

Manchester Tourism and Community Development Commission
January 25, 2021

Members Present

Joni McReynolds
Andrea Bates
Kevin Sherrill
John Richardson

Members absent

Dustin Gallaher

Others Present

Katy Riddle
Ryan French
Mayor Howard

Kevin Sherrill called the meeting to order at 5:31pm. There was a quorum present at that time.

John made a motion to accept the January 4, 2021 Tourism minutes, Andrea seconded. Motion carried to accept the minutes.

Chamber of Commerce Report -

Katy Riddle reported that all funds have been reimbursed for the Care Act. Masks are still being distributed in the city.

Manchester Recreation -

Bonnie Gamble no report

New Business -

Ryan - briefed about the webinar on Small Business America (funding mechanism). The video shows how the funding mechanism will work. This is not a grant for Tourism but a grant for small businesses. The total distribution of funds has not been determined yet. The website is being updated on a daily basis and it covers payroll, rent, utility payments, worker protective expenditures, state/local taxes and fees. The grant would also cover live venues and operators, living performing arts, museums and theaters.

National Series Baseball tournament by Top Gun which is a 4 day regional tournament is scheduled for summer 2022. The participants will be 150 teams in the Manchester area. Some of the games will have to be played in the surrounding area. Jeff Houck, Athletic Director is the contact person with the Manchester Recreation Dept.

Budget Requests - Tourism will receive and review funding requests for profit and non-profit organizations for the 2021 - 2022 budget. The funds should not be used for such items as upgrades or paying bills. Funds should be used for items promoting Tourism. Will it bring Tourism to town? All funding requests must be specific. Profit and Non-profit organizations should submit their request prior to the budget being completed. Guidelines (qualifications) will be established (created). The requests should answer, how many people coming to town, the number of hotel room occupied/rented, and what kind of marketing will be done. Kevin asked Ryan to help craft the guidelines for businesses requesting funds. Joni, Andrea, and Ryan will work on the policy.

Hotel Motel Tax - Ask Bridget to for an updated report on hotel/motel tax.

Old Business -

Put music events on the next agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm