

SWITZERLAND COUNTY TOURISM
MEETING MINUTES
July 17, 2018

Meeting Information

These are the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Switzerland County Tourism held Monday, July 17, 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): Anita Danner, Barbara Davidson, Rhonda Griffin, Pam Haines, and Don Talbert. Andrea Kappes, Jeanne Bragg, and Stacy Streett were absent. Others present include: Lacey Ekberg (Executive Director, SCT), Stephanie Furnish (CPA), 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.

Anita Danner made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Don Talbert. Motion carries.

B. Presentations: None

C. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: Under Unfinished and New Business.

2. Directors Report: None

3. Event Recap: No written update. Verbal report includes:

(1) Revv Rally is postponed until next year. Businesses need to know and signage (physical and electronic) need to be removed. Lacey will check on the alcohol permit, to see if it was applied for, and to determine what we will need for 2019.

(2) Sleepy Hollow: Vendor fee is now non-refundable. We will check to see if we can set up the ice rink for the event.

(3) Festival of Lights. We need to assess volunteer ability.

(4) Car Show: Don Talbert and Barbara Davidson will contact Mike Bear to determine if show can be done in 2019.

D. Unfinished Business:

1. Tourism Office – Sewer Repairs/Building Evaluation: Sheri Works presented information regarding the sewer issue and the foundation issues resulting in cracked walls. The board decided that more information is needed regarding the foundation prior to approving any work on the sewer.

Anita Danner made a motion to obtain two estimates for sewer repairs and that we have the SCT building evaluated by a structural engineer, specifically to assess the foundation and basement structure, seconded by Don Talbert. Motion carries.

2. Grant Reviews and Awarding: The Underutilized Building Grant and Small Business Assistant Program committee on 7/16/18 and reviewed three grant applications as well as two loan applications. All applications require additional information or clarification. Lacey will contact applicants and recommendations for the board will be ready by August meeting.

3. Campground Update:

(a) Sheri Works reported that the campground should be ready to rent this weekend. The Town decided not to permit campers during race weekend because of the ground conditions.

(b) SCT is researching the ability to use Spectrum Wi-Fi directly from SCT building to the campground.

(c) Rules need approval from the Town Council.

(d) Matt Hocker will draw up the final agreement between Town of Vevay and SCT on insurance, utilities, finance responsibilities, and additional issues.

4. Budget Committee – Review and Revise 2018 Budget: The current budget is under review with allocation adjustments. We need to prepare for the 2019 budget forecast and determine a deadline date for SCT stakeholders. A recommendation was made to have a separate, special budget meeting where line item holders can present their budget proposal outside of the monthly SCT meetings. Lacey will also obtain information regarding the latest IN state legislation for Innkeeper's Tax.

5. Street Banners: Paige is looking the cost of signs. We currently have enough to for the rest of the year. Banners for the four corners in Vevay should be purchased first. Costs for banners need to be included with the 2019 budget.

6. Report on Signage of Markland Park: Sign was fixed by unknown group or person.

E. New Business:

1. Classes for grant recipients: SCT needs to develop this program in the near future for the 2018 recipients.

2. Capital projects for 2019: Board members and staff need to think about future projects with a visual impact to enhance tourism.

3. Swiss Wine Fest. Ticket sales begin 8/1/18.

F. Public Comments:

1. Anita Danner reported on her meeting with Mark Johnson, wrestling coach for Lynx. She reported that there were 200 children participating from eight states. Seventy wrestlers weighed in on Friday night. Mark Johnson states that they will need financial support from SCT for 2019, but not as much from previous years. Details to follow.

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

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the SCT is Monday, August 20, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Switzerland County TEC building in Vevay, IN 47043.

SCT Secretary
Barbara Davidson