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Great Falls Tourism Business Improvement District
Minutes; Request for Funding and Board of Director Meeting
10am – March 22, 2012
Holiday Inn – 400 10th Ave. So.

Chair

Secretary/Treasurer

Date:

March 22, 2012

Facilitator: Robert Dompier - Chair

Minutes: Karen Venetz – Administrative & Marketing Director

Board members present: Robert Dompier, Scott Shull, Ryan Carroll, David Buckingham, Malissa Hollan, Sandi Thares, and Pam Volk

Board members absent: none

Quorum present: Yes

Guests: John Faulkner and Lara Tait; GF Airport, Wendy Thomas; City of Great Falls, Erin Heinbauch' Little Rustler Wrestling Program

Meeting called to order: 10:07

Approval of minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 23, 2012 as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion carried with unanimous approval

Approval of financial report: The financial report of February 29, 2012 will be reviewed at the next TBID Board of Director meeting.

Public comment on agenda items: none

Agenda topics:

Presentations:

- Wendy Thomas - City of Great Falls
 - The City of Great Falls, in partnership with the C.M. Russell Museum and the Museum Consortium, is applying for a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant. The grant request is to create a wayfinding system that will link people to major commercial, cultural and historical destinations within Great Falls and Cascade County. Wayfinding is a vital tool of economic development. The investment in wayfinding has proven to increase tourism and strengthen local economies.
 - A motion was made to fund the request with a grant of \$500. The motion was seconded. Motion carried with unanimous consent.
- John Faulkner – GF Airport Authority
 - An Allegiant Airlines opportunity will create a unique and long-term advantage over some of other Montana cities and will continue to draw our Canadian neighbors to Great Falls. There will only be one city in Montana to receive this route. Once the route is announced it is unlikely to change. Great opportunity and potential.
 - A motion was made to fund this request with a grant of \$50,000.00. The motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
 - Small Community Air Service Development Grant (SCASD)
 - The airport is requesting assistance in meeting incentive requirements to bring in additional direct flights with the above mentioned grant. A direct flight to a new major

city would help take advantage of regional marketing efforts to drive more visitations from US tourists.

- A motion was made to fund this request with a grant of \$10,000. The motion was seconded. The motion carried with majority vote.
- Eric Heinbauch – Little Rustler Wrestling program
 - Mr. Heinbauch prepared a request for funding for the NAIA Wrestling Championship in 2013. The tournament consists of 37 teams from all over the US. It is a two day tournament; teams arrive on a Wednesday and depart on a Sunday. If the tournament runs well and is well attended the City will have the opportunity to hold it for an additional two years.
 - A motion was made to fund the event with a grant of \$8800.00. The motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
- Great Falls Volley Ball Club
 - The GF Volleyball Club is seeking funds for their annual tournament to be held April 27 and 28, 2012.
 - A motion was made to fund the event with a grant for \$500.00. The motion died for lack of a second.
- Montana Ministry Network
 - The Montana Ministry Network requested funding to assist with offsetting transportation costs to encourage more youth to attend.
 - A motion was made to fund the event with a grant of \$600.00. The motion died for lack of a second.

New Business:

- FY-13 discussion
 - The TBID Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and Marketing Director will meet prior to the next board of director meeting to put a preliminary work plan together. The work plan will be discussed at the April 26th meeting with the entire board of directors. The plan is due to the City of Great Falls on June 25, 2012.
- TBID assessment calendar
 - Delinquent assessments
 - Ms. Venetz is waiting to hear from the City of Great Falls on the correct process if any that the TBID should follow.
- Election of new directors
 - Two positions will open at the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Venetz will send out notices to all properties and property owners at the end of April
- Checks issued

Meeting adjourned: 12:55pm

Next meetings: Please review meetings below

February 2012 meetings	March 2012 meetings	April 2012
February 23, 2012 @ 10am – Board of Director meeting – Holiday Inn	<p>March 15 – Western Art Week & SLC consumer show ; meeting cancelled</p> <p>March 22 @ 10am Board of Director meeting – Holiday Inn</p>	<p>April 19, 2012 @ 1pm at the Holiday Inn – Request for Funds meeting</p> <p>April 26, 2012 @ 10am at the Holiday Inn. Board of Director meeting</p>