

## **MINUTES**

### **NASH COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**January 19, 2016**

The Nash County Tourism Development Authority met on January 19, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at Country Inn & Suites in Rocky Mount, N.C. Present were Robbie Davis, Chairman and members Dan Daly, Faye Beddingfield, Ernestine Neal, Peter Varney, Tara Nelson, Jerry Patel and Bill Lehnes.

Also present was Donna Wood, Nash County Finance Officer.

Chairman Davis welcomed all members.

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order then asked for approval of the minutes of the May 19, 2015 meeting. Motion was made by Peter Varney seconded by Bill Lehnes and duly passed that the minutes of May 19, 2015 be approved.

Chairman Davis asked the committee if they had any questions or concerns regarding email voting specifically for the most recent request on November 20, 2015 sent to the Committee regarding funding for the Positive Image campaign. The funding request passed with a 13 to 1 approval. As a follow-up to the email vote Peter Varney made a motion to accept the budget amendment for the request to fund the Positive Image campaign of \$25,000 with a second from Dan Daly. The motion passed.

Chairman Davis then called upon Finance Officer Donna Wood to review the June 30, 2015 Audit Report. Donna informed the board that TDA received an Unmodified Opinion, net position increased \$79,171 primarily due to an increase in Occupancy tax collections in FY2015. The Fund Balance as of June 30, 2015 is \$645,938. Restricted fund balance as of June 30, 2015 represents 91% of total General Fund expenditures compared to prior year of 82%.

Chairman Davis then called upon Finance Officer Donna Wood to present the financial information. TDA occupancy tax collections from July through November 2015 totaled \$349,545.35 compared to \$333,073.69 from July through November 2014. This is an increase over prior year of approximately 5%.

Ms. Wood reported that expenditures through December 31, 2015 were \$370,348.28 however, this only included five months of utility payments and noted that utility expenditures are down from prior year for the first 5 months and also noted that USA South, Economic Development and Nashville Blooming Festival Funding were not included in the expenditures through December 2015.

Chairman Davis inquired of Peter Varney if any formal agreement had been made with the City regarding the TDA's funding of \$12,000 per fiscal year for the Winstead Ave. Extension. Mr. Varney indicated he would draft a letter of agreement for TDA and the City of Rocky Mount to clarify that TDA would contribute \$12,000 to the funding of the utilities for the Winstead Ave Extension and resolve the issue of the past due balance from FY2014-2015.

Peter Varney gave an update from the TDA Planning Committee. He indicated that Travel and Tourism Board agreed to items in the draft agreement presented and it was determined that no formal agreement would be necessary.

Chairman Davis asked for additional information regarding an email from Jerry Patel regarding the budgeted funding items. Mr. Patel noted that his request was to try to determine the economic impact in the area from the TDA funding of events. Mr. Patel then indicated he had talked to T&T Director, Alex Boncek and she would provide information requested.

Chairman Davis noted that TDA was waiting to receive a Quarterly Update Report from Travel and Tourism.

Chairman Davis noted that the Board should begin consideration of the current occupancy tax rate and agreement with the City of Rocky Mount.

Chairman Davis noted that the next TDA meeting will be held in May 2016.

Chairman Davis called for the meeting to be adjourned, Faye Beddingfield made a motion to adjourn, second by Peter Varney. The meeting was adjourned.



Donna Wood  
Finance Director