

Tahlequah Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc.
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2016

Kin Thompson (Vice-President) called the meeting to order at 8:06am.

Board Members present: Nancy Garber, Genny Maiden, Amanda Pritchett, Diane Rutland, Kin Thompson, Tonia Weavel, Kate Buster, Melissa Harris (Executive Director)

Guests present: Monica van Donkelaar (Blue Fern B&B)

Melissa gave the Director's report. We are doing a Facebook campaign to give away passes to G Fest in Muskogee. The Cherokee Nation Community Conference hosted about 500 people, and Tour Tahlequah had a booth and harvested email addresses. Beth Herrington did a Tahlequah tour that Saturday. The fastpitch softball state championship is coming to town in June, and we will do welcome packets. Melissa is attending a Destination Marketing Principles Training in Stillwater and the Texas Tourism College. The new guides will be in TravelOK's request system and in the state welcome centers. They will be distributed in some areas where we have not been represented previously. Memorial Day Do-Over will be August 6th & 7th.

Nancy Garber made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2016, meeting. Second by Kate Buster. Motion passed unanimously.

Genny Maiden made a motion to approve the financial report. Second by Kate Buster. Motion passed unanimously.

Genny Maiden suggested that Article VIII on Videoconferencing from the Bylaws. The amendment will be voted on at the next meeting.

The board discussed filling the board seat currently held by Dana Boren-Boer. Candie Jarvis and Ben Bantista were nominated for the seat. Kate Buster motioned to elect Ben Bantista for the seat. Second by Nancy Garber. Motion passed unanimously. Candie Jarvis was recommended as a marketing committee member.

The following slate of officers were proposed for FY-17: Kin Thompson, Chair; Kate Buster, Vice-Chair; Amanda Pritchett, Secretary; Genny Maiden, Treasurer. Nancy Garber made a motion to elect the slate as presented. Second by Tonia Weavel. Motion passed unanimously.

Melissa suggested that the board sponsor the Oklahoma Horseshoe Pitchers Association State Tournament in the amount of \$500. Genny Maiden made a motion to sponsor the event at the recommended amount. Second by Amanda Pritchett. Motion passed unanimously.

The Murrell Home is hosting a Chamber 5 After 5 event on September 15th, and Melissa suggested that the CVB sponsor the food for the event and use the opportunity to promote tourism education. Kate Buster made a motion to sponsor the event and do future sponsorships for 5-After-5 events once a year at various tourism businesses. Second by Genny Maiden. Motion passed unanimously.

The group discussed progress on filing for 501(c)(6) filing. The Governance/Finance committee is working on the Policies and Procedures for the organization, and hopes to have it ready to vote on at the July meeting. The document will then be presented to the Chamber Board.

The Marketing and Community Engagement committees had no report.

Melissa gave a report on Chamber activities in Laura Doss' absence. The Chamber's political candidate forum will be June 9th. 5 After 5 will be next Thursday at A Bloom. The Chamber Banquet is June 28th.

Kin Thompson received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Oklahoma Tourism Industry Association's annual meeting.

Tonia Weavel announced that the Cherokee Heritage Center's Miss Cherokee exhibit won a Redbud award for Best Exhibit. Next week is the Tri-Council meeting of the UKB, Cherokee Nation, and Eastern Band, in Tahlequah. The Center will also host the Ancestry Conference this weekend.

Nancy Garber announced that on June 20th there will be a dedication for the Monument to Forgiveness at NSU.

The Cherokee Nation is hosting the Stories on the Square series on the Cherokee Square each Wednesday beginning next week.

The Tahlequah picnic in the park is this weekend.

Nancy Garber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Kate Buster. Kin Thompson adjourned the meeting at 9:25am.

Submitted by Amanda Pritchett, Secretary