - Chairman Davis will send a letter to the City of Rocky Mount regarding current use of occupancy tax
  - Chairman Davis requested Board feedback regarding use of funds for support of Minor League Baseball team stadium at the Rocky Mount Mill Area
  - The TDA Board unanimously agreed the idea to be positive and to move forward to request the City of Rocky Mount to use occupancy tax to support the Mill for a baseball stadium.
  - It was discussed that a small group would meet with the City of Rocky Mount to show unanimous support for the tax use. Chairman Davis noted he would contact members to set a meeting date.
  
2. Business Recruitment update for Nash County- See attached document provided by Susan Phelps.

New Business:

1. Lighting at new I-95/64 Business Interchange

The NCDOT is in the design stage for the I-95/64 Business Interchange project. Chairman Davis asked the TDA Board if they would be interested in paying the electric bills as TDA does at other interchanges in the area with an approximate timeline completion of FY 2021. The estimated cost would be 6 to 8 thousand dollars annually. A motion was made by Bill Lehnes, seconded by Retho Williams. The motion passed unanimously for TDA to pay the electric bills for lighting at the new I-95/64 Business interchange.

Other Discussion:

1. Chairman Davis notified the Board that Sheila Martin is the new Chairperson for Travel and Tourism.

2. The next TDA meeting will be held on May 12, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was planned to take place at the Southern Bank Building, however due to a previous commitment the meeting has been relocated to the Nash County Claude Mayo, Jr. Administration Building in the County Commissioners Conference Room located on the third floor.

There being no other business Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Wood".

Donna Wood  
Finance Director