

NEWPORT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

12:00 pm

Held at

Newport Marriott

25 America's Cup Avenue

Newport, RI

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, Greg Fater, Brian Arnold, Karen Oakley, Rocky Kempenaar, Bill Enos, Katie Wilkinson, William Clarke, Susan Samson Charron Reed

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED WERE:

Laurie Stroll, Ed Silveira

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & NOT EXCUSED WERE:

Pieter Roos

STAFF PRESENT WERE:

Evan Smith, Kathryn Farrington, Cathy Morrison, Tim Walsh, Deb

Gatta, Ellen Crawley

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Justin McLaughlin and Paige Bronk, City of Newport, John Shevlin of Pare Corporation.

I. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The previous meeting minutes for November 10, 2009 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Greg Fater and seconded by Katie Wilkinson. The motion passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The financial report for November & December, 2009 was read by Treasurer Bill Clarke. City Bed Tax for October, 2009 was down 12.89% and Regional Bed Tax was down 8.83% for a combined YTD bed tax of -11.83%. Bill reviewed the revenues and receivables for the month of November & December, 2009. A motion to accept the treasurer's report for November & December was made by Bill Clarke and seconded by Len Panaggio. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill stated that the Finance Committee met earlier in the day and reported on the following

- The committee met with Jay Nelson, IT representative for the NBCCVB regarding the upgrade of the computer system for the CVB.**
- A technology outline was presented with a total equipment request of \$39,000 and the proposal would be presented at today's board**

meeting.

- The proposal was presented at the board meeting. Discussion followed.
- A motion was made by Katie Wilkinson to spend up to \$44,000 for the NBCCVB technology upgrade. The motion was seconded by Rocky Kempenaar. A vote was taken and was approved unanimously.

III. PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Evan Smith reported on the following:

- He presented a proposed Gateway Information Center Partnership Program with the Newport Historical Society.
- An outline was presented and discussion followed.
- City officials will be briefed about this program and the CVB will seek approval from the board of directors at a later date.

A motion to adjourn was made by Len Panaggio. The motion was seconded by Rocky Kempenaar. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 temporarily for a special presentation by Pare Engineering.

Board of members of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce joined the NBCCVB board members.

- Introductions were made.
- A special presentation of preliminary recommendations was made by Pare Engineering for a Seasonal Trolley System – Newport Jitney Concept. Discussion followed.

- **Sub-committees will be formed and a final report will be presented in the future.**

The NBCCVB board meeting reconvened at 1:35pm.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

Evan Smith reported on the following:

- **A USS Saratoga Aircraft Carrier museum for Aquidneck Island. He presented a poll taken by the Newport Daily News. Discussion followed.**
- **Two seats are available on the RI EDC board. Evan presented the bios of two candidates, Ken Cuson, Director of Restaurant & Catering Operations with the Newport Harbor Corporation and Angelo De Pari, GM of the Renaissance Providence Hotel, from the hospitality industry. RI Hospitality supports both candidates. and has notified the Governor's office. Discussion followed.**
- **A motion was made by Greg Fater to support the two candidates, Ken Cuson & Angelo De Pari. Len Panaggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Evan Smith commented that the appointments of the 3 seats on the NBCCVB board of directors for Bristol Warren and Barrington should filled by February.**

V. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Greg Fater. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting

adjourned at 2:00pm.

**The next board meeting will be held, Tuesday, February 10th at
The Gateway Information Center, 3rd Floor Meeting Room.**