



Thurston County Tourism Promotion Area Commission Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 25, 2016 • 3:30 pm

Ramada Inn, 4520 Martin Way E, Olympia, WA 98516

ATTENDEES: Jeetu Chaudhry, Chami Ro, Natasha Jenkins, Valerie Walters, Ryan Kang, Sandra Romero (Ex Officio), Shauna Stewart (VCB staff), Craig Ottavelli (staff)

MINUTES

1. Welcome & Call to Order – **Natasha Jenkins called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm.**
2. Consent Calendar (items of a routine nature) – **It was moved, second, passed, with Chami Ro abstaining, to approve the consent calendar as presented.**
 - a. Approval of February 29, 2016 Minutes
3. VCB Report – Shauna Stewart
4. STR Report – Ms. Stewart presented the 2016 Q1 STR report. To share the entire county-wide report is in violation of the agreement with STR. The allowed data is included with each report to the Commission.
 - a. Marketing and Communications Report – Ms. Stewart distributed a monthly VCB update and shared information on the most recent efforts of the VCB. The VCB is currently seeking a marketing manager and welcomes recommendations and applications. Commissioners discussed 2016 outcomes based goal tracking. The destination identity initiative was reported on, though not included on the scorecard. Anticipated rollout for the new branding efforts is summer 2016.
 - b. The Commission would like a clear process for soliciting and securing conference bookings such as GNAC.
5. Financials Review – Commissioners reviewed the financials and the principal activities of the VCB. Future financials will include YTD percentages.
6. VCB Membership Program
 - a. Currently, any organization that supports the mission of the VCB can become a member. Ms. Stewart asked for Commission input on future VCB membership policies. The draft policies and procedures will come to the Commission for review and feedback prior to adoption.
 - i. Free Web Listings? Consensus of commissioners is that the VCB should do away with the free web listing program.
 - ii. Allow out of county members? Consensus of the commissioners is to allow out of county members that are not lodging properties and to maintain a different pricing structure for these members.
7. Hoteliers Roundtable
 - a. The County Lodging Association met in April and elected a new president. The association plans to continue meeting to discuss issues and concerns of properties. Further discussion elaborated on the need for a safe forum for hoteliers to discuss issues of concern and to lobby the Hotel and Motel Commission. The Commissioners discussed ensuring their participation did not violate the OPMA, and possibly identifying a liaison to the association.
8. Items from the Floor
9. Adjournment – **With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.**