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Great Falls Tourism Business Improvement District
Minutes; Request for funding meeting
Thursday, April 16, 2015 – 1pm

April 16, 2015

Facilitator: Scott Shull –Chair

Minutes: Karen Venetz – Administrative & Marketing Director

Board members present: Sandra Johnson Thares, Scott Shull, Malissa Hollan and Becky Amaral Miller

Board members absent: Laurie Price Manning, Scott Arensmeyer and David Buckingham

Quorum present: Yes

Guests: Scott Reasoner, Jay Russell, Paul Smook, Michelle Cohens, John Hayes, Joyce Watson, Chris DeMarco and Kellie Pierce

Meeting called to order: 1:04pm

Approval of minutes: Minutes will be reviewed on April 23, 2015

Approval of financial report: Finance report will be reviewed on April 23, 2015

Public comment on agenda items: None

Agenda items: Presentations

1. Voyagers/Pops at the Park
 - a. Mr. Reasoner presented two requests for funding
 - i. GF Voyagers Hi-line radio campaign
 1. A motion was made to fund the request with a \$1500 grant with request for additional information of overnight stays. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.
 - ii. Pops at the Park
 1. The board felt that this is an “in” town event and will not draw overnight visitors. No action was taken.
 2. In discussion the board directed Ms. Venetz to be sure to let Mr. Reasoner know he is welcome to request funds for a concert he is working on.
2. Lewis and Clark sites Cross-promotional videos
 - a. A motion was made to fund the request with specific amounts. A motion was made to fund the film production with \$3000 and \$2000 towards marketing the film, but Mr. Russell must return with more specifics on how the film will be marketed. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.
 - b. Ms. Venetz will contact Mr. Russell to share the board’s decision and invite him to the May meeting.
3. Treasure State Horse Show
 - a. A request had been submitted by Tom Robitaille requesting funds for the upcoming Horse Show. Mr. Robitaille was unable to attend
 - i. A motion was made to fund the event with a \$5000 grant. The motion died for lack for second.
4. Great Falls Select ASA soft ball
 - a. A request for funding was made for the May 15th tournament.
 - i. A motion was made to fund the tournament with a \$7000 grant. The motion died for lack of second.
 1. The tournament was pretty much in place, with no opportunity to increase overnight stays.
 2. Ms. Venetz will visit with the organizers regarding a June 2016 tournament they are planning on

5. Quilt Show
 - a. Ms. Watson presented a request for funding for a Quilt Show July 16 – 18, 2015
 - i. A motion was made to fund the Quilt Show with a \$2500 grant. The motion died for lack of second.
6. State Fair Race meet
 - a. Mr. Hayes presented a request for funding for the 2015 Horse Races. Mr. Hayes' request included last year's tally of visitors that went through the gates to attend the races.
 - i. A motion was made to fund the event with a \$5000 grant, \$2500 to be paid up front and the remaining \$2500 paid upon receipt of gate statistics showing out of town guests. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.
7. 2015 DGFA coupon books
 - a. Ms. Pierce presented a request for printing costs for the DGFA coupon book which had already been printed.
 - i. Since the book was already printed the board did not take action on the request
8. FAST swim team
 - a. Mr. Demarco presented a request for the 2015-2016 swim meets, and presented material from past meets regarding over-night guests.
 - i. Mr. Shull recused himself from voting due to conflict of interest. This resulted in not having a quorum. The vote will be held at the April 23, 2015 BOD meeting.
9. The board elected to change the wording in the grant application to reflect that all funds would be divided in to two parts. The payments will be paid; half up front and the remainder upon receipt of overnight guests attending. Ms. Venetz will make the adjustments immediately.
10. GF Tourism Alliance
 - a. The board was brought up to date on the progress the Alliance is making
11. Proposed Arena
 - a. The board was brought up to speed on the arena

Meeting adjourned: 3:26pm

April 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015
April 16, 2015 at 1pm Funding requests – Holiday Inn	May 28, 2015 at 10am – BOD meeting at the Holiday Inn	June 18, 2015 at 1pm Funding Requests – Holiday Inn	Fiscal year 16 begins July 16 – 1pm July 23 – 10am
April 23, 2015 at 10am BOD meeting Holiday Inn		June 25, 2015 at 10am- BOD meeting Holiday Inn End of Fiscal Year	