

Manchester Tourism and Community Development Commission
September 27, 2021

Members Present

Joni McReynolds
Lori Perry
Roxanne Patton
Zakk Huddleston
Kevin Sherrill

Members absent

Dustin Gallaher

Others Present

AJ Fox
Katy Riddle

Kevin called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Zakk Huddleston and Lori Perry introduced themselves as the newest Tourism Commissioners. There is a quorum.

Roxanne moved to accept the minutes with the stated correction. (Spelling of AJ Fox's name was corrected and a correction was made on the quorum for the meeting) Kevin seconded. Motion carried.

Chamber of Commerce - Katy Riddle verified that the TN Dept of Tourism Development Grant was approved for \$3,400. Tourism will sponsor the luncheon at the next Chamber luncheon (November 2). It was agreed upon that the Tourism and Community Development story needs to be told. A follow up meeting will be scheduled to plan the presentation.

Katie presented the completed Manchester Visitor's Guide and all were pleased. Katie mentioned that Katie Anderson did a lot of work on the guide.

Katie "made the impossible happen". She and Ryan brainstormed after Bonnaroo was cancelled. They contacted Common John, Prater, and Bites of Europe and a festival was formed. They booked two artist that were supposed to perform at Bonnaroo and several other local artists. The community worked together, people that weren't already in Manchester yet, heard about the local festival, and came anyway. The charge for the event was \$20. They stayed in local hotels, ate at local restaurants, and engaged with the locals. 26 states were represented. Over

30 artists were booked, and the entire event (**The Other Fest**) was planned in 48 hours. Circa 1300 tickets were sold.

AJ Fox said the Recreation Department was closed for a few days but have reopened. He reported they have new equipment and new gym floors are in the facility. Outdoor movies are planned, Saturday after Thanksgiving is the Xmas parade.

Scott van Velsor - Presented on the Walls for Women Murals across the state of TN. They have hired 7 female artists to paint murals across the state. Centerville, McMinnville, Nolensville. Viola and Columbia are scheduled to go be next. He has done six pieces of art done in Manchester. He has a potential location in Manchester and has an artist already line up. Scott is asking Tourism to fund \$4,000 of the project. Total project is budgeted at \$10,000. Lori made a motion to fund the art project, Roxanne second. Motion carried.

TN Governor's Conference was held September 15 17, 2021 in Murfreesboro, TN. Katie briefed on the conference and suggested Manchester could have its own "Big Back Yard", a play on words with the Nashville's Big Back Yard.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.