

**NEWPORT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

12:00 pm

At

**The Gateway Visitors Center
3rd Floor Meeting Room**

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chairman Len Panaggio.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Len Panaggio, Greg Fater, Karen Oakley, Bill Enos, William Clarke, Susan Samson, Laurie Stroll, Pieter Roos, Rocky Kempenaar, Stephen Brigidi, Katie Wilkinson, Jeff McDonough, Susan Coogan, Lisa Speidel

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED WERE:

Ed Silveira, Charron Reed, Brian Arnold, Stephen Coyne

STAFF PRESENT WERE:

Evan Smith, TimWalsh, Cathy Morrison, Ellen Crawley

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

Correction noted by Stephen Brigidi in April 13, 2010 board meeting minutes: Susan Coogan representing Bristol, should be Barrington.

I. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The previous meeting minutes for April 13, 2010 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Greg Fater and seconded Katie Wilkinson. The motion passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The financial report for April, 2010 was read by Treasurer Bill Clarke. City Bed Tax for February, 2010 was up 0.02% and Regional Bed Tax was up 6.16% for a combined YTD bed tax of 3.91%. Bill reviewed the revenues and expenses for the month of April, 2010. A motion to accept the treasurer's report for April was made by Greg Fater and seconded by Pieter Roos. The motion passed unanimously.

Evan Smith recapped the newest board members and the towns they represented: Jeff McDonough, Jamestown, Susan Coogan, Barrington, Lisa Speidel, Warren & Stephen Brigidi, Bristol.

III. PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Evan Smith reported on the following:

- He received a call from Senator Sheldon Whitehouse's staff to assemble 25 Greater Middletown people to meet with the Middletown Economic Development Council for a meeting to review the travel outlook for 2010 on Monday, 5/17. Evan extended an invitation to board members to attend.**
- The Royal Plaza Hotel on East Main Road in Middletown is now up and running under new ownership. 41 North, Newport will be online Memorial Day weekend.**
- Due to Evan not in town for the Tuesday, June 8th board meeting, he suggested the meeting be changed to Wednesday, June 9th at 9am. Len Panaggio requested a show of hands for the change and majority agreed on Wednesday, June 9th at 9am.**

IV. STAFF REPORTS:

A. SALES & TOURISM:

Tim Walsh, Vice President of Sales, reported on the status of the sales department and the upcoming events.

B. OPERATIONS:

Cathy Morrison, Vice President of Operations, reported on the status of the first floor Information Center and the summer season.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Greg Fater inquired as to the status of a lease for the NBCCVB with the City of Newport. Evan Smith stated that a lease draft was presented by the city and was entirely too technical to understand. Evan has asked Russ Jackson, legal counsel for the CVB, to develop currently a new lease draft for review when completed.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Rocky Kempenaar. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:51.

**The next board meeting will be held, Wednesday, June 9th at 9am
at
The Gateway Information Center, 3rd Floor Meeting Room.**