

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

Tuesday August 9, 2011

9:00am

Glen Manor House

3 Frank Coelho Drive

Portsmouth, RI 02871

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Chairman Len Panaggio.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Len Panaggio, Greg Fater, Susan Coogan, Stephen Coyne, Laurie Stroll, Susan Samson, Rocky Kempenaar, Karen Oakley, Daniel Braun, Marlen Scalzi, Katie Wilkinson, Stephan Brigidi, Lisa Speidel, Pieter Roos

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED WERE: Jeff McDonough, Ed Silveira

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & NOT EXCUSED WERE: Jon Cohen, Bill Enos

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Evan Smith, Cathy Morrison, Kathryn Farrington, Tim Walsh, Deb Gatta, Annie Everson, Ellen Crawley, Andrea McHugh

GUESTS PRESENT WERE: Terry Horsley, representing The Newport Daily Record, filmed the meeting.

Robert Leaver, New Commons

I. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The previous meeting minutes for June 14, 2011 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Pieter Roos and seconded by Karen Oakley. The motion passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stephen Coyne stated that the Financials for June were reviewed at the 8/3/11 Finance Committee Meeting. The financial report for July, 2011 was read by Stephen Coyne. City Bed Tax for May, 2011 was up 2.96%, YTD. Regional Bed Tax was up 6.38%, YTD for a combined YTD Bed Tax of 4.77%. He reviewed the revenues and expenses for the month of July, 2011. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report for July was made by Greg Fater and seconded by Rocky Kempenaar. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Laurie Stroll briefed the board members on the project of a name change for the NBCCVB that she spearheaded and worked (with the board) along with Robert Leaver of New Commons. The report was presented to a steering committee. The new name recommendation: Discover Newport – Nine Small Towns, One Big Experience.

Mr. Leaver followed with a presentation of the Branding Report he prepared regarding the name change for the organization. Discussion followed. He created a discussion group at the meeting and asked the group about thoughts and concerns. A quick break was taken and discussion followed.

Greg Fater made a motion to accept the proposed name: Discover Newport. Discussion followed. Katie Wilkinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Greg Fater also made a motion to accept the proposed tag line: Nine Coastal Towns, One Big Experience.

Discussion followed. Rocky Kempenaar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. FACILITIES:

Stephen Coyne reported on the following:

- The Facilities Committee met on 7/19/11 and appointed a jury of 8 for the design competition for the first floor Information Center of the CVB.**
- The jury will meet at the end of August and a presentation will be made at the next board meeting in September.**

B. GOVERNANCE:

Greg Fater reported on the following:

- Mid September is the required turnover and/or re-appointment of board members for new terms for six towns.**
- Re-appointments, confirmed at this time, for 3 year terms, are Katie Wilkinson, representing Portsmouth and Susan Samson, representing Little Compton.**
- Waiting for response from Jamestown, Tiverton, Bristol and Warren.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

Evan Smith briefed the board on the State Bill 44-18 Package Tours & Scenic Transportation and

expressed his concerns. Discussion followed. A workshop will be held on Monday, August 22nd . at 8:30am at CCRI, Newport Campus. A State hearing is planned for Friday, September 2nd at

10:00am at the Division of Taxation.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Greg Fater and seconded by Katie Wilkinson. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 am.

The next board meeting will be

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

At the Gateway Information Center

3rd floor meeting room