

TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2020 at 4:00 pm
Courtyard Conference Room

Committee Members:

Doug Bradley (Chair)
Terry Hopkins (Vice Chair)
Barb Hochberg
Tamara Bushnell
Wynniss Grow
Sara Bristol
Damion Trovato - Absent
Lany Sullivan
Mandi DelVaglio

City/Staff/Chamber/Council Liaisons:

Susan Seereiter (City Business Advocate)
Jon Bowen (Experience Grants Pass)
DJ Faszer (City Councilor)
Josie Molloy (Chamber Liaison)
Darin Fowler (County Liaison)
Lora Glover

Guests:

Germaine Cartmell	Kelsey Yoho
Rebecca Anderson	Brad Niva
Sean Bassinger	James Love
Kendra Lellis	Randy Evers

1. Roll Call

- a. Doug Bradley started meeting with roll call at 4 PM

2. Introductions:

- a. Several guest in attendance

3. Public Comment:

- a. Rebecca Anderson shared a book written by the Grandma Aggie, a long-time advocate for our natural water resource.
- b. James Love introduced himself to the group as contractor for the City Master Plan Architect.
- c. Lora shared with the committee the strain on public restrooms infrastructure in parks as the reason they are closed for large events.

4. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Approval of minutes from February 4, 2020.

Motion

Vice Chair Hopkins moved, and Member Grow seconded the motion to approve the February 4, 2020 minutes. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Bradley, Members Sullivan, DelVaglio, Bushnell, Grow, Bristol, Hochberg and Vice-Chair Hopkins. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Trovato. The motion passed.

5. Work Session Items:

a. Grants Pass Downs Presentation

- Randy Evers, President of Grants Pass Downs, has moved from Bend to Grants Pass. He is passionate about horse racing and commended Travis Boersma for his foresight purchasing the River Road Reserve and dedication to the industry. Grants Pass has the opportunity to be the first-year-round horse training facility. Kendra Lellis shared more of the “big picture vision” as it related to the restaurant/event/entertainment facility.
- The first race will take place May 10th and run through to July 12th.

b. Committee Applications

- There were five applications received and only four spots to fill. The committee weighed in autonomously and showed strong preference for the following: Tamara Bushnell, Sara Bristol, Wynniss Grow (all existing members reapplying) and Rebecca Anderson.

Motion

Member DelVaglio moved, and Vice-Chair Hopkins seconded the motion to recommend to City Council the following applicants: Tamara Bushnell, Sara Bristol, Wynniss Grow (all existing members reapplying) and Rebecca Anderson. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Bradley, Members Sullivan, DelVaglio, Bushnell, Grow, Bristol, Hochberg and Vice-Chair Hopkins. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Trovato. The motion passed.

c. Balloon Festival Recommendation

Motion

Member Sullivan moved, and Member Bristol seconded the motion to recommend Council support the Balloon Festival with a request for \$5,000 ask from the Balloon Festival organizers. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Bradley, Members Sullivan, DelVaglio, Bushnell, Grow and Vice-Chair Hopkins. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Members Trovato, Bristol and Hochberg. The motion passed.

d. Tourism Quarterly Report

- Jon Bowen recapped the report that he gave to City Council. The full report can be seen on Experience Grants Pass website <https://expgp.com/>

6. Information Sharing:

1. Susan shared with the committee that DMO Proz is the company that will be auditing Experience Grants Pass for the PAVE audit.

7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting:

- a. TID – County Lodging Tax
- b. Movie Ordinance for City
- c. Art Along the Rogue Theme
- d. Mike Dennis from Dutch Bros

8. Adjournment:

- a. Meeting adjourned at 5:13 pm

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Susan Seereiter, City Staff Liaison.