



January 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Present:

Nathan Messer
Savannah Solgere
Wendy McMann
Donnie Lawson
Matt Gentry
Kevin VanHorn
Jeri Day (Director)
Steve Russo (Media Director)
Audrea Racine (Attorney)

Absent:

Nathan Frampton

Note: Three vacant spots on the board as of May 2021.

The Boone County Convention and Visitors Bureau met on January 10, 2023, in the Connie Lamar Room within the Boone County Annex Building. The meeting was called to order by President Nathan Messer at 4:37 p.m.

Election of Officers

President Nathan Messer made a motion to continue with current officers of President – Nathan Messer, Treasurer - Wendy McMann and bring Matt Gentry in as Vice-President until they have a full board then they will re-visit election of officers. Motion seconded by Wendy McMann. Motion carried 5-0.

New member Savannah Solgere introduced herself, she is the Parks Director for Whitestown.

In the Matter of Consent Agenda – Director’s Report, Treasurer’s Report and December 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Nathan Messer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Matt Gentry. Motion carried 5-0.

Legal Discussion

Attorney Audrea Racine is still working on the employee handbook. Audrea would like to know where the CVB stands on the job description for the new director? Nathan Messer would like to see a hiring committee put together. Have them get the word out and then have an executive meeting next month with hopefully some candidates to possibly interview. Matt Gentry made a motion to create a hiring committee of Nathan Messer, Nathan Frampton and Wendy McMann. Motion seconded by Savannah Solgere. Motion carried 5-0.

Nathan Messer made a motion to move the February 14, 2023 meeting to Wednesday February 15, 2023. Motion seconded by Matt Gentry. Motion carried 5-0.

2023 Grant committee members, Nathan Messer made a motion to have Nathan Frampton, Kevin Vanhorn and Wend McMann on the 2023 Grant committee. Motion seconded by Matt Gentry. Motion carried 5-0.

In the Matter of Round Robin/Open Discussion – ideas/thoughts/future plans/etc.:

Matt Gentry stated that they should be going vertical on the Hickory Junction Fieldhouse in the next two to three weeks. There is discussion on potentially three to four hotels on this site with one of them possibly having a convention center. Lebanon City Council approved the matching grant for the Stone Eater Park. They received \$72,000 from the state for a grant. They have the official endorsement of the Peoria Tribe.

Jeri Day stated that the grants are starting to pile in.

Nathan Messer stated Whitestown has two new hotels, one under construction and one in the approval process. There will be a Dick's Sporting goods store next to Hobby Lobby. They have received IDEM's approval on the Rec site.

Steve Russo stated he would like to see the board look into possibly getting a bigger, better concert. Steve feels that they could have a decent concert at the fairgrounds. Steve would like to see possibly having a beer garden. Donnie Lawson stated that this will be a huge battle to get that approved, he just wants the board to be aware of this. Also, Kevin Vanhorn mentioned that the insurance would be exponential if they have a beer garden. Nathan suggested maybe having the concert the last night of the fair to tie it in with the fair. Donnie Lawson stated that Purdue will not allow any alcohol during any fair activities, so they will not be able to have the concerts during fair time. Nathan Messer and Matt Gentry agreed that Steve could investigate this idea further and come back with more information.

Jeri Day mentioned that she would like for the board to consider going to a two-cycle grant program.

Matt Gentry left the meeting at 5:07pm

In the Matter of New Business:

There was no new business for today's meeting.

In the Matter of Old Business:

There was no old business for today's meeting.

In the Matter of Public Comments:

There was no public comment at today's meeting.

With no further business, Nathan Messer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:09pm. Wendy McMann seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

Minutes prepared by Lori Rapp