

Tourism Development Authority
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2015
1117 East King Street
Edenton, NC 27932

Present: Diane Pariseau, Katrina Barnes, Adele Jones, Theresa Thesier, Frank Jones, Keith Nixon, and Ben Speller

Susan Beckwith and John Dowd were absent

Ex-Officio Members present were Nancy Nicholls, Anne-Marie Knighton, Kevin Howard, Willie Mack Carawan and Susanne Stallings.

Jessica Ebeling was also present.

Chairman Nixon called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Barnes moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Speller seconded the motion. Chairman Nixon asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Public Comment

Chairman Nixon opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Jones moved to approve the minutes of June 23, 2015 as presented. Ms. Thesier seconded the motion. Chairman Nixon asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Financial Report

Finance Officer Willie Carawan provided the financial report. He provided a revenue and expense report for FY 2015. He provided a current fiscal year and prior year Golden Leaf Summary report. He noted that he is waiting on the final distribution from Golden Leaf. He noted he is working with the auditor to close out FY 2014-15.

Golden Leaf

Ms. Nicholls reported that she forwarded information and reports to Golden Leaf and is waiting to hear back.

Commission Building Update

Ms. Knighton noted that the Town Council is reviewing two proposals for the building. She stated one use proposed is a restaurant and the other is a craft beer distributor. She stated the Council has requested economic impact analysis on each of the proposed uses.

Board members discussed their opinions of the best use of the property.

Chairman Nixon stated that he would recommend that the TDA forward the visitor survey to the Council to share the input of what visitors want to see when they come to Edenton.

Balancing Nature and Commerce

Ms. Nicholls noted she is working with a group and will be attending a conference where a plan will be developed regarding nature and commerce regarding heritage and eco-tourism. She will provide the Board with more information after the conference.

Wayfinding Signage

Ms. Knighton reported that the signage is in production and delivery is expected in 30 days. She stated that she is working with DOT and Public Works on specific signage location.

Media Committee Report

Ms. Barnes reported that the committee has added two more ads for the fall and winter advertisements. She provided information on the new billboard wrap which is now in red. She provided the Board members with a photocopy of the billboard. She noted this billboard will hopefully direct beach traffic to historic Edenton.

Directors Report

Ms. Nicholls provided the directors report and provided a fiscal wrap PowerPoint on her activities and the successes of the TDA for FY 2014-15.

Mr. Carawan left the meeting.

Timely and Important Matters

Pembroke Creek Status

Chairman Nixon stated he hoped to partner with TDA for a grand opening of Pembroke Creek when the repairs are completed.

Historic Jail Tour

There is a plan to tour the historic jail in Beaufort in September.

Adjourn

Being no further business, Mr. Speller moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. Chairman Nixon asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (7-0).