



P. O. Box 648 Great Falls, MT 59403 406-868-5989 kvenetz@bresnan.net www.gftourismbid.com

Great Falls Tourism Business Improvement District
Minutes; Request for funding meeting
Thursday, February 19, 2015 – 1pm

Chair

Secretary/Treasurer

Date

February 19, 2015

Facilitator: Scott Shull –Chair

Minutes: Karen Venetz – Administrative & Marketing Director

Board members present: Sandi Johnson Thares, Scott Shull, Scott Arensmeyer, Malissa Hollan, David Buckingham and Laurie Price-Manning

Board members absent: Becky Amaral Miller

Quorum present: Yes

Guests: Don and Marion Olson, Tyler Hentzen, Dick Lyman, Cory Smith and Sam, Heather Johnson, Roger Lesofski and Robert Dompier

Meeting called to order: 1:05pm

Approval of minutes: Minutes will not be reviewed

Approval of financial report: Finance report will be reviewed on Feb. 26, 2015

Public comment on agenda items:

Agenda items:

1. Montana Coaches Association – 1pm
 - a. The MCA presented a great proposal for continued assistance in their annual conference that continues to be held in Great Falls. Dale Brown will be the featured speaker, which should increase attendance. The MCA request was supported with attendance information from last year.
 - b. A motion was made to fund the event with a \$5000 grant, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
2. Scheels 3rd Annual 5K & Duathlon benefitting Team Red, White and Blue
 - a. Tyler Hentzen presented a proposal that would stimulate out of area participants to attend.
 - i. A motion was made to fund the event with a \$1000 grant, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
 - ii. The Scheel's Gift Certificates that are part of the sponsorship will be used as a giveaway at the Calgary Travel and Adventure Show in March.
3. University of GF – Rodeo
 - a. Mr. Lyman presented a request to continue funding with the UGF rodeos. The rodeo continues to grow and will be in its third year. The request was supported with attendance records from last year.
 - b. A motion was made to fund the event with a \$6000 grant, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
4. ICF Events, Concerts & Motocross Events
 - a. Mr. Smith presented an informative request regarding all of the types of events he is involved with that bring out of town guests to Great Falls.
 - b. A motion was made to fund the request with a grant for \$4000, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

5. Mt Classic – Volley Ball tournament
 - a. Ms. Johnson presented a superb request for funding and is very motivational for the sport of Volley Ball in Great Falls.
 - b. A motion was made to fund the request with a \$3000 grant, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent
6. Confero Sports Foundation
 - a. Mr. Lesofski and Mr. Dompier presented a request for funding to support two basketball tournaments at the 4-Seasons Arena. Both tournaments bring in a tremendous amount of overnight guests.
 - b. A motion was made to fund the event with a \$10,000 grant, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
7. Montana Society of CPA's 103rd Annual Conference
 - a. The request was provided by Margaret Herriges via email. Ms. Venetz has been working with the Montana Society of CPA's through various channels to bring this event to Great Falls for the past two years. The conference will be bringing in high level non-accounting specific speakers that could also be combined with another group i.e. Ad Club. The requested funding would go to bring in a high power speaker that would increase attendance of overnight visitors.
 - b. A motion was made to fund the request with a \$2500 grant, the motion was seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.
8. GF Tourism Alliance
 - a. Ms. Venetz had a lot of material for board review. The board did not feel that they had, had enough time to review and give a qualified opinion. It was decided that the board would share their remarks with Ms. Venetz by March 9th. Ms. Venetz will compile the remarks and share at the March 26 board of director meeting. This information will then go to the Alliance committee at their April 10th meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 3:05 pm

February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015
February 19, 2015 – 1pm funding requests – Holiday Inn	March 26, 2015 – 10am BOD meeting – Holiday Inn	April 16, 2015 at 1pm Funding requests – Holiday Inn	May 28, 2015 at 10am – BOD meeting at the Holiday Inn
February 26, 2015 – 10am – BOD meeting – Holiday Inn		April 23, 2015 at 10am BOD meeting Holiday Inn	