

# **Block Island Tourism Council**

## **Minutes**

**April 12, 2016**

**9am Town Hall**

**Present: Steve, Logan, John, Julie, Zena, and Jessica.**

**Absent: Brad and Sven**

**Meeting called to order at 9:01 am by Zena**

**Public Comment: None**

### **Director's Report:**

- **Correspondence:**

- o **Letter of funding request for Chamber of Commerce FY 16/17**

- **Hotel Tax: January was down from previous January**

- **Commerce Corporation Update: Jessica updated the board on the status of the State's Marketing Campaign as well as staffing changes at the Tourism Office. Jessica mentioned that she had met with the Governor once and the Regional Directors several times. Jessica also made clear that she nor any Director had any input on the original marketing campaign or roll out.**

- **Marketing Update:** Jessica shared the Calendar Year 2016 Marketing Plan with the Board
- **3 month Summary:** Jessica shared her 3 month summary from January through March 2016 and presented her next 3 month outline.

#### **Approve Minutes:**

**March 22, 2016:** Zena made a motion to approve and Julie seconded. All approved.

#### **Old Business:**

**A) Blues on the Block:** John made a motion to fund Blues on the Block for \$3000 for the 2016 season. Logan seconded and all approved.

**B) Discuss Tourism Contract with Chamber of Commerce:** because no one was in attendance from the Chamber the board asked Jessica to reach out to the Chamber again and invite them to the next meeting. The board felt they could not make any decisions with the lack of information they had. The item was tabled and Jessica said she would reach out to the Chamber Board and Director.

**C) Set meeting date for RIFF to meet:** The board though we should wait to see how the PUC ruled on the RIFF case before we invited anyone in to talk with us about the project further.

**New Business:**

**A) Discuss status of Town Beach:** Jessica mentioned that she heard a rumor that National Grid was not going to be finished with their work at the Town Beach by the May 15th contracted date. She had emailed the Town Manager in this and read the email reply to the board. It seemed as though National Grid was going to be asking the town for an extension at the April 20th meeting. Jessica said she would attend this meeting and gather information.

**Next Meeting is May 3rd at 9am.**

**Accounts Payable:**

Zena made a motion to pay the bills. Logan seconded and all approved.

**9:38: Logan made a motion to adjourn. Julie seconded. All approved.**

**Date Accepted: May 3, 2016**

**Jessica Willi**

**Executive Director**

**Block Island Tourism Council**