

**Tourism Development Authority
Meeting
Tuesday, June 25, 2019
12:00pm
Town Council Chambers
504 South Broad Street
Edenton, NC 27932**

Present: Don Faircloth, Diane Pariseau, Katrina Barnes and Ben Speller and Susan Beckwith.

Absent: Frank Jones, Teresa Thesier, Tyler Russell and John Dowd

Ex-Officio Members present were Nancy Nicholls, Cathy Smith and Susanne Stallings Clerk

Guest present Win Dale, Bob Hopkins, Melissa Radke and Elizabeth Bryant.

Prior to the presence of a quorum Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton provided the members present with a PowerPoint presentation of the Ocracoke Passenger Ferry visit that she and Nancy were invited to attend on June 17th. She shared the group is hopeful this project will become a reality for an Innerbanks pilot project that would begin in October.

Ms. Beckwith joined the meeting.

Chairman Faircloth called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Speller moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. Chairman Faircloth asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Public Comment

There was none

Consent Agenda

A. Review and acceptance of 4/30/19 minutes

Ms. Barnes moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Speller seconded the motion. Chairman Faircloth asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Financial Report

Ms. Smith provided the Finance Report and highlighted that the TDA revenues exceeded expenditures.

Budget Amendment

Ms. Smith presented the Budget amendment BA1819-075.

Account Number	Account Description	Revenue (Inc+/Dec-)	Expense (Inc+/Dec-)
TDA			
51-3815-530-00	Co-Op Monies	1,595.30	
51-8150-261-01	Co-Op Office Supplies		1,595.30
51-3832-530-00	Co-Op Advertising	3,000.00	
51-8150-370-01	Co-Op Advertising		3,000.00
51-3839-894-00	*Music & Water Festival	2,020.00	
51-8150-826-00	*Music & Water Festival		2,020.00
	Balanced	6,615.30	6,615.30

Justification:

To amend the 2019 budget for TDA to include Co-Op and Discretionary income through May 2019

Ms. Barnes moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Mr. Speller seconded the motion. Chairman Faircloth asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Proposed 2019-20 TDA Budget Public Hearing

Mr. Speller moved to open the floor for the TDA Budget public hearing. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. Chair Faircloth asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Chairman Faircloth asked if anyone in attendance had any comment on the TDA budget. There was none.

Ms. Smith provided an overview of the proposed budget. Which was accepted by the Board of Commissioners. The Budget of \$162,532 includes a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) as well as an increase for the audit due to the Tax Office doing the Occupancy Tax Collections.

Ms. Barnes moved to close the floor for the TDA Budget public hearing. Mr. Speller seconded the motion. Chair Faircloth asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Speller moved to adopt the TDA Budget as presented. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. Chair Faircloth asked for all in favor, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Short Term Rentals

Ms. Bryant reviewed the status of the Town's efforts to draft an ordinance to address short term rentals. She stated the Planning Board reviewed the ordinance and has requested one additional time for public input before it sends the draft ordinance to the Town Council for consideration.

Ms. Knighton noted that staff is monitoring the proposed legislation in Raleigh regarding short term rentals. She noted the legislation would pre-empt present legislation which supports a local government's ability to develop ordinances to regulate short term rentals through compliance.

Ms. Radke shared information on the current procedure for audits of short term rentals. She noted that an insert will be in the Tax bills regarding Occupancy Tax. The TDA will pay for the insert. She shared about the additional costs for auditing noting that there are about 40 Short Term Rentals with 11 Traditional. She noted that the traditional rentals will be audited first and the short term rentals will be done next. She discussed how she planned to host groups of the short term rental owners to get the information out to them to assist them with coming into compliance.

Board members shared their concerns over the additional burdens being placed on the traditional rentals which are already in compliance with both occupancy and other tax regulations.

Ms. Radke explained that everyone must be audited in this process and that financially it makes the most sense to address the traditional rentals first and then the short term next. The Board asked where the fees that are found and collected go. Ms. Radke will look into this as well. Ms. Radke will reach out to Durham and Dare counties to see how they handle this process.

Chair Faircloth asked to be dismissed from the meeting he passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Speller.

Media Committee Report

Ms. Barnes provided the media committee report. A copy is in the meeting file labeled June 25, 2019.

Directors Report

Nancy provided the Directors report. A copy is in the meeting file labeled June 25, 2019.

Edenton Branding Campaign Update

The Board will get an update at the next meeting in August.

Hospitality and Organization Updates

There were none.

Timely and Important Matters

There were none

Adjourn

Being no further business, Ms. Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Beckwith seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Speller asked for all in favor the motion passed unanimously (5-0).