



Charlotte County Tourist Development Council

Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting, July 27, 2015

Administration Conference Room

Members Present

Commissioner Chris Constance

Kathy Burnam

Councilmember Rachel Keesling

Judy Malbuisson

Vice Mayor Kim Devine

Kelly Williamson

Staff Present

Lorah Steiner, Director - Tourist Development Director

Elizabeth Parker, Admin Svc Coordinator

1) Call to Order/Roll Call

Commissioner Constance welcomed everyone to the Special Tourist Development Council Meeting. Roll call was taken. Present were Commissioner Chris Constance, Kathy Burnam, Councilmember Rachel Keesling, Judy Malbuisson, Vice Mayor Kim Devine. Kelly Williamson.

2) Amend the motion made at the last TDC Meeting from move to fund to recommend funding for the Veitnam Wall Attraction

- Commissioner Constance told the TDC that they cannot, by state statute, approve funding but only recommend funding. He also mentioned that there still needs to be some documentation to back up the attraction funding request.
- Ms Steiner mentioned the Attraction Development funding application process finalization is moving forward.
- Vice Mayor Kim Devine made a motion to reconsider the motion to fund made at the last TDC

meeting this was seconded by Judy Malbuission and approved unanimously by council members.

- Councilmember Keesling suggested looking into ad valorem funding for this attraction.
- Vice Mayor Kim Devine made a new motion to recommend the BCC consider funding for the Vietnam Wall attraction and this was seconded by Kathy Burnam.
- Commissioner Constance suggested the budget numbers could be looked at when the next budget process takes place.
- The City of Punta Gorda's contribution to the Veitnam Wall is in-kind services, such as engineering, and site work.
- Ms. Steiner briefly talked about the difference between funding an actual event versus an attraction.
- Ms. Steiner said every request for attraction funding needs to meet the criteria in the new attraction development application process.
- Ms. Steiner will ensure someone from the legal department attends future TDC Meetings.
- An amended motion was made by Councilmember Keesling to recommend BCC consider providing funding for the Veitnam Wall Attraction and the Bureau could assist in the marketing and advertising of this attraction. This motion passed unanimously by all council members.
- Ms. Steiner will check with the county legal department on the statute regarding funding for an attraction.
- Ms. Steiner also recommended that the Vietnam Wall group get their packet of information to the TDC for further review. Note: Ms. Steiner met with Mr. Akin and is assisting him with the development of a packet to be presented to the BCC.
- Vice Mayor Devine will take over Ken Stead's position and review the Bureau Budget numbers and bring a report back to the council.
- Commissioner thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.