

SWITZERLAND COUNTY TOURISM  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 17, 2018

Meeting Information

These are the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Switzerland County Tourism held Monday, December 17, 2018, at 6:00 PM at the Switzerland County TEC Building, Vevay, IN, 47043. The meeting was chaired by Stacy Streett (Vice 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, Pam Haines, Rhonda Griffin, and Don Talbert. Sheri Works and Andrea Kappes were absent. Others present include: Lacey Ekberg (Executive Director, SCT), Paula Myers (CFO, SCT), Stephanie Furnish (CPA), and guest: John Kniola.

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 Stacy Streett to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

B. Presentations: None

C. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee: None

2. Directors Report: See board packet.

D. Unfinished Business:

1. Building Update:

(a) Insurance claim for building repairs is under review. Insurance Inspector hired a structural engineer. We are waiting for the engineer's report to be submitted to the insurance company.

(b) The visitor center is experiencing a new and unusual odor occurring when the furnace is running. The odor is similar to paint thinner. An HVAC repairer has looked but cannot determine the source of the odor. The odor has not tripped the smoke or carbon monoxide alarms. The HVAC repairer will return with a representative from the gas company to further investigate.

2. WIFI Update: It was discovered that SCT and their hired agent, Radiant, never received permission from Duke Energy to install WIFI equipment on Duke Energy poles. Radiant was directed to obtain all permissions and made assumptions that this was completed at a Vevay Town Meeting. Duke Energy produced the contract showing no permissions were given.

***Don Talbert made a motion to have Duke Energy remove the WIFI equipment and return it to SCT for a fee of \$1,800, seconded by Jeanne Bragg, Motion carries.***

3. AJ's Diner Lease: The 2019 lease with certificate of insurance for AJ's Diner has not been signed. Sheri Works continues to meet with Wendy to reach terms.

E. New Business:

1. Update on Festival of Lights. All agreed the event was a huge success and special recognition was given to Joe Parham and Rod Dickerson for all their help. First Friday brought in the most participants. The ice rink hosted approximately 90 skaters throughout the event. The trolley was very effective in transporting visitors between Ogle and Opera Parks. Christkindlmarkt did not receive the anticipated traffic and may look to improve marketing and signage.

2. Update on Ohio River Recreational Trail – Cincinnati to Louisville: See report from John Kniola in the board packet. A special meeting regarding the creation of the Ohio River Recreational Trail was held on Friday December 7, 1-3 PM at Belterra Casino Resort. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the development of an Ohio River Recreation Trail extending initially from Portsmouth, OH to Louisville, KY. John Kniola (County Park Board) Barbara Davidson (SCT) attended the meeting.

3. Accounting Contract with Stephanie Furnish: See board packet.

***Rhonda Griffin made a motion to approve the proposed 2019 Accounting Contract with Stephanie Furnish, seconded by Anita Danner. Motion carries.***

F. Public Comments:

1. Lacey Ekberg asked if the unallocated funds for the Grant/Loan projects in 2018 can be carried over for distribution in 2019. It was reported that any leftover funds from 2018 have already been reallocated in the approved 2019 budget. If funds do become available we can request an adjustment to the 2019 budget.

2. Pam Haines requested an update regarding the possibility of SCT assuming responsibility for the rental and reservation processes of the Event Center located inside the TEC building. Lacey Ekberg reported that she and Josh South have tried to meet regarding this and will probably have more information in early 2019.

***Anita Danner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Don Talbert. Motion carries.***

The Switzerland County Kick Off Party is scheduled for January 10, 2019 at 6 PM at the TEC Center.

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

SCT Secretary  
Barbara Davidson