

SWITZERLAND COUNTY TOURISM  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, October 21, 2019

Meeting Information

These are the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of Switzerland County Tourism held Monday, October 21, 2019, 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 Members were present (in last name alphabetical order): Melissa Brush, Anita Danner, Barbara Davidson, Rhonda Griffin, Pam Haines, Andrea Kappes, and Jon Charles Smith. Stacy Streett was absent.

Others present include: Paula Myers (CFO, SCT), Christy Morgan (Info Spec, SCT), and Josh Glacken (Beekeeper).

Actions of the Board

A. General Business

1. Prior to calling the meeting to order, the SCRTCC/SCT met with representatives of the Swiss Wine Festival, Musee de Venoge, Switzerland County Historical Society, Community Art Center of Switzerland County, Historic Hoosier Theater, and Vevay Main Street regarding funding requests for 2020. Draft budget for 2020 will be discussed at November 2019 meeting.

2. Sheri Works welcomed two new board members:

a. Melissa Brush, who is taking the position previously held by Wendy Harrison with term ending at the end of 2020.

b. Jon Charles Smith, who was selected for a two-year term beginning January 2020 and ending December 2021. Jon will fulfill Don Talbert's position for the remainder of 2019.

3. The meeting was called to order. A request was made by Sheri Works to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

B. Presentations: Josh Glacken (beekeeper) was contacted by Paula Myers through the Southeast Indiana Beekeepers Association to address the issue of honey bees inside the Phoenix Building, SCT Visitors Center. After presenting several possible options it was decided that we would wait until Josh Glacken can determine the size of the hive. His recommendation is to wait until spring before taking any action. The board decided to reassess early next year.

C. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee:

a. Budget Committee: Meeting scheduled for October 30, 2019 at 4:00 pm at the Visitors Center. All board members are invited to attend.

b. Staff Planning:

(1) Sheri Works expressed the need for a committee to address staff planning, specifically needs assessment and search requirements.

(2) Pam Haines updated on her contact with Sullivan College regarding recent graduates' interest in working in tourism.

(4) Sheri Works will also continue to work with Hanover College regarding interns.

(5) Rhonda Griffin announced that Carrie Lambert, Indiana Tourism Association, is interested in meeting with SCT regarding staff planning and hiring. Rhonda will update when she has more information on availability.

2. Feasibility Committee/Feasibility Study: Paula Myers announced that we received the \$2,500.00 grant for the feasibility study and we need an additional \$4,500.00 more to cover the cost. Anita Danner stated that the Ogle Foundation meets on October 31, 2019 to decide on grants and there is time to submit our request. SCT will submit a grant request to the Ogle Foundation for the feasibility study.

3. Directors Report: See board packet.

D. Unfinished Business:

1. Carriage House: Recent interest from two prospective buyers. Information will be sent to them.

2. Christmas Decorations on Main Street: Swiss Perks is installing lights on the south side of Main Street. Andrea Kappes will contact George Oltapeter regarding costs to install lights on the north side of Main Street.

E. New Business:

1. Paula Myers announced that SCT will be hosting a Spring Fling event in early 2020. This event will be free to all vendors in Switzerland County.

2. Anita Danner presented a one page 4" x 6" document that lists all the major events in Madison, IN. She recommends that SCT implement something similar that could be handed out to visitors and placed in all businesses and offices in Switzerland County.

F. Public Comments: Barbara Davidson announced that a local business on Ferry Street inquired about the grant program. Sheri Works said to inform them to submit a request by the end of the month.

***Andrea Kappas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rhonda Griffin. Motion carries.***

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the SCT is Monday, November 19, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the TEC Building, Vevay, IN 47043.

SCT Secretary  
Barbara Davidson