

BANNER ELK TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, 22 July 2010
MINUTES

Members Present: Les Broussard, Steve Chandler, Scott McKinney, Stephanie White
Mike Dunn

Staff Present: Steve Smith, Nancy Owen, John Mejaski

Others Present: Roy Krege, Jim Swinkola, Ed Hardin, Trish Daniels, Sally Breslauer,
Sylvia Hahn, Mike White, Craig McPhail

Chairman Chandler called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. A quorum was present for the meeting. Town Manager John Mejaski was added to the agenda. Scott McKinney made a motion to accept the agenda. Les Broussard seconded. The vote was unanimous and the agenda was accepted as amended.

Consideration of the April 2010 Minutes

With no changes noted, Mike Dunn moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Stephanie White seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Financial Report

Town Finance Officer Steve Smith gave the board an update on the financial report. He reported that \$128,950.00 was the total amount collected by the audit report. Scott McKinney made a motion to accept the financial report. Stephanie White seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. The financial report is attached for review.

Funding Requests

All requests will be heard and funding for the requests will be tabled to the end of the meeting.

Trunk or Treat

Trish Daniels representing the Halloween Trunk or Treat has requested \$1000 to help advertise the event. Ms. Daniels would like to put up a big banner advertising Trunk or Treat. Mike Dunn reminded Ms. Daniels the TDA board can not give her permission to place the banner, the permission would have to come from the Town. He also asked that if the TDA donates any money, they would like fare billing on the banner.

Banner Elk Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee

Town Manager John Mejaski spoke on behalf of Ted Silver, who couldn't be present at the meeting. Mr. Silver is requesting money to cover the registration expense for the National Center for Bicycling and Walking Pro Walk/Pro Bike Conference in Chattanooga, TN. Mr. Mejaski gave a short overview of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the importance of the Conference Mr. Silver would be attending. Mr. Mejaski / Mr. Silver is requesting \$620 to cover the expense of registration for the conference. Mr. Mejaski also stated the Town will pay for the Hotel during the conference which will be roughly the same amount of money. Stephanie White asked Mr. Mejaski what information Mr. Silver would be bringing back to Banner Elk with him. Mr. Mejaski stated the networking with the people who help make policy and give grants for Bicycle/Pedestrian issues.

Town of Banner Elk

Town Manager John Mejaski was present to request monies to buy Audio/Video Equipment so that the Town can show movies outdoors. He spoke of the upcoming Camping in the Park that will be taking place in August.

Lees-McRae College

Craig McPhail, Athletic Director for LMC was present to request monies to help with operating the swimming pool at LMC. Mr. McPhail told of the numerous people both local and tourist who use the pool. He is requesting \$9250 for maintenance and administrative costs of the pool.

Lees-McRae College

Scott McKinney spoke on behalf of Leslie Carter from LMC. Ms. Carter was requesting monies to help repair the roof on the old Center Theatre building. The building is unusable at this time, due to the building being unsafe. The college has not committed any money to fix the old Center Theatre building at this time, and it is unclear if they will commit any monies. Ms. Carter is asking for \$5500 to repair the roof.

Woolly Worm Festival

Roy Krege spoke on behalf of the Woolly Worm Festival Committee. Mr. Krege was requesting \$7000 in funds to help cover expenses of the festival, mainly the police cost.

Discussion of Wildcat Lake

Jim Swinkola representing the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association gave the board an update on Wildcat Lake. He spoke of the record number of people using the facilities at Wildcat Lake this summer. Mr. Ed Hardin, Chairman of the ETMA spoke to the board on the hard work and dedication Mr. Swinkola gives to the ETMA. Also speaking to the

board on behalf of Wildcat Lake was Mr. Roy Krege, a longtime resident of Banner Elk and Board Member.

Discussion of Sidewalks

Past Chairman Sylvia Hahn spoke to the board and gave a refresher of how the sidewalk project came about. Mrs. Hahn would like the board to try again to get a right of way from the piece of property by the Post Office that back's up to BJ's. This section of sidewalks that is not complete, was in phase one of the original project. She would like to encourage the board not to give up and pursue this property as it would finish the first phase. Chairman Steve Chandler stated the board fully intends to continue what the previous board had started with the sidewalks and other projects.

After all the funding requests had been heard, Chairman Chandler asked for any additional comments. The following monies were awarded: Trish Daniels, Trunk or Treat \$500; Ted Silver, Banner Elk Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee \$620; John Mejaski, Town of Banner Elk \$1000; Craig McPhail, LMC Athletic Dept. \$5000; Roy Krege, Woolly Worm Festival \$1000. Leslie Carter, LMC Center Theatre request was not funded. The total amount funded was \$8120. Scott McKinney made a motion to fund the above projects. Les Broussard second and the motion carried. All of the monies will come out of the 1/3 portion.

New Business

Chairman Chandler asked Town Manager John Mejaski about the barn in the park. The TDA had given the Boy Scouts of America \$10,000 to fix up the barn. The Boy Scouts have done nothing with the money or the barn. Chairman Chandler asked if the TDA could get their money back from the Boy Scouts. The consensus was that if the Boy Scouts are just holding onto the money and have no future plans for the barn, why can't the TDA have the money back and at least draw interest on it. Scott McKinney made a motion to ask the Boy Scouts for the money back. Mike Dunn seconded the motion and the motion carried. Town Manager Mejaski is to contact the Boy Scout's and request the money back. Stephanie White would like to see the people who are awarded monies have to be responsible for getting back to the TDA about how they spent the money and how the project went. Nancy Owen will get a letter typed up and ready to send out. Chairman Chandler asked for a motion to fund name plates for the members of the TDA. The money would come from the 2/3 fund. Les Broussard made a motion to buy name plates for the board. Stephanie White seconded and the motion carried. Chairman Chandler also asked for a motion to give Steve Smith permission to write checks for the previous funding allotment. Scott McKinney made a motion to authorize Steve Smith to pay previous promised monies from April. Les Broussard second and the motion carried. A discussion on the sale of Banner Elk Elementary was briefly had.

Closed Session

Stephanie White made a motion to go into closed session. Mike Dunn seconded the motion. The reason for the closed session was to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of the State of NC and is not considered public record. GS 143-318.11(1). Stephanie White made a motion to go out of closed session. Les Broussard seconded and the motion passed.

With no further business, Stephanie White moved to adjourn. Les Broussard seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Owen