

SWITZERLAND COUNTY TOURISM
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 10, 2020

Meeting Information

These are the minutes of the meeting of the Switzerland County Tourism board held Monday, August 10, 2020, at 6:05 PM at the Switzerland County Technology and Education Center, Vevay, IN, 47043. The meeting was chaired by Pam Haines (President) and it was determined that a quorum was present. The following Board Members were present (in last name alphabetical order): Jon Bond, Barbara Davidson, Mike Dean, Andrea Kappes, Jon Charles Smith, and Stacy Streett. Melissa Brush and Rhonda Griffin were absent.

Others present include Paula Myers (CFO, SCT) and Matt Hocker (Guest).

Actions of the Board

A. Meeting Business was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A request was made by Pam Haines to approve the consent agenda.

Jon Charles Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Jon Bond. Motion carries.

B. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee

a. Pam Haines announced that the Executive Committee identified four candidates for the Director position. Three were interviewed and one failed to respond. One candidate has been selected and offered the position pending salary and benefits negotiation with an expected start date in early September.

2. River Recreation Committee

a. Andrea Kappes reported that the committee has researched the costs and businesses associated with installing two signs near the river area of Paul Ogle Riverfront Park. One sign will identify the dock area as "Vevay Landing" and will be visible for river traffic. The second sign will be a map of Vevay's business district. Costs estimates are roughly \$1,000.00 - \$2,000.00.

Barbara Davidson made a motion to approve an initial cost of \$2,500.00 for Vevay Landing signage, seconded by Jon Charles Smith. Motion carries

b. Andrea Kappes reported that the draft letter to the Ohio River Recreational Trail for the River Town Review is ready for approval and submission. She will send the letter to Paula Myers for formal submission which is due August 17, 2020.

3. Director's Report. See update in board packet.

C. Unfinished Business

1. Business District Lights. Angle Priest of Vevay Antique Mall & Curiosity Emporium, has requested assistance with electricity costs associated with the business district lights since several other businesses are plugged into her power connection. Stacy Streett will meet with her.

2. Jon Charles Smith announced that Danny Harris continues to work on connectivity issues with a few remaining buildings.

3. Markland Dam Signage. Pam Haines states that the signs for the three trails (Lewis and Clark Trail, Ohio River Recreational Trail, and Indiana Wine Trail) are ready for installation. An additional sign will be added for SCT website.

4. Bee Removal. Paula Myers reported that the beekeeper has yet to complete the project.

5. Senator Braun Visit. Paula Myers announced that Senator Braun will conduct an open meeting regarding the effects of the Covid-19 virus on the tourism industry. The meeting will take place on August 11, 2020 from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm at Ferry Street Fudo, Vevay, IN.

D. New Business.

1. Action Register Update. See Action Register.

2. Sleepy Hollow. Based on numbers registered and the stalling of moving to Stage 5, the board decided to cancel the Sleepy Hollow event. Estimated losses are \$1,500.00

Andrea Kappes made a motion to cancel the Sleepy Hollow event, seconded by Mike Dean. Motion carries

3. Wine Stock. This event, scheduled at the end of August, is sponsored by several private citizens as an entertainment venue. SCT will not sponsor, endorse, or promote this event.

E. Public Comments

1. Jon Charles Smith stated that there will be a re-release announcement on October 20, 2020 regarding the Vevay Historic District being added to the National Register.

2. Jon Charles Smith announced that the deadline for historic preservation grants is October 2, 2020. He requests a new committee to explore ideas for the county. Committee formed includes: Jon Charles Smith (Chair), Andrea Kappes (maybe), Mike Dean, Pam Haines, Jon Bond (maybe), Stacy Streett, and Melissa Brush.

3. Jon Charles Smith introduced a program called Museum on Main Street (MoMS) which is part of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. MoMS is access to the Smithsonian for small-town America through museum exhibitions, research, educational resources, and programming. Deadline for application is August 27, 2020 and we would need a building to house this exhibit. More information at <https://museumonmainstreet.org/>

Andrea Kappes made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barbara Davidson. Motion carries.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the SCT is Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM at the Switzerland County Tourism Visitor's Center, Vevay, IN 47043.

SCT Secretary
Barbara Davidson