

NEWPORT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

12:00 PM

Held at

Bel Mer

Goat Island, Newport

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm by Chairman Len Panaggio.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Len Panaggio, Stephen Coyne, Laurie Stroll, William Clarke, Greg Fater, Brian Arnold, Mark Stenning, Donna Kohler, Charron Reed, Karen Oakley, Katie Wilkinson, Susan Samson, Pieter Roos

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED WERE:

Rocky Kempenaar, Ed Silveira,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & NOT EXCUSED WERE:

None

STAFF PRESENT WERE:

Kathryn Farrington, Tim Walsh, Cathy Morrison, Deb Gatta, Ellen Crawley

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Jonathan Stevens

Evan Smith thanked Andrew Jay, GM and Sandra Rios, Director of Development & Public Relations for Bel Mer, for hosting the board meeting. Andrew & Sandra gave a brief speech about Bel Mer.

I. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The previous meeting minutes for June 9, 2009 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Mark Stenning and seconded by Stephen Coyne. The motion passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT:

• As there was not meeting held in July, the financial reports for June and July, 2009 were read by Mark Stenning. City Bed Tax for April, 2009 was down 10.98%, for May down 1.41% and Regional Bed Tax for was down 13.54 % (April) and down 5.88% (May) for a combined YTD bed tax of -11.68% (April) and -2.57% (May). Mark reviewed the revenues and receivables for the months of June and July, 2009. A motion to accept the treasurer's reports for the month of June and July was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Susan Samson. The motion passed unanimously.

• Mark reported for the Finance Committee on the results of the required, annual, full financial audit. The Finance Committee met on 7/30/09 with the auditors from Sansiveri, Kimball & McNamee,

CPA/Business Consultants. He was pleased to report that the NCCVB received a very clean audit and the Finance Committee accepted the audit. The report was presented to the board members. A motion to accept the audit was made by Len Panaggio. The motion was seconded by Katie Wilkinson. The motion passed unanimously.

III. STAFF REPORTS:

Evan Smith, President/CEO, Kathryn Farrington, VP of Marketing, Tim Walsh, VP of Sales and Cathy Morrison, VP of Operations reported respectively on the status of their departments to date.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

The terms of all NCCVB board will expire in September. Evan Smith has received letters from the town of Middletown re-appointing Ed Silveira, Rocky Kempenaar & Len Panaggio, Portsmouth, for Katie Wilkinson, Jamestown, Donna Kohler and Little Compton, Susan Samson. No response for re-appointments at this time from Newport and Tiverton.

Greg Fater, representing the Governance Committee reported on the following:

- If legislation passes for the merger of Bristol, Warren & Barrington we will have 18 board members.**
- The appointment of the 5 industry seats on the board of directors**

will be determined at the September meeting.

- **All 5 incumbents for the industry seats are expected to seek re-appointment. To the call of nominations for these seats, three non-incumbent applications have been received, all are members of the public. Discussion followed.**

- **Recommended a special meeting of the Governance Committee to interview the applicants and present to the board at the next meeting for decision.**

- **He recommended a change of date for September's board meeting (TBA) to later in the month, Evan to coordinate.**

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- **The subject of raising the toll for the Pell Bridge was presented. Discussion followed. Len Panaggio made a motion to allow Evan Smith to take a position in favor of raising the toll on the Pell Bridge. The motion was seconded by Mark Stenning. The motion passed unanimously.**

- **Evan Smith presented a draft resolution regarding the runway expansion at TF Green Airport. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Karen Oakley to allow Evan Smith to recommend the modernization and runway expansion at TF Green Airport. The motion was seconded by Mark Stenning. The motion passed unanimously.**

- **Mark Stenning was presented with a gift of appreciation for his 15 years of service on the NCCVB board of directors. Mark Stenning will be resigning from the board effective September, 2009**

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Mark Stenning. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

**The next NCCVB board meeting will be held in September, TBA
At the Gateway Information Center, 3rd floor meeting room**