

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOURISM DEVELOPEMNT AUTHORITY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**November 14, 2022**

Present: Chair Connie Grubermann, Members Donnie Bishop, Amie Owens, Tim Crabtree and new member Kevin Covell

Absent: Cheryl Pullium, Josh Drake & Matt Holland

Others present: Nicole Bradley, HR Director  
Anissa Holland, The Franklin Press

**1. Call to Order- Chair Connie Grubermann**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. The newest member to the TDA, Kevin Covell (co-owner of Cleavers) was introduced.

**2. Presentation of Annual Audit Report**

The audit report was given by Lutchia Johnson, auditor, Martin Starnes, LLC. The TDA Audit was an unmodified opinion, there were no findings and it has been submitted to LGC. The TDA's overall position remains strong with a fund balance increase of \$63,507 which is directly related to the increase in occupancy tax collected. This is an indicator that people are coming to Franklin and staying here in our hotels, bed and breakfasts and other rentals.

**3. Approval of the October 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

***Member Donnie Bishop made a motion, seconded by Member Tim Crabtree to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0.***

**4. Financial Reports- September 2022**

Town Manger Amie Owens presented the Financial Report for September 2022. She noted that September was highest September on record, (\$17,939.80). Total expenses thus far \$46,785.82 leaving the balance of \$218,214.18 and \$153,696.69 remains in TDA Fund Balance. The report is incorporated into these minutes as Exhibit A.

***Member Tim Crabtree made a motion, seconded by Member Donnie Bishop to approve the financial report for September 2022. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0.***

**5. New Business**

A. Consideration of new applications:

1. Macon County Transit has requested \$4,870 for their annual funding of the AT Shuttle Service. This services transports hikers to and from the trail. This item will be voted on at the January 2023 meeting.

B. Vote on request:

1. The Streets of Franklin Heritage Association held Monster Mash on Main Street on October 29, 2022. They had requested \$2000, prior to the event, to help with cost associate with the event.

***Member Amie Owens made a motion, seconded by Member Tim Crabtree to approve the funding request from Streets of Franklin Heritage Association for Monster Mash on Main. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0.***

2. SK828 had requested \$5000, prior to the event, to help with their Punk-ins in the Park fundraiser at Altered Frequencies on October 29, 2022.

***Member Donnie Bishop made a motion, seconded by Member Tim Crabtree to approve the funding request for \$2000 from Sk828 for Punk-ins in the Park. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0.***

3. Crabtree Family Enterprise has requested \$2,500 for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Franklin Ruby Drop to be held on December 31, 2022.

***Member Donnie Bishop made a motion, seconded by Member Amie Owens to approve the funding request from Crabtree Family Enterprises for the Ruby Drop. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 4-0. Tim Crabtree abstained from the vote due to Crabtree Family Enterprises Event.***

C. Received for Information:

Post-event reporting was received for information from the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County's event in August, and the NC Trail of Tears Association event on September 20.

**6. Items from the Board**

There were no additional items for discussion.

**7. Announcements**

A. The next regular scheduled TDA meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room.

***Member Donnie Bishop made a motion, seconded by Member Tim Crabtree to skip the December meeting as there was advance indication that there would be no quorum. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0.***

**8. Adjourn**

***Member Dobbie Bishop made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0.***

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Connie Gruberman, Chairperson

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Amie Owens, Town Manger/acting Town Clerk

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Prepared by Nicole Bradley, Human Resources Director