



City of Elephant Butte Lodger's Tax Advisory Board Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 - 2:00 pm

Due to the current health risks associated with COVID-19 and orders from the New Mexico Governor's Office and the New Mexico Public Health Department, public attendance at this and future meetings of the City Council are temporarily suspended. Until the orders are lifted and in accordance with the guidance from the New Mexico Attorney General, the City will make its meetings open to the public through WebEx number: (415) 655-0001, Access Code: 126 270 3130, Password: 08122020 or see www.cityofelephantbutte.com for more information.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Co-Chair Susie LaFont called the meeting to order at 2:14 pm, and all persons present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Susan LaFont, Co-Chair - Present
Russ Trager, Co-Chair - Present
Paula Baker, Member - Present
Maureen Brown, Member - Present
Janine Sjostrom, Member - Present
Steve Gentry, Member (Alternate) - Present

3. Statement of Open Meetings Resolution and Three Minute Limit per speaker on all issues.

4. Approval of Agenda

Co-Chair Trager made a motion to approve the amended agenda to re-arrange the order of discussion as follows so the new members would understand more about Lodger's Tax:

- a. Overview of Lodger's Tax
- b. Financials to Date ("Roll-over" funds from FY 19-20)
- c. Board Changes
- d. Application for Lodger's Tax Awards

This was seconded by Board Member Brown. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Trager made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Board Member Baker. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

6. Discussion/Possible Approval or Action

- a. **Overview of Lodger's Tax-** Co-Chair Trager explained the purpose of Lodger's Tax, how it is collected and what it can be used for. He explained the procedures for Lodger's Tax Awards. The Board sends their recommendations to the City Council to be voted on. Short term rentals were also discussed.

- b. **Financials to Date** ("Roll-over" funds from FY19-20)

Clerk-Treasurer Bush presented the financials showing the roll-over funds from FY 19-20. These funds **MUST** be used within 2 years. \$50,000.00 were roll-over funds from previous years.

- c. **Board Changes**

- Welcome New Members: Janine Sjostrom and Steve Gentry

Co-Chair Lafont welcomed the new board members and all persons present introduced themselves and gave a brief summary of their background and current positions.

Alternate Board Member Gentry distributed copies of his ideas for some events to get more people to stay longer in the area.

- Acceptance of Garrett Stockton's and Suresh Patel's resignations

Board Member Baker made a motion to accept Garrett Stockton and Suresh Patel's resignations, which was seconded by Board Member Brown. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

- d. **Applications for Lodger's Tax Awards:**

- a. Friends of Elephant Butte Lake State Park-Fireworks Extravaganza (canceled)-\$2,000 Co-Chair Trager made a motion to accept the cancellation of funds for the Fireworks Extravaganza for 2020, which was seconded by Board Member Sjostrom. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
- b. Friends of Elephant Butte Lake State Park-Beachwalk Luminaria-\$2,000-Co-Chair Trager made a motion to approve the award for the Beachwalk Luminaria which was seconded by Board Member Baker. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
- c. Alzheimer's Poker Run Fundraiser at Elephant Butte Lake (canceled)-\$1,500-Board Member Sjostrom made a motion to accept the cancellation of the Alzheimer's Fundraiser at Elephant Butte Lake, which was seconded by Board Member Brown. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
- d. City of Elephant Butte-SDR Golf Course-After discussion, Co-Chair Trager made a motion to increase the amount of the award from \$6,000.00 to \$25,000 for City Marketing, which was seconded by Board Member Baker. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

- e. Board Member Baker made a motion to accept the cancellation of Elephant Days which was seconded by Board Member Sjostrom. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

7. **Next Meeting Date- September 15, 2020, at 9:00 am.**

8. **Adjournment**

Board Member Brown made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Co-Chair Trager. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Minutes approved and adopted at the Lodger's Tax Advisory Board Meeting on September 29, 2020.


Susan LaFont
Lodger's Tax Advisory Board Co-Chair

ATTEST:


Rani Bush
Clerk-Treasurer



