

Manchester Tourism and Community Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
Special Called Meeting
April 19, 2023

Members Present-Lori West, Lori Perry, Erin Kehely, Joey Hobbs, & Joseph Sherrill.

Members Absent-Lori Watson

Others Present Katy Riddle, AJ Fox, Ryan French, Sage Keele, & Kendra Fox

Lori Perry called the meeting to order at 5:02pm. There was a quorum present.

Lori West made a motion to approve the March minutes, Joseph Sherrill seconded, motion carried.

Manchester Chamber of Commerce-Katy Riddle was still in the process of marketing Manchester as a weekend destination for the Manchester tourism magazine that would be coming out around June for distribution. Kyndall Reasonover (Sales Representative) from the Exchange had reached out to her on the tourism funded advertisements. Katy redirected those questions to Lori West.

Lori West provided the committee with the advertisements, 1 full page and 2 small ads at a cost of around \$3000.00. These will go to several visitor centers.

Lori Perry made the motion to approve ads, Joseph Sherrill seconded, motion carried.

Chamber updates also included:

Meeting with Ashley Derosett, MT Division Manager, State Representative on May 24th at 11:00a.m. at the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

Lady Fright's Emporium would be holding an event at the Coffee County Fairgrounds to benefit the Coffee County Rescue Squad, May 6th. There will be vendors, raffle tickets, and a special guest Butch Patrick ("The

Munsters”). Free to the public to attend. They have also announced they will hold a “Zombie Walk” in the fall.

Good Friends Festival to be held June 2nd at Common Johns Brewery and June 3rd at Rotary Park.

Katy also spoke with TWRA. Old Stone Fort is rehabbing the kayak building and she is still getting dates to speak with them regarding Emerson Landing.

Manchester Parks & Recreation Department-AJ Fox stated that AAU Tournaments were held on March 17-19, and April 28-30. The other two that were to be held on March 10-12 and April 14-16 were canceled due to Spring Break and a scheduling conflict. There was a possible tournament to be held in July, AJ was waiting on confirmation. Invoice for tourism funded events will be coming soon.

AJ stated that a new Athletic Director had been hired, Berto Infante. He was looking in various events for the summer. Lori Perry stated we as a committee would like to be looking at long term goals for the ball fields, Erin Kehely stated she would be reaching out about a possible All-Star game this summer.

Underwater Egg Hunt sponsored by Anders Pool & Spa Company was held March 24th at the recreation center.

Spring Egg Hunt sponsored by Servpro was held April 8th at Rotary Park and Manchester Soccer Complex.

Summer Day Camp registration opened April 1st. Summer Camp to be starting May 30th.

Amazing Family Night sponsored by Unity Medical Center was going to be held at the recreation center on April 21st. Free to the public.

July 4th event was being worked on with scheduling the food trucks. The firing of the fireworks display would be moving location due to sell of property of usual location. Moving that to Fred Deadman Park. More details to follow. AJ also reminded the committee that the remainder of the tourism funded band payment would need to be paid by July 1st.

AJ stated that various projects were about to be in the process of being started, pool maintenance on outdoor pool for opening day and outdoor parties. The roof replacement would be starting in the next few weeks and floor for weight room to start in the next 7-8 weeks.

AJ reported that the Rotary digital sign had been repaired since the last meeting and thanked the committee for funding of repair

South Central Tennessee Tourism Association-Ryan French presented the committee with a packet about the Rural Tourism Conference and asked the committee if Manchester would be interested in bidding to become the Host City for 2024. Middle Tennessee cities had not been well represented in this conference, usually had been held in AL, or MS. City presentations and bidding was to be held in November 2023. Decision needed to be made by May 31st in order to start the presentation process. Discussion of details and a initial investment of \$10,000.00 over two (2) fiscal years were presented to the committee.

Joey Hobbs made the motion to approve SCCTA to bid, Erin Kehely seconded, motion carried.

Ryan also stated that ABC (Art Builds Communities) grant opened up and if we were interested, we would need to submit by July. It was a 50/50 match up to \$3000.00.

New Business-Guest, Westwood Elementary Archery Coach, Kendra Fox, gave a presentation on the Archery Program through Manchester City Schools. They had traveled to different cities throughout Middle Tennessee and had the idea of hosting a tournament in Manchester at the recreation center in 2024. Discussion was had on, potential visitors to the area and positive impact to the community. Kendra asked the committee for funding of some equipment to be used multiple times and fees for use of the recreation center for the tournament, similar to AAU tournaments. Another area business had held a tournament in the past at the recreation center and it was well received. Mrs. Fox gave a rough estimate of cost. Mrs. Fox was given a Community Grant form for funding. More details to come in the coming months.

Lori West made the motion to approve funding of tournament, Erin Kehely, seconded, motion carried.

Foothills Crafts grant requested was tabled to next meeting, Lori Perry stated Lori West need to invite them to next meeting for a presentation on grant usage.

Lori West presented the committee with an invoice from Coffee County Farmers Co-Op for \$72.00 regarding Manchester Square Cleanup.

Lori Perry made the motion to approve invoice for payment, Joseph Sherrill, seconded, motion carried.

Lori West presented the invoice for Hospitality TN in the amount of \$225.00.

Lori Perry made the motion for payment, Joseph Sherrill, seconded, motion carried.

Lori West presented the GuestQuest summer advertisements request in the amount between \$375.00-\$1,100.00. Discussion was had as the committee didn't find those advertisements useful as other cities were not using the GuestQuest advertisements either.

Lori Perry made the motion to deny moving forward with GuestQuest, Joseph Sherrill, seconded, motion carried.

Old Business-The Banner Project was presented again with the chosen Christmas banner and final quote of \$10,913.00.

Lori Perry made the motion for purchase of banners, Erin Kehely, seconded, motion carried.

Lori West presented the committee with a letter from the Civil War Trails. The letter was thanking the committee for the updated membership and what the CVT had accomplished with the membership dues.

Lori West presented the committee with the Chamber MOU 4th Quarter invoice.

Lori West made the motion to approve payment for invoice, Lori Perry, seconded, motion carried.

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

Adjournment 6:08p.m.