

Manchester Tourism and Community Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2024
6:00 pm

Members Present-Lori West, Lori Perry, Joseph Sherrill, Lori Watson & Mark Messick

Members Absent-Erin Kehely

Others Present-Mayor Hobbs, AJ Fox, Katie West, Katy Riddle, Katie Anderson, Amanda McGowan, Sophia Posey, & Logan Eley.

Lori Perry called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm. There was a quorum present.

Citizens Comments/Questions-None

Mark Messick made a motion to approve the January 2025 minutes, Joseph Sherrill, seconded, motion carried.

New Business-Discussion was had for the remainder of the 2025 budget, as far purchases and possible upcoming events. Ideas were presented, such as banners, more Christmas lights, landscaping, signs, TNTD grant, ARP Grant and contributions, the items would also need to be factored into the 2025-2026 budget. This discussion would need to be carried on into the next tourism meeting with approximate numbers from each department involved.

The remainder of the 2024-2025 was presented by Mayor Hobbs to give the committee of an idea of unused funds, Finance Director Burrows would be helping getting the budget together for 2025-2026.

Mayor Hobbs stated to the committee that Finance Director Burrows would be getting a Hotel/Motel Tax Audit together.

Website Reviews were asked to be tabled to the next tourism meeting.

2025 Good Friends Fest-Logan Eley spoke to the committee on the Good Friends event that would be held June 6-7 2025 at Rotary Park. The event

was successful in years past and it had reached potential visitors outside of the region. Logan presented the committee also with a tourism community grant application for help with advertising the event in the amount of \$3000.00. The advertising would cover digital, radio, and roadside signage advertisements.

Mark Messick made the motion to fund Good Friends Fest application, Lori West, seconded, motion carried.

Civil War Trails Membership Renewal was presented by Lori West in the amount of \$100.00. Lori had been contacted and stated that the CWT would be updating their website with more information on Manchester and would also be updating the brochures.

Lori Watson made the motion to renew CWT membership, Lori Perry seconded, motion carried.

Old Business-None

Manchester Chamber of Commerce Report-Katy Riddle was working on the 2025 visitors guide with a theme of "Eat, Drink, and Be Sweet" with an article for Russell Stover, and also 25 fun family themes for visitors.

Katy stated that there was someone who had reached out to the chamber to look at a location for a possible Banjo Championship in the spring/summer. More details to follow.

Manchester Parks & Recreation Report-AJ stated Kris Hooper with AAU would be looking at booking tournaments for March/April. Lori West requested clarification from Mayor Hobbs if the budgeted tourism AAU tournament fees were still to be used. Mayor Hobbs stated yes.

SCTTA Report-Amanda McGowan spoke on the marketing plan, to include four (4) articles and eight (8) reels focusing on newer restaurants and other local businesses.

Committee Reports-NONE

Lori West made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Joseph Sherrill, seconded, motion carried.

Adjournment 7:15 p.m.