

OTTAWA VISITORS CENTER

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 - 5 p.m.

Present: Chair: Hank Wolf, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice Chair: Matt Skelly, Mary Beth LeSeure, Scott Struchen, Heather Johnson, Rich Crum, OVC Representative: Donna Reynolds and Kristal Nodland

Absent: Holly Clark, Holly Gage

Guests: Dave Noble, Jeff Hettrick

Subject	Discussion	Decision	Next Steps - Motion
Call to Order	June 21, 2023 5:12pm		
Public Comments		n/a	n/a
Next Board Meeting	Wednesday, August 16, 2023 - 5pm Location- Johnson Law Office & Google Meet		
Review of Minutes	Review/Discussion regarding OVC Board Meeting Minutes held on April 19, 2023	Moved by: S Struchen 2 nd by: MB LeSeure	Motion to approve OVC Board Meeting minutes from April 19 th as presented. Voted - Motion carried.
Finance Report	Review/Discuss Financial results for period ending April 2023.	Moved by: M Skelly 2 nd by: H Johnson	Motion to approve Finance Report as presented. Voted - Motion carried.
City Report - Noble	Dave Noble presented as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The RISE Grant for development of downtown rentals along with short term downtown rentals that includes a study. City Council approved the contract at the last meeting. - Amphitheater project – The City is in the process of hiring consultants for project proposals, studies, and cost/fee projections. Looking forward, they will be considering possible architects for design. - He and Mayor Hasty met with OSF administration regarding the closing of 2 area hospitals. The Ottawa OSF location is going to be okay, no need for concern. 	n/a	n/a
Chamber Report - Hettrick	Jeff Hettrick presented as follows:	n/a	n/a

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An Irish Pub on Main Street will be opening up in about 1 month. The owners of the new establishment also own the Social Garage located in Seneca. - The French Press is a new breakfast/lunch restaurant located in the row houses on Columbus Street. They are hoping to open in about 3 weeks. Waiting for more kitchen equipment to arrive. - With the 2 hospitals closing in the area, Hettrick is assisting businesses with possible open positions in the Ottawa area. - Welcomeburger will take place August 2nd, as the kick-off to Friendship Days. More information to follow. - The Farmers & Makers Market is off to a great start with 15 participating vendors. They hope to add even more vendors as the season progresses. They estimate that they have had 200 visitors each Saturday. 		
OVC Report – Donna Reynolds	<p>Donna presented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Received a grant for the Smoketober Fest for marketing purposes. Will receive funding for rack cards, a billboard, and Facebook promotion to help spread the word about the event. - “Fan Tour” July 21st at 7pm onboard the Sainte Genevieve with our marketing partners. Will have 3 presenters: Tom Aussem highlighting tours of the river and more, Tom Heimsoth of Heritage Harbor, and Gentry Nordstrom from the Sainte Genevieve Riverboat. - New billboards promoting Ottawa as a destination will be going up on Route 80, still in the design process. - John Williams “On the Map” WGN radio program will air Friday, June 23rd at 6pm. - June 29th a feature of Ottawa with Julian Crews will air on WGN TV at 9pm. 	n/a	n/a
Old Business	Discussion on the getting the Handbook approved for next meeting.	n/a	n/a

New Business	n/a		
Executive Session	None		
Adjournment	6:03 p.m.	Moved by: S Struchen 2 nd by: MB LeSeure	Motion to adjourn. Voted - Motion carried.