

Stanton Tourism & Convention Commission

Regular Meeting

Stanton City Hall

April 16th, 2019

6:30pm

Kim Tharpe	Mayor Dale Allen
Susan Watson	Annie Kinser
Joey Casey	LeAndre Knox
Ethan Moore	Tammi Milby
Rhonda Roe	Tommy Mays
Jessica Stevens	Billy Abner

In Attendance

Call to Order

Chairman, Kim Tharpe calls the meeting to order. Susan Watson points out that several names of attendees are left out. Annie Kinser apologizes and will make changes. Pending attendee changes, Ethan Moore makes a motion to approve submitted minutes from the March 19th regular meeting. Susan Watson seconds the motion. All in favor; minutes approved. Kinser will make changes and resubmit to Stephanie Faulkner, City Clerk.

Bourbon Barrel Updates

LeAndre Knox addresses the commission inquiring about possible pickup dates for barrels in Bardstown. Knox informs the commission that no return calls were made from Woodford Reserve about bulk pricing. At this time the STCC will move forward with the original vendor at \$55.00 per barrel. All are encouraged to attend to assist in pick up and drop off of barrels. Mendell Tipton will arrange for one way transportation of UHAUL in Bardstown. Mayor Allen invites anyone to ride with him. Ethan Moore offers the use of his dollies. Mayor Allen confirms that the Burke Parsons Bowlby building has been secured as a storage location until barrels are painted. Knox will secure date with vendor and update everyone who plans to participate about meeting times.

Jon Skidmore will be present to acquire footage for the creation of a documentary type promotion of the barrels. Knox will contact him when dates are set. Video will be released after project is complete. Commission agrees that the next promotional video should be a restaurant or joint restaurant to highlight the tourism tax payers. Scott Graham will send out letters to all businesses to encourage participation. All are in favor.

Part Time Director Position

Mayor Allen informs the commission that he took the STCC recommendation for the Part Time Tourism Director before the Stanton City Council. The recommendation of Tammi Milby was denied by their board. Issues and concerns arose based upon the fact she was not a Powell County resident. Joey Casey reads the posted job description as written by City Attorney, Scott

Graham. Casey points out that the description posted does not state that the applicant must be a Powell County or Stanton resident.

Chairman, Kim Tharpe asks Tammi Milby to introduce herself to the commission and the public. Milby presents herself and indicates that she was not informed that living in the county was a requirement. Milby states that her commitment to the position and capability to perform the job does not stop at the county line. Milby also addresses concerns of the City Council that she currently has a position in the Estill County school system that would possibly restrict her availability to complete the 20 hour work requirement. She informs the commission that her five year contract with the school board is up after May and she may step down from that position after her contract is complete. The current school year has 6 weeks left and after school ends she will be more readily available. Milby states she is in attendance to become more informed about the status of the position and how she needs to move forward.

Rhonda Roe, City Council member addresses Tammi Milby and informs the board that she was a yes vote, in favor of Milby's approval for the position. Roe expresses her support for Milby.

Tommy Mays, City Council member expresses his concern as an elected city official. Councilman Mays relays that when asked from community members about the position, he was questioned multiple times why the selected new hire was from out of county. Kim Tharpe replies that Milby indeed was the only applicant from out of county but had the most successful interview and presentation.

Ethan Moore asks to go into closed session. City Attorney, Scott Graham reviews KRS statutes to see if grounds for closed session are present. Graham denies request for closed session.

Ethan Moore continues, expressing he feels there was a large error in the notification process of applicants. Moore states that it is proper protocol for applicants to be informed only after they have been approved by City Council. It is his understanding that applicant was notified prematurely and STCC materials were distributed before all hiring standards were in place. Milby states she has not been given any materials related to the position and has not been back to City Hall since her initial interview.

LeAndre Knox questions how the board moves forward at this time. Inquiry is directed at Mayor Allen if it is appropriate for the STCC to resubmit recommendation and take it back before the City Council for an additional review.

As comments from the public and council members intensify, Chairman Kim Tharpe requests control of the board. Tharpe states the commission will request a special meeting of City Council to reconcile and request an additional vote. If the City Council is unable to accommodate the STCC's request, the position will be reposted.

Ethan Moore makes a motion to request a special City Council meeting to re-review the recommendation of the Part Time Tourism Director. Susan Watson seconds the motion. All in favor. Special meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd at 5:00pm at City Hall.

Tammi Milby asks if she should be present. Kim Tharpe encourages her to attend.

Powell County Public Library

In congruence with the Summer Reading Program, Alison Vlanlandingham, Library Director informs the commission that they will be hosting a ComiCon event at the library this summer. The closest event of this kind is held in Lexington annually with over 33,000 in participation. With a focus on comic books, comic culture and cosplay, the event will be held July 20th at the Stanton Elementary School. Tickets will be \$5. Vendors will also be set up for \$20 per booth. Ethan Moore asks if they currently have a promotional plan. Moore recommends Mountain TV as media outlet.

Kim Tharpe requests that an official STCC funding application be filled out and completed before a formal vote can be made. The library will bring form back at a later date for review.

Gorge Guide Updates

Jess Stevens of Alight Marketing informs the STCC that she is currently working on meeting with each commission for input and requests regarding the Gorge Guide. Lee and Powell Counties have already met. Stevens speaks of current updates including iconography and color coding, a center map and travel guide to be added. Guide should be ready to print by July.

Ethan Moore asks Annie Kinser if she will be willing to serve as a point of reference for print and design for Stevens. Kinser agrees to review and offer edits for design but adds that time does not permit her to gather information and attend additional meetings.

Rack Cards

While Jessica Stevens is present, Ethan Moore asks if the commission would be interested in a front and back rack card to be created by Alight Marketing for the purpose of promoting Exit 22. All agree. Alight Marketing will present the STCC with a formal bid for the creation of a rack card at the next regular meeting.

“A Moving Experience”

Ethan Moore presents the commission with the promotional video for Estill County’s rail experience to inform board of current events happening in the neighboring county.

Invoice

Scott Graham presents the commission with an invoice from the desk of City Clerk, Stephanie Faulkner. Invoice is for \$312.00. Joey Casey makes a motion to pay the submitted invoice. LeAndre Knox seconds. All in favor.

Closed Session

Mayor Allen speaks to the public and expresses his appreciation for their attendance. Mayor Allen requests the commission be permitted to enter into a closed session at this time. Scott Graham states KRS statute 61810-B; closed session is permitted.

Adjournment

Kim Tharpe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ethan Moore. All in favor. Meeting adjourned. Next regular meeting will be held May 21st at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Stanton Tourism & Convention Commission

BY: _____
Secretary, Annie Kinser

Approval of Minutes

I certify that the foregoing minutes were duly approved by the Stanton Tourism & Convention Commission at a meeting held on the date stated below:

BY: _____
Chairman, Kim Tharpe

Date Approved: _____