



Galena/Jo Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Minutes for CVB Board Meeting
DeSoto House Hotel, Galena IL @ 6:00 p.m.
July 28, 2015

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Hal Gilpin at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call Present:

CVB Board Members

- Matthew Carroll
- Jess Farlow
- Erin Murphy
- Caitlin Oponski
- Sharon Cholewinski
- Helen Schamberger
- Hal Gilpin
- Robert Mahan
- Merri Berlage / JDC Board Member

Staff

- Katherine Walker, Executive Director
- Celestino Ruffini, Sales & Marketing Director
- Lori Kinnaman, Administrative Assistant
- Betsy Kaage, Social Media Specialist
- Melosa Munholland, Events Coordinator

Guest in Attendance.

Brad Petersburg, Tammy Trebian, Katie Deveraux

Public Comments.

Brad Petersburg stated that he appreciates the boards' efforts. He would like to see things moved to the county board for their next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Moved by Jess Farlow to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2015 CVB Special Board Meeting. Second by Sharon Cholewinski. **Motion carried**

Motion: Moved by Erin Murphy to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2015 CVB Board Meeting. Second by Jess Farlow. Robert Mahan asked that the minutes be amended to include the wording, Discussion of Sect. 2 of the draft resolution dated June 30, 2015 be added to the first, second and third motions in unfinished business. **Motion carried**

Committee & Meeting Reports.

Sales & Marketing

No report from this committee.

Event Planning

No report from this committee.

Visitor Services

No report from this committee.

Community Outreach

Robert Mahan reported on the meeting that was held in Elizabeth, July 8, 2015.

(See minutes from the July 8, 2015 meeting.)

Ad Hoc

No report from this committee.

Unfinished Business.

Katherine Walker reported on three meetings that she had with Dan Gilbert, Jo Daviess County Deputy States Attorney. She advised the board that the States Attorneys' Office stated that the resolution was not a good option at this time. They advised the two organizations to come together to work out details. Galena and the County must cooperatively work out an agreement regarding many issues, such as liabilities, organization, bylaws, employees and space. Then both must dissolve and meet the statutory requirements. For true unification both parties have to be involved. Dan Gilbert recommended that the CVB Board give Katherine Walker the authority to sit down, one on one, with Chris Hamilton to identify the benefits to both sides, benefits to the destination and the economies of scale that can be achieved.

Jess Farlow and Helen Schamberger agreed with the advice from the States Attorney's Office.

Merri Berlage entered the meeting at 6:15 p.m..

Robert Mahan suggested that they vote on the Singular Voice Plan and to move something to the County Board.

Motion: Moved by Erin Murphy to forward to the County Board, the resolution with the amendments discussed at our June 30th meeting. Second by Matthew Carroll. **Motion failed by roll call vote.** Ayes recorded for Erin Murphy, Matthew Carroll and Sharon Cholewinski. Nays recorded for Merri Berlage, Jess Farlow, Hal Gilpin, Helen Schamberger and Robert Mahan.

Motion: Moved by Hal Gilpin to give Katherine Walker the authority to sit with Chris Hamilton, find out if Visit Galena would be interested in talks for a new organization. Second by Jess Farlow. Discussion followed. **Motion passed with one nay vote recorded for Robert Mahan.**

New Business.

Katherine Walker presented the proposed budget for the 2016 fiscal year.

Motion: Moved by Hal Gilpin to move a maximum of \$100,000 to the Vehicle Fund out of the Capitol Development Fund. Second by Matthew Carroll. **Motion Carried**

Public Comments.

Brad Petersburg stated this exemplifies the need to get the program out of county government as much as possible. The entities want to reunify the DMO, but no progress has been made. He does not feel that the CVB and Visit Galena should be involved with the reunification. He suggested that the County Board appoint two or three people and the City of Galena appoint two or three people to work together.

Tammy Trebian asked the board if they had their bylaws ready on the first day that they went to the County Board for the organization. Merri Berlage responded, the CVB is State Statute. Tammy also stated that she attended the Community Outreach Committee Meeting and was disappointed with the CVB. She asked that the meeting be held at a time where it would be easier for all to attend.

Closed Session. 7:35 p.m.

Motion: Moved by Merri Berlage to adjourn to closed session. Second by Sharon Cholewinski. **Motion Carried**

Board exited the closed session at 7:48 p.m.

Motion moved as a result of the closed session. *Motion:* Moved by Merri Berlage to move the External Event Coordinator position to the Executive Committee. Second by Sharon Cholewinski. **Motion Carried**

Board Comment.

Merri Berlage stated that she attended the Community Outreach Meeting in Elizabeth and she felt that they are not reaching the people they need to. She felt the turnout was not good. Jess Farlow suggested using Facebook as a tool for invitations. Matthew Carroll also suggested reinstating the monthly networking meetings. The board discussed other ideas to get more people to the meetings.

Adjournment.

Motion: Moved by Sharon Cholewinski. *Second:* by Hal Gilpin to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Lori Kinnaman

Administrative Assistant/Secretary

Galena/Jo Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau

August 25, 2015

Date of Approval