

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION
January 13, 2021

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on January 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Old Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Present: Mark Skibowski, Tammy Kratzer, Jo Paczkowski, Kathy Ray, Dave Gustafson

Absent: John Hall, Ron Robinson

Also present: Michelle Puckett, County Auditor

The Meeting was called to order by Tammy Kratzer, 2020 Commission President.

In the Matter of 2021 Election of Officers:

The following slate of individuals was presented as officers for 2021:

Tammy Kratzer – President

Kathy Ray – Vice President

Jo Paczkowski – Secretary

John Hall – Treasurer

By unanimous acclamation, the above individuals were elected as officers for the year 2021.

In the Matter of Syracuse Winter Carnival:

Renea Salyer, Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, presented a request in the amount of \$1,600 to support the Winter Carnival in Syracuse on February 13, 2021. The current COVID status, the shortage of donations from area businesses, and the short time frame to organize and promote the event were all seen as potential threats to the success of the event in 2021. Motion was made by Mark Skibowski and seconded by Jo Paczkowski to deny the request. Motion carried with 5 ayes, and 0 nays.

In the Matter of the NCCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Championships at Grace College:

Chad Briscoe, Director of Athletics at Grace College, presented a request for \$5,000 to promote the 2021 Championship event with 16 teams participating from March 16 -20. COVID will limit attendance to 25% gym occupancy or roughly 200 people. The 2020 event was eventually cancelled due to COVID, but KCCRVC still paid out reimbursement expenses of almost \$3,000. Jo Paczkowski questioned the need for 2021 marketing dollars when attendance was going to be limited to family members. Mark Skibowski made a motion to approve the grant request, with Dave Gustafson seconding. The motion carried with 5 ayes, and Jo Paczkowski voting nay.

In the Matter of the CVB:

- Jill Boggs reported that travel research indicates that because of the COVID-19, families will be predominantly traveling by car this year, and that 40% want to have the COVID vaccine before travelling.
- The CVB has contracted with Ohio based "Lunar Cow" to prepare the 2021 Visitors Guide. The contract cost is \$61,000 with 40,000 copies to be printed. As of this date, \$33,000 has been secured in ads. Our local airport and all golf courses will be included.
- The 2021 CVB budget was approved by the CVB Board at their 1/12/21 meeting.
- CVB Board Officers for 2021 are Doug Haines, president; Trace Hansen, vice president; Jenna Faas, secretary, and Jennifer Carnes, treasurer.
- Another Paycheck Protection Program grant is available to which the CVB could apply. The deadline is March 31. Mark Skibowski and Dave Gustafson will meet with CVB officers to decide if this is an opportunity to act upon. The amount of the grant could be \$32,000 and would probably be forgivable.
- CVB will not be investing again in "INPUT Fort Wayne", the digital news publication that promoted the 11 counties of northeast Indiana. KCCRVC had awarded a grant of \$15,000 toward that publication in 2019.

In the Matter of the November 4, 2020 Minutes:

The minutes of the November 4, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

In the Matter of the KCCRVC Financial Reports:

- Due to the drop in Innkeeper Tax revenue because of the impact of COVID-19, Mark Skibowski suggested that we move the review of KCCRVC's financial condition to the beginning of the meeting so that we can make more informed decisions about grant funding.
- Tax revenue collection for 2020 is down 32%, a loss of \$228,815 as compared to 2019. \$476,231 was collected in 2020 and \$705,046 in 2019. Of huge benefit to the KCCRVC financial condition is the collection of Innkeepers Tax on vacation home rentals, which began in September 2019. Over \$150,000 was collected from home rentals during 2020 while COVID was impacting hotel reservations dramatically.
- Tammy Kratzer made a motion to approve the financial reports, and Kathy Ray seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

In the Matter of Guidance from Kosciusko County Elected Officials:

Mark commented that he thought it would be very appropriate for the KCCRVC to meet with members of the County Commissioners and the County Council for their direction on how the Innkeepers Tax should be best utilized. There was consensus that it would be beneficial to hear from the elected representatives who appoint the members to the Commission. Jo

Paczkowski was tasked with setting up a small meeting with representatives of the three government bodies.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.
The next meeting will be March 10, 2021.



Tammy Kratzer



Kathy Ray



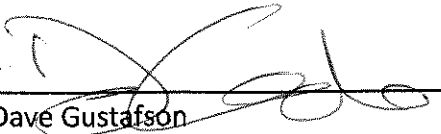
Jo Paczkowski

ABSENT

John Hall




Mark Skibowski



Dave Gustafson

ABSENT

Ron Robinson

ATTEST: 

Michelle Puckett, Auditor

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION

March 10, 2021

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on March 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Old Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Present: Tammy Kratzer, Jo Paczkowski, Kathy Ray, Ron Robinson

Absent: John Hall, Mark Skibowski, Dave Gusafson

Also present: Michelle Puckett, County Auditor

The Meeting was called to order by Tammy Kratzer, 2021 Commission President.

In the Matter of the KCCRVC Financial Reports:

- With John Hall still in Florida, and Mark Skibowski absent, Kratzer presented the financial reports. The ending cash balance as of 2/28/21 is \$594,681.63.
- Innkeeper tax receipts for January and February 2021 total \$48,595.44, which is down 32% compared to 2020 receipts for same period of \$72,243.58.
- Kathy Ray, as the General Manager of the Hampton, explained the County Innkeepers Tax Return, which all hotels and home shares must submit. She said that COVID has driven the average hotel room rate down to about \$100, which was the rate in 2008. A room rate of \$100, garners only \$5.00 of Innkeepers Tax for the KCCRVC.
- Kratzer explained with receipts being down, we must emphasize our focus of "heads in beds". Publicity dollars granted are always to be spent on out-of-county advertising. Grantees are encouraged to conduct surveys and track license plates to establish where people are visiting from.
- Jo Paczkowski made a motion to approve the financial reports, and Kathy Ray seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

In the Matter of Sidewalk Repairs at the CCAC:

- Karl Swihart returned to the KCCRVC asking for a \$35,000 grant to repair 135 sections of sidewalk. In 2020, four visitors to the CCAC fell, resulting in claims that have caused the insurance cost to substantially increase to \$2200 a month.
- This grant request had been previously tabled, asking Swihart to contact The City of Warsaw for financial and labor assistance, and to obtain more quotes. Swihart reported that the City denied his request, and that he contacted seven companies for quotes and received no responses. The \$35,000 grant request represents the costs of materials, with the CCAC doing the actual work.
- Nick Hauck, representing the Fat and Skinny Tire Fest, made the KCCRVC aware that due to COVID restrictions, only half of their \$15,000 Grant would be used, which would return about \$7,500 to the 2021 Grant Budget.
- Motion was made by Paczkowski, seconded by Ron Robinson, and unanimously carried to approve the \$35,000 grant request.

In the Matter of Oakwood Chautauqua-Wawasee 2021 Events:

- Mark Knecht reviewed five upcoming events, for which he was asking that \$500 Publicity Grants each be awarded, totaling \$2,500.
- Mark reported that they are focusing on outreach and have sent brochures to 2,600 people. They are also considering a week-long event for 2022, which could draw 2,000 people.
- Paczkowski mentioned COVID cancellation concerns, since the KCCRVC paid out \$500 for the cancelled Old Fashioned Christmas.
- Robinson made a motion to approve \$2,000 to cover publicity for all the events. The motion failed for lack of a second.
- Ray made a motion to approve \$1,000 toward publicity for all events, with the Fine Arts Festival and the Old Fashioned Christmas being our preferences for publicity. Paczkowski seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

In the Matter of the Watershed Foundation's Smithsonian Water Ways Exhibit:

- Lyn Crighton explained that the Foundation is partnering with the North Webster Public Library and the Dixie Boat to present this six-week long Smithsonian exhibit. Our county was selected as one of six sites in the State to increase awareness about our water resources and to encourage good stewardship.
- Paczkowski made a motion to approve the \$500 Publicity Grant, Ray seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

In the matter of the Watershed Foundation's Dance Through the Decades:

- Lyn Crighton explained that this will be the third year for this dance, which is a fundraising and awareness-building event for the Foundation. The event was a sell-out last year with 250 attendees, and they hope to increase attendance to 300 this year.
- Motion was made to award \$250, seconded by Ray, and unanimously carried.

In the Matter of the Syracuse-Wawasee Trails' Tour des Lakes Bike Ride:

- Erlene Yentes approached the KCCRVC for a \$2,500 grant to support the event, which includes four different bike rides, and is a fundraiser for the Syracuse-Wawasee Trails.
- Their 2019 tracking showed 92% of riders were from outside of the county, with eight from out of state.
- Ray made a motion to award \$1,250, Robinson seconded, and unanimously carried.

In the Matter of the CVB:

- Jill Boggs reported that her tourism resources show that statewide room occupancy was down 39% in 2020.
- The CVB received \$27,500 through the Paycheck Protection Program, and an additional \$3,200, which is all being dedicated to marketing.

- The 2021 Visitor Guide, being produced for the first time this year by Lunar Cow, is scheduled for printing in April, and distribution in May. The advertising deadline was extended to March 15. Currently there are 65 advertisers, with \$47,000 in sales and \$3,000 in trades.
- Boggs presented samples of postcards that have been developed for sale. Also presented was a copy of a new downloadable brochure, which the CVB and Grace College developed on nature preserves in our county. Next to be developed will be a brochure on "blue" places.
- Mitch Randall made a presentation on Bandwango, which is a software platform where "trails" are created of various food types or locations. Awards or gifts are given to visitors on completing the trail, which are typically provided by the CVB. Cost to join the program initially is \$11,500, due to co-op pricing, and then \$14,500 yearly. The program is viewed as a method to attract, engage, and track visitors.
- Regarding Bus Tours, Boggs is not willing to add \$8,000 to her budget. She is checking with partners to see if they are interested in bus tours.

In the Matter of the January 13, 2021 Minutes

- A motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2021 meeting was made by Ray, seconded by Kratzer, and unanimously carried.

In the Matter of Engagement Letter with Dahms and Yarian:

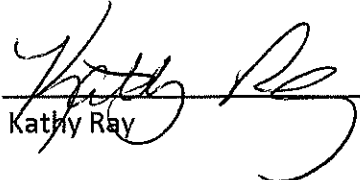
- Paczkowski was authorized to sign the engagement letter so that Dahms & Yarian can proceed with the 2020 audit of the CVB in June, 2021.

Adjournment:

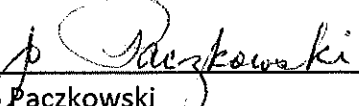
There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be May 12, 2021.



Tammy Kratzer



Kathy Ray



Jo Paczkowski

ABSENT

John Hall

ABSENT

Mark Skibowski

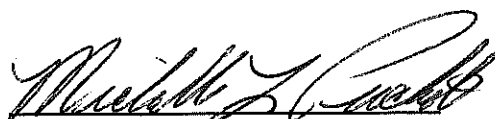
ABSENT

Dave Gustafson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ron Robinson", written over a horizontal line.

Ron Robinson

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michelle Puckett", written over a horizontal line.
Michelle Puckett, Auditor

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION May 12, 2021

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on May 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Old Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Present: Tammy Kratzer, Jo Paczkowski, Ron Robinson, John Hall, Mark Skibowski, Dave Gustafson

Absent: Kathy Ray

Also present: Michelle Puckett, County Auditor

The Meeting was called to order by Tammy Kratzer, 2021 Commission President.

In the Matter of the Warsaw Municipal Airport:

- Nick King, Airport Manager, reported that the Warsaw Airport averages 15,500 operations annually, with an operation equating to one landing or one takeoff. The average is 45 operations a day. The airport consists of 1100 acres and 4 runways.
- During COVID, many Michigan travelers flew in just to visit one of our restaurants. Other visitors flew in to stay at their own lake home or rent a lake home. The airport also sees travelers who come in for weddings, funerals, and corporate meetings.
- The airport is currently working to lower power lines and lengthen runways so that bigger jets have clearance to land and take off, and not be re-routed to Fort Wayne.
- According to a 2013 INDOT Economic Impact Study, the Warsaw Airport generated \$886 million dollars, compared to Goshen's \$40-46 million, and Fort Wayne's \$990 million. Warsaw ranks 5th in the State for largest impact to the economy.
- The Airport suffered a 72% loss in fuel sales because of COVID.
- Nick views the Airport as a Welcome Center, and said he has room in his lobby for a rack to hold brochures. He has already started assembling a binder for visitors that will showcase area restaurants, hotels, and amenities. The Commission commented that he should collaborate with Jill and the CVB to get the materials and information he needs.

In the Matter of the KCCRVC Financial Reports:

- John Hall presented the financial reports. The year 2021 began with a balance of \$642,321, and as of 4/30/21 the balance is \$576,685. House shares contributed \$53,000 during the months of March and April.
- At the end of April 2021, revenue stands at \$150,372, as compared to \$133,574 in 2020, and \$158,170 in 2019.
- Kratzer explained how the funds that the Commission grants are generated by the 5% Innkeeper's Tax, which currently amounts to about \$5 per room rented. According to information provided by Kathy Ray, it appears that room rates will not return to pre-COVID pricing for 2-5 years, currently costing about \$99. Indications are that it will take 1-2 more years to return to pre-COVID occupancy rates.

- Skibowski made a motion to approve the financial reports, and Robinson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

In the Matter of the Lake City Skiers' Purchase of Boat Motors:

- Chuck McLaughlin updated the Commission on the status of the \$100,000 loan the organization had to secure to purchase new motors last year.
- The Skiers financial situation has now been additionally affected by COVID, rising fuel costs, and the loss of a fuel sponsor.
- The group anticipates it will win the bid to host the 2023 Division 1 Nationals, and will bid on the 2024 World Tournament, which would draw teams from six countries.
- The ski team has grown in membership and stands now at 150 members and is the only show ski team in the State.
- A motion was made by Skibowski, and seconded by Robinson, to award a grant of \$7,703.28 to assist in paying the next two quarterly payments for the boat motors.

In the Matter of the Pierceton Chamber of Commerce:

- Alicia Elder, Chamber President, presented requests for publicity of seven upcoming Pierceton events, as well as for general advertising, totaling \$4,000.
- Alicia spoke of the growth in attendance of the events each year, and the vendors spending the weekend in the area.
- After discussion, a motion was made by Kratzer, and seconded by Gustafson, to grant publicity funds in the amount of \$2,750 to the Chamber to attract visitors to Pierceton.

In the Matter of the Warsaw City Parks and the Purchase of Kayak Kiosks:

- Larry Plummer, Superintendent of the Warsaw Parks Department, requested funding to purchase two kayak kiosks, one each for Center Lake and Pike Lake. Each kiosk would hold six kayaks, along with paddles and life jackets.
- The availability of kayaks to rent will make the lakes more accessible to residents and visitors alike. An app will be used for the transaction, similar to the bike share concept.
- A motion made by Skibowski to fund half of the requested amount failed for lack of a second.
- A motion was then made to award a grant of \$29,660 to the City of Warsaw to purchase the two kiosks, and it carried.

In the Matter of the CVB:

- Jill Boggs distributed samples of the new post cards showcasing the County that are available for sale.
- Boggs also distributed samples of four new brochures: Blue Spaces, Wild Spaces, Play Spaces, and Trail Spaces, which were prepared in collaboration with Grace College and other organizations.

- The CVB has decided to proceed with "Bandango", at a cost of \$11,000 for the first year, and \$9,500 thereafter.
- Regarding the Visitor Guide, 69 ads were sold to vendors. The guide is at the printer, but no date yet when they will be available for distribution. Forty thousand copies have been ordered. Ten thousand will be distributed in the Indianapolis area, and six thousand on the toll road.
- Going forward, the Commission asked that the CVB specifically itemize the revenue and costs of the Visitor's Guide on the Budget Form that the CVB presents to the Commission.
- For 2021, there will be an \$11,000 loss between the cost of the contract to Lunar Cow and the revenue generated from the ads placed.

In the Matter of Brochure Racks:

- Kratzer has spoken to Bob Pilcher, of Pilcher's Shoes in North Webster, who indicated that brochures and guides are in high demand at his store.
- Paczkowski reported that the CCAC has at least two buildings that could be used as a Welcome Center for distribution of materials.
- And the Commission learned from Nick King that the Airport would also welcome materials and a rack.
- It was suggested that funds be allocated for the procurement of racks.

In the Matter of the 2022 KCCRVC Budget:

- With a budget increase of 3% over 2021, the 2022 Budget was proposed by Mark Skibowski and John Hall at \$598,070:
 - 1. CVB \$348,140
 - 2. Grants \$237,930
 - 3. Admin \$12,000
- The 2022 budget was approved, with Paczkowski voting no.
- For historical record keeping, in 2021 the CVB received \$27,500 through the Paycheck Protection Program, and an additional \$3,200, which is all being dedicated to marketing.

In the Matter of the March 9, 2021 Minutes

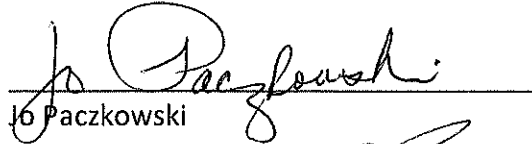
- A motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 meeting was made by Robinson and seconded by Kratzer, and unanimously carried.


Adjournment:

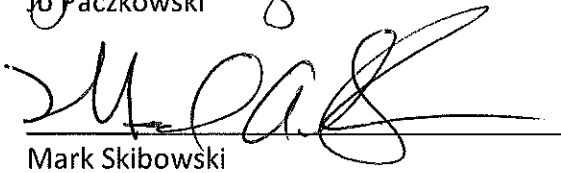
There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.
The next meeting will be July 14, 2021.


Tammy Kratzer

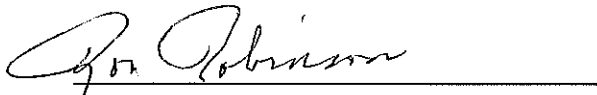
ABSENT
Kathy Ray


Jo Paczkowski


John Hall


Mark Skibowski


Dave Gustafson


Ron Robinson

ATTEST:


Michelle Puckett, Auditor

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION July 14, 2021

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on July 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Old Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Present: Tammy Kratzer, Jo Paczkowski, Ron Robinson, John Hall, Mark Skibowski, Dave Gustafson, Kathy Ray

Absent: None

Also present: Michelle Puckett, County Auditor

The Meeting was called to order by Tammy Kratzer, 2021 Commission President.

In the Matter of the Re-appointments of John Hall and Ron Robinson

- John Hall and Ron Robinson were sworn in by Michelle Puckett, County Auditor, to serve the Commission as members for 2021 and 2022.
- A motion was made by Jo Paczkowski, seconded by Mark Skibowski, and unanimously carried that all actions taken by both Hall and Robinson during 2021 were ratified.

In the Matter of the KCCRVC Financial Reports:

- John Hall presented the financial reports. The year 2021 began with a balance of \$642,321, and as of 6/30/21, the balance is \$681,674. Home share receipts to date are \$109,373 and hotel receipts are \$169,788.
- At least \$38,000 in funds are still available for granting in 2021.
- Skibowski made a motion to approve the financial reports, and Robinson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Due to COVID, KCCRVC did distribute funds to some organizations to reimburse them for expenses for events that were eventually cancelled. The Commission did begin in 2021 to verbally instruct applicants that reimbursements would no longer be given for cancelled events. Skibowski suggested that we revise our KCCRVC Grant Applications to clarify that process in writing. Also, in order to protect KCCRVC funds, he suggested a clause be added to deal with the dissolution of an organization to which the Commission has previously provided funds for the purchase of fixed assets. Skibowski offered to develop those revisions.

In the Matter of the Trail System in Kosciusko County

- Justin Taylor, Warsaw City Planner and member of The Ride/Walk Committee, spoke of the long-term goal of connecting all the various walking and biking trail systems currently within the County, and then to connect our County trails to regional and national trails. He spoke of the tourism dollars that would be generated, as well as the increase to property values and the quality of life for residents.

- Federal and State grants are available to assist with the development of trails, but applications require that a County Park Department exist to ensure that the trails will be maintained. He believes millions of potential dollars in grants have been missed because we don't have a County Park Department.
- Paczkowski asked if grants provide maintenance dollars, and Taylor said they do not.
- Skibowski asked if Taylor knew what the cost would be to maintain the trails. Taylor will try to obtain a cost per mile.
- Taylor asked if the Commission would provide a favorable recommendation to the County Commissioners for the establishment of a County Park Department. The consensus of the Commission was to do so.

In the Matter of the Chinworth Bridge Trailhead

- Sally Hogan, of the Kosciusko Co. Historical Society, said the Historical Society is the owner of the Chinworth Bridge Trailhead. The land is 1.59 acres located on Old Road 30. The Society has a 99-year lease with the County for the nearby Chinworth Bridge, for which they pay \$1 a year. Hogan said The Society is prepared to donate this land to the County.
- Hogan said the other associated costs of owning the land include insurance and about \$23 a month to NIPSCO for lighting. The pavilion on the east side of the property is maintained by the Kiwanis Club, and the entire area is mowed by a volunteer. Various groups and Scouts have assisted with the landscaping. Paczkowski said she checked with the current insurance carrier, and the estimated cost would be about \$120 per year.
- A motion was made by Paczkowski, and seconded by Hall to discuss this potential donation with the County Commissioners. Motion carried.

In the Matter of a CCAC and YMCA Merger

- Karl Swihart and Brandon Keaffaber of the CCAC spoke of the YMCA's interest to merge with the CCAC.
- Swihart acknowledged that due to severe rainfall in 2019 and COVID in 2020, the CCAC is struggling financially.
- Swihart reminded the Commission that the CCAC had developed architectural plans for the construction of an indoor facility, which would negate the affect of bad weather. It was estimated that the indoor facility could generate \$16,000 monthly. Unfortunately COVID has impacted planning and fundraising for the project.
- Skibowski suggested the possibility of the KCCRVC increasing its operational support.
- Ray stated that 80% of weekend occupancy for area hotels from April to October is generated from the CCAC tournaments.
- The Commission saw the first draft of the Merger Agreement from the YMCA, and were concerned that there were no written guarantees that the weekend tournaments would continue. Also not stated was that the YMCA would provide four board seats for CCAC interests to be considered.

- The Commission has granted almost \$1,000,000 since 2005 for the support of the CCAC.
- The 66 acres is estimated to have a value of at least \$1,000,000.
- Skibowski and Terry Himes are the KCCRVC representatives on the CCAC Board. Josh Finch and Jason Brown are the City of Warsaw representatives on the CCAC Board.
- Swihart has announced his plans to resign within the year, but the CCAC Board has an individual under consideration for his replacement.
- Other options have been suggested, such as leasing the land to the YMCA or a joint venture, rather than a merger.
- The CCAC plans to hire an attorney to advise them. The CCAC Board has postponed any response to the Merger Agreement until September 30.

In the Matter of the CVB:

- Jennifer Carnes, Treasurer of the CVB Board, stated that the 2021-2022 Visitor Guide has been received and distributed.
- The plan is that next year's guide will be printed by March 1.
- Eight videos to date have been built into the guide.
- The CVB will have a booth at the State Fair.

In the Matter of the May 12, 2021 Minutes


- A motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting was made by Gustafson and seconded by Skibowski, and unanimously carried.

Adjournment:

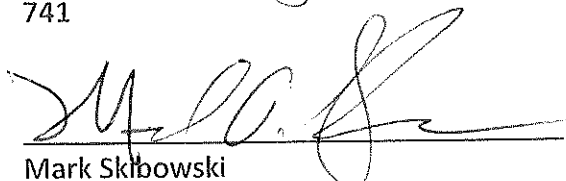
There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be September 8, 2021.

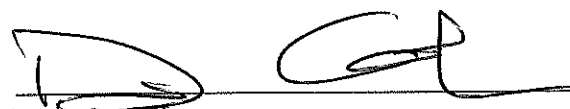

Tammy Kratzer


Kathy Ray


Jo Paczkowski
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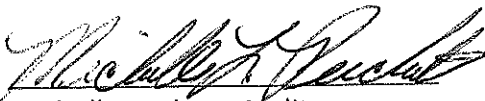

John Hall


Mark Skibowski


Dave Gustafson



Ron Robinson

ATTEST: 

Michelle Puckett, Auditor

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION

September 8, 2021

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on July 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Old Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Present: Tammy Kratzer, Jo Paczkowski, Ron Robinson, John Hall, Mark Skibowski, Kathy Ray

Absent: Dave Gustafson

Also present: Michelle Puckett, County Auditor

The Meeting was called to order by Tammy Kratzer, 2021 Commission President.

In the Matter of the KCCRVC Financial Reports:

- John Hall presented the financial reports. Receipts as of 8/31/21 are \$482,668, with \$163,165 coming from the Home Shares. After expenditures, the balance is \$788,896 as of 8/31/21.
- At least \$38,000 in funds are still available for granting in 2021.
- Skibowski made a motion to approve the financial reports, and Robinson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

In the Matter of a CCAC and YMCA Merger

- Karl Swihart introduced Mike Hagy, who was selected by the CCAC Board to replace Karl as the executive director of the CCAC. Mike is well connected with the NSA and intends to enhance and add programs at the CCAC.
- One full time and one part-time employee have been hired in the maintenance department.
- The sidewalk repair project has been completed. No injury claims were filed in 2021.
- Regarding the potential YMCA merger, Jay Rigdon has been engaged by the CCAC to review YMCA documents. A main concern is that the land cannot be sold or used for any other purpose but recreation. The entire merger idea is still being investigated to determine if it would be beneficial to the CCAC and the community.

In the Matter of the CVB:

- Mitch Randall presented updates on Bandango, and a new project entitled "All Things Art", which will be printed as a brochure and accessible on the website.
- Boggs will again reach out to Nick King at the Airport to continue discussion on the installation of a brochure rack or other ways to market our assets to visitors there.
- Regarding bus tours, only four have visited in comparison to 13-15 in past years.
- Two thousand copies of the 2021 Visitor Experience were distributed through the Times Union. Last year, four thousand copies were distributed that way.

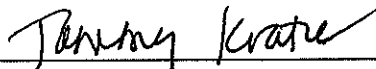
- As we evaluate the cost and benefits of printed versus digital marketing, Jill was asked to provide information as to the per copy cost of the 2021 Visitor Experience.
- The State requires that an annual "Agreement" be signed between the KCCRVC and the CVB. In preparation of signing the 2022 Agreement in November, Jill was asked to provide specifics of the CVB's "Strategic Plan" as per the terms of the Agreement.

In the Matter of the July 2021 Minutes

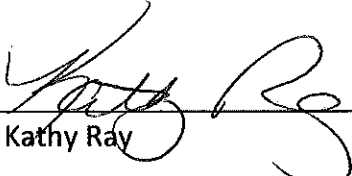
- A motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2021 meeting was made by Robinson and seconded by Ray, and unanimously carried.

Adjournment:


There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be November 10, 2021.



Tammy Kratzer



Kathy Ray



Jo Paczkowski
741



John Hall



Mark Skibowski

ABSENT
Dave Gustafson



Ron Robinson

ATTEST: 

Michelle Puckett, Auditor

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CONVENTION, RECREATION AND VISITOR COMMISSION

November 10, 2021

The Kosciusko County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission (KCCRVC) met for a regular meeting on November 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Old Courtroom on the third floor of the Courthouse, 100 W. Center St., Warsaw, IN.

Present: Tammy Kratzer, Jo Paczkowski, Ron Robinson, John Hall, Mark Skibowski, Kathy Ray

Absent: Dave Gustafson

Also present: Michelle Puckett, County Auditor

The Meeting was called to order by Tammy Kratzer, 2021 Commission President.

In the Matter of the September 8, 2021 Minutes:

- A motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2021 meeting was made by Skibowski and seconded by Robinson, and unanimously carried.

In the Matter of the Fat & Skinny Tire Fest:

- Nick Hauck and Greg Demopolous presented a request for funding the 17th Fat & Skinny Tire Fest in May 2022. Hauck stated that the 2020 Fest was a modified event due to COVID, but that the 2019 event had record attendance.
- A motion was made and approved to grant \$22,400 for the event.

In the Matter of the KCCRVC Financial Reports:

- John Hall presented the financial reports. Receipts as of 10/30/21 are \$654,000 as compared to \$607,000 in 2019. Home Shares contributed \$220,164.
- Grant funds remaining for 2021 are roughly \$37,000.
- Skibowski made a motion to approve the financial reports, and Robinson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

In the Matter of 2022 NCCAA Basketball Championships:

- Chad Briscoe, Grace Athletics, presented a request for \$5,000 to sponsor the Basketball Championship tournaments in 2022.
- Skibowski made motion to approve, Hall seconded. Motion approved, with Paczkowski voting no.

In the Matter of Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams:

- Alex Hall and Nate Bosch requested operating funds in the amount of \$10,000 to support the Center.
- Skibowski made motion to approve, Hall seconded. Motion carried.

In the Matter of the 2022 Lakes Festival:

- The Festival will now be a collaboration between the Lilly Center and the City of Warsaw, with the Lilly Foundation focusing on the educational element.
- The organizers are considering adding vendors to the event.
- Expected costs of musical entertainment is \$15,000. Riders will be added to the contracts to protect against COVID induced cancellations.
- Skibowski made a motion to approve the \$9,000 request, with Robinson seconding. Motion carried.

In the Matter of Clearly Kosciusko:

- Alex Hall reported on the growth of the Clearly Kosciusko project and presented their request for \$5,715 to continue the program.
- Skibowski made the motion to approve, and Ray seconded. Motion carried.

In the Matter of Lake City Skiers:

- Chuck McLaughlin came back to the Commission to request \$7,703.28 to pay the next two loan payments for the new boat motors.
- The Skiers have seen record attendance at their performances.
- A tournament in July will consist of seven out-of-state teams, which will equate to many hotel rooms.
- The ski club is comprised of all volunteers, with members paying dues.
- Hall made a motion to approve the \$7,703.28, with Skibowski seconding. Motion carried.

In the Matter of the CCAC:

- Josh Finch and Brandon Keaffaber, members of the CCAC Board, were present, along with Mike Hagy to request \$37,000 to be used for operating funds.
- Motion to approve request was made by Paczkowski, with Ray seconding, with the condition that the funds would only be disbursed if the CCAC did not merge with the YMCA. The motion carried.
- In the continuing negotiations with the YMCA, the CCAC Board has asked the YMCA that a 15-year restriction be placed on the land to keep it for recreational use. The YMCA had offered five years originally, and the CCAC has not heard back.
- The consensus of the Commission was that a letter be sent to the CCAC Board stating that the Commission does not support the merger concept with the YMCA.



Teena Pence <tpence@kcgov.com>

Fwd: November 2021 Minutes

1 message

Michelle Puckett <mpuckett@kcgov.com>
To: Teena Pence <tpence@kcgov.com>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:43 AM

Michelle L. Puckett
Kosciusko County Auditor
mpuckett@kcgov.com
(574) 372-2328

"If you wonder often, the gift of knowledge will come."

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jo Paczkowski** <jopaczkowski@comcast.net>

Date: Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:32 AM

Subject: November 2021 Minutes

To: Kathy Ray <kray@goodhsi.com>, David Gustafson <david.gustafson@saintregisclub.com>, Mark Skibowski <mark@skibowskitem.com>, John Hall <johnhall59@hotmail.com>, Ron Robinson <rd_robinson@outlook.com>

Cc: Michelle Puckett <mpuckett@kcgov.com>, Jo Paczkowski <jopaczkowski@comcast.net>

My apology! In yesterday's email to you, I attached a copy of the November 2021 AGENDA...instead of the November 2021 MINUTES! Sorry you did not have them for today's meeting.

Jo



KCCRVC November 2021 minutes.docx
43K

- Jill Boggs introduced Laura Rothhaar, who is filling the vacancy created when Mitch Randall resigned.
- Boggs reported that day trips are up, but hotel rates have not returned yet to pre-COVID rates.
- Boggs said the CVB budget and Strategic Plan will be available for the May meeting.
- The contract with Lunar Cow for producing the Visitor Guide is in its second year at a cost of \$61,000, with 50,000 copies to be produced.

In the Matter of the Annual Agreement with the CVB:

- The Commission and CVB representatives will be signing the 2022 Agreement today.
- Paczkowski noted that the Agreement should really be presented to the CVB at the KCCRVC September meeting, so that it can be approved and signed by the CVB Board at their October meeting, and returned to the KCCRVC at its November meeting.

In the Matter of the Inter-Local Agreement with the Auditor's Office:

- Commission members agreed to sign the 2022 Agreement with the Auditor's Office.

In the Matter of the 2022 KCCRVC Meeting Dates:

- The meeting dates for 2022 were reviewed and found to be acceptable.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.
The next meeting will be January 12, 2022.

Term ended
Tammy Kratzer

Kathy Ray
Kathy Ray

Term ended
Jo Paczkowski

Approved via video conference
John Hall

Mark Skibowski
Mark Skibowski

ABSENT
Dave Gustafson

Absent
Ron Robinson

ATTEST: Michelle Puckett
Michelle Puckett, Auditor