

SWITZERLAND COUNTY TOURISM
MEETING MINUTES
April 16, 2018

Meeting Information

These are the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Switzerland County Tourism held Monday, April 16, 2018, at 6:00 PM at the Switzerland County TEC Building, Vevay, IN, 47043. The meeting was chaired by Sheri Works (President) and it was determined that a quorum was present. The following Commission Members were present (in last name alphabetical order): Jeanne Bragg, Anita Danner, Barbara Davidson, Rhonda Griffin, Pam Haines, Andrea Kappes, Stacy Streett, and Don Talbert.

Others present include: Hannah Shelton (Internal Marketing & Events), Stephanie Furnish (CPA), Mary Jane Demaree (The Ridge Winery), Sarah Mann Wolf (Vevay Main Street), and John Kniola (guest).

Actions of the Board

A. General Business

1. The meeting was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A request was made by Sheri Works to approve the Consent Agenda with a future change of publishing the minutes under the name of "Switzerland County Tourism."

Anita Danner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda noting said change, seconded by Rhonda Griffin. Motion carries.

B. Presentations: Mary Jane Demaree (Ridge Winery) spoke on behalf the Indiana Wine Trail, a 13 year cooperative venture of seven wineries seeking financial assistance for expanding their marketing beyond current rack cards, brochures, and social media. The request is for \$5,000+ without specific or identified uses for funds. The board requested that Mary Jane Demaree present a list of specific cost items with her request for consideration.

C. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee:

a. Sheri Works reported that the SCT PTO policy would be added to the employee handbook effective April 2, 2018.

b. Lu Scudder, the new assistant tourism director will join SCT on April 23, 2018.

c. Lacey Ekberg Leave of Absence: Sheri Works reported that Lacey Ekberg's leave of absence will include her working off-site and managing current responsibilities. She plans to return as soon as she can.

d. Grant/Loan Committee: There was no update on the finalization of the policies. Barbara Davidson will contact Lacey Ekberg to update status.

2. Directors Report: See Directors Report on Google Docs.

3. Event Recap: See Events Report in Google Docs. There was discussion regarding the overwhelming success of the Wedding Expo and strong interest by vendors for registering early for next year. Hannah Shelton reported that the Wedding Expo will move up to the first Saturday of March by and part due to the SCT Outdoor Expo with Cabela's scheduled the second Saturday of April.

D. Unfinished Business:

1. Approval of the grant and loan applications for small business assistance. Barbara Davidson will contact Lacey Ekberg to determine when we can process applications.
2. Camp Host: Although the campground is still underwater, the camp host is scheduled to arrive May 15. There is a need to review camp policies with the camp host and to get the reservation system online. Sheri Works will contact Lacey Ekberg regarding the camp host agreement.
3. Ice Rink: The rink is here and is larger than the one we rented last year. The 4H will use it in July.
4. Sewer Issue: Sheri Works reported that a separate straight-line pipe is needed for AJ's. We are now seeking bids.
5. Beef Show - May 19, 2018. SCT will be sponsoring.

E. New Business

1. Street Banners. It was determined that there are 27 spots that use banners and we are in need of getting new ones. Ten spots will be reserved for events and 17 spots will be used for general purpose. Rhonda Griffin and Pam Haines will assist the SCT staff in getting new banners designed.

F. Public Comments:

1. Anita Danner recommended that the SCT staff distribute tourism brochures to all the local campgrounds.
2. Stephanie Furnish requested information regarding the status of SCT's rental agreement with AJ's. She said she would obtain the information.
3. Don Talbert discussed issues regarding Duke Energy poles and the availability of Wi-Fi in Ogle Park throughout the summer months. He and Sheri Works will research these items.
4. Sarah Mann Wolf, representing Vevay Main Street, shared with SCT the possible need for additional funding or cutting back on the unplanned and unbudgeted First Friday activities that were initiated/supported by SCT. SCT requested specific cost for the additional activities for review.

Don Talbert made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rhonda Griffin. Motion carries.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the SCT is Monday, May 21, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Switzerland County TEC building in Vevay, IN 47043.

SCT Secretary
Barbara Davidson