

# Prestonsburg Tourism Commission

Meeting Minutes January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

<b>PRESENT:</b> Ronnie Warrix, Cliff Latta, Rocky Rowe, Jim Ousley
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT:</b> Heather Owens, Franky Valencia
<b>STAFF PRESENT:</b> Samantha Johnson, Brooke LeMonds
<b>GUESTS PRESENT:</b> Jill Hamlin, Chrysta Ghent, Les Stapleton, Joe Campbell, James Allen, Charly Wise
<b>CALL TO ORDER:</b> 12:05PM by Jim Ousley

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN
<b>Public Comment</b>	<p>Joe Campbell announced that Lonestar will be in concert at the MAC on Thursday at 7:30. They have sold tickets to people from Tennessee, West Virginia, Indiana, Ohio, and North Carolina. They have also sold several tickets to people from London, KY. They will be a little busier in February with James Gregory, Blue Highway, and Tyler Booth. Voting for the APPY's went live last night. Jill Hamlin added that it launched at 9pm and will run until February 10<sup>th</sup>. There have been a few glitches, but the IT team is addressing the issues. Nine of the thirteen Appalachian states are heavily represented in nominations. The top 3 after voting concludes will go on to the outside panel of judging professionals. April 8<sup>th</sup> will be the dress rehearsal with the Awards Show on April 9<sup>th</sup>. It will be filmed live and will air on a later date on the Country Network.</p> <p>Chrysta Ghent stated that the Science Center has now reopened after the Holiday season. They will be hosting an event in March that will display images from NASA that have been acquired from the new satellite that recently launched. They are also building a stronger online presence.</p> <p>Les Stapleton announced that there will be a Blood Drive at</p>	

	<p>the MAC on Thursday 10-4. This will be appointment based through the American Red Cross. Appointments can be scheduled on their website.</p> <p>Ronnie Warrix stated that 108 more acres of apple trees will be planted by this summer at AppleAtcha in Martin County for a total of 168 acres of honey crisp apples trees.</p> <p>Charly Wise informed the Commission that she was contacted by Bill Forsythe regarding the set from the Jenny Wiley Saga and that we need to contact him to acquire the set.</p>	
<b>Minutes Review</b>	Cliff Latta made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2021, meeting. Ronnie Warrix seconded the motion, and the minutes passed unanimously.	
<b>Monthly Financial Report</b>	<p>Samantha Johnson first presented the November Restaurant/Transient tax collected which was deposited into our Community Trust account. The total amount collected for November 2021 was \$73,151.72 with our portion of the split being \$25,226.49. As for our monthly bills paid out of our People's Bank account, they totaled \$22,590.22 which included several annual membership dues and advertising from the Holiday season.</p>	Cliff Latta made motion to approve the monthly financials which Rocky Rowe seconded and passed unanimously.
<b>Director's Report</b>	<p>Samantha started by informing the Commission that the Cincinnati Boat &amp; Travel Show will start next week. We will be attending with our regional tourism group, EHN. Samantha will be present on Wednesday and Thursday with Brooke attending Saturday and Sunday. Heartland Travel Showcase will be next month in Cleveland. The Patton Leadership Institute will be in Prestonsburg on Thursday visiting the Science Center and the May House. KACVB will be holding a meeting here in May. It will be a three day stay. Samantha also presented the Commission with a calendar year in review which included lots of new events including</p>	

	the APPY's, Strings & Things Music Festival, the CineMAC and new downtown development to name a few.	
<b>New Business</b>	Samantha told the Commission that the RFP will be going live next week for the mural in Rosenberg Square downtown. The T-Mobile Grant which we received last month has \$6.5k budgeted for the mural. The theme for the mural is "Selfless Love" which pay homage to the Rosenberg's and their selfless love for each other and their causes. Artist submissions are due April 4 <sup>th</sup> . The first phase of the mural will be demolition of the old mural.	
<b>Old Business</b>	Samantha informed the Commission that we have received the quote for media training which is \$2.8k for a full day plus travel expenses. They allow 6-8 participants in their sessions. Samantha believes this is much needed training for the public speakers of our local attractions as well as for herself and Brooke. She would like to have the training session in February.	Cliff Latta made a motion to approve the \$2.8k plus travel expenses for media training which Ronnie Warrix seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
<b>Next Meeting</b>	February 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2021, at 12PM at the Mountain Arts Center	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 12:41pm.	Rocky Rowe made motion to end the meeting which Ronnie Warrix seconded and it passed unanimously.