

Manchester Tourism and Community Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2023

Members Present-Lori West, Lori Perry, Erin Kehely, Joey Hobbs, & Joseph Sherrill, Lori Watson

Members Absent-

Others Present-Mayor Marilyn Howard, Katy Riddle, AJ Fox, Dominick Gialdini, Ryan French, Donny Parsley, George Gannon, Jimmy Hollandsworth & Roger Chambers

Lori Perry called the meeting to order at 6:24pm. There was a quorum present.

Katy Riddle stated there needed to be a correction to the February minutes, to state the reimbursement from the TNTD Grant had not been reimbursed yet, as the City of Manchester needed to provide an invoice to the State of TN. Lori West would need to get with finance to get that done and if finance needed any assistance, Katy would be happy to help navigate the process.

Lori West made a motion to approve the February minutes with one (1) correction, Erin Kehely seconded, motion carried.

Manchester Chamber of Commerce-Katy Riddle was still in the process of marketing Manchester as a weekend destination. Sample agenda featured, outdoors, family adventures, and spirited traveler idea.

Katy stated that since the weather was getting warmer she would be meeting soon with Tim Hancock from TWRA regarding the possible "Emerson Landing" property for the idea of the kayak launch. She would keep the committee updated and if anybody wanted to attend, they could.

Katy talked to the committee with an idea and collaboration with the Tourism Committee to host a "Rubber Duck Race" to take place along the Duck River in the summer. Race, entertainment, food trucks, etc....Katy is looking into more details, more updates to follow.

Katy stated that "Lemonade Day" would take place May 18, 2023. Very successful last year. As of now there will be 26 stands, school participation included.

Manchester Parks & Recreation Department-AJ Fox stated that the first AAU Tournament that was to take place on March 10-12, were canceled due to multiple schools being on Spring Break. Next AAU Tournaments were going to be held, March 17-19, April 14-16, and April 28-30.

AJ also stated on various projects that were going on, outdoor sports, ball field lights that were through a TDEC grant, also still in the process of hiring Athletic Director.

Lori Perry asked AJ if he had the quotes for the Rotary Park Sign repair. He presented the committee with the quotes. Suntronics (original company who installed) \$1950.00, Silver Lining, couldn't give a formal quote due to the sign being a Suntronics product (email provided), and Cook Neon proposed a brand new sign at \$28,275.00 (email provided).

Erin Kehely made the motion for the sign to be repaired by Suntronics at a cost of \$1950.00, Joseph Sherrill seconded, motion carried.

Lori Perry also asked AJ if there was an update on proposed ice skating rink, AJ stated for the rent would be from December 1-15 at a cost of \$40,000.00 to rent and \$65,000-\$90,000 to purchase. More updates to follow.

South Central Tennessee Tourism Association-Dominic Gialdini presented the committee with the brochure from the last meeting to show the committee the purchased ad on the back of the Lynchburg Map. Dominic also showed the visitmanchestertn.com website that the committee purchased and gave us a run down on what is featured. Lori West asked who would be contact for changing some of the places featured. Ryan French stated the website would need to be audited and that him, or Dominic could change things when needed. Lori Perry stated we would need to be pro-active once a month to audit for any changes.

Dominic also presented copies to the committee with the Manchester Tourism update, social media overview, website analytics and a list of upcoming articles.

Lori West asked if there was something that could be made up as far as a flyer with the QR code with the link to the website for visitors to scan, so that they could be put up around the recreation center and at the ballfields for the upcoming AAU tournaments and opening day of ball. Ryan French stated yes, to get with him and he could have rack cards printed which was included in our membership and he would be able to have them by the weekend.

New Business-Guest, Public Works Director, George Gannon, presented the committee with the number of proposed banners and hardware that would need to be purchased. The committee would need to purchase 27 banners and hardware to line the off ramps of exits, 110, 111 & 114. Four (4) additional banners would also need to be purchased for the intersection of highway 41 & 55. George left (1) flag & hardware with Lori West for the committee to have an example to go by when purchased. Lori Perry stated that we would need to find a date and time to sit and browse banners to purchase to bring back to committee for a vote.

Old Business-Lori West updated the committee on a Community Grant that was passed by previous committee, and the payment was coming up. The grant was awarded July 19, 2022 for the amount of \$3500.00 and was going to finance for payment.

Lori West updated the committee on an invoice that she had received from SCTTA. They had made a mistake in billing one of the Geocache advertisements, and we had a balance of \$500.00. Email and invoice included explaining the mistake included.

Joey Hobbs made the motion to adjourn, Erin Kehely seconded; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:15pm.