

**Berea Tourism Commission Minutes
Business Session
Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

VIDEO TELECONFERENCING MEETING PER KRS 61.826

Business Session

Called to order at 3:32PM, Patrick Huston presiding.

Commission Members Present:

- Charles Arnold
- Laura Carpenter
- Patrick Huston
- Kristy Napier
- Linda Ross
- Charles Saunders
- Rick Thomas

Support Staff Present:

- Donna Angel
- Megan Campbell

Visitors Present:

- Bruce Fraley
- David Gregory
- Rene Poitra
- Steve Caudill

Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2021:

Charles Arnold made a motion to approve the January 14, 2021 Berea Tourism Commission Business Session Minutes; Rick Thomas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers:

The Berea Tourism Commission elected officers for the next fiscal year:

- Charles Arnold made a motion to nominate Patrick Huston as Chair. Charles Saunders seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Patrick Huston made a motion to nominate Rick Thomas as Vice Chair. Charles Arnold seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Charles Arnold made a motion to nominate Charles Saunders as Treasurer. Linda Ross seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Pavilion Update- David Gregory:

David Gregory gave the Commission an update on the status of the Pavilion.

Gregory explained that he had a meeting with the builders and the City of Berea Codes Department to make sure everything was ready to move forward in building. Gregory told the Commission that they still need a consensus on color samples.

The commission discussed adding a hand washing station to the pavilion with Gregory.

Gregory then announced that the Pavilion's completion date is set for June 7, 2021 but would like to have an event on June 4, 2021 to officially announce its completion.

Berea Farmers Market- Rene Poitra:

Poitra from the Berea Farmers Market, introduced herself to the Commission and thanked them for letting the Farmers Market use the Pavilion.

Poitra then went over some history about the Berea Farmers Market, presented some marketing data from the past year, and went over the local programs that the Farmers Market is involved in, such as the Children's Nutritional Program. This program is associated with Food Stamps, where children are not currently in school, they receive a card to purchase food with, and this card can be used at the Berea Farmers Market.

Directors Report- Donna Angel:

(A full copy of the directors report is on record in the minutes book)

Donna Angel gave the Commission an overview on what the Business and Tourism Development Staff have been working on over the past month.

Tourism Operations Manager- Donna Angel:

Donna Angel started the conversation regarding moving forward with filling the Tourism Operations Manager Position.

After going over and discussing the job description, Charles Arnold made a motion to move forward with the interview process, and select Donna Angel to expedite the process, invite the Mayor and City Personnel, such as Human Resources to be involved in the hiring process, and ask David Gregory to advertise the position with all of the resources that he has. Charles Saunders Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Charles Arnold then amended the motion to add David Gregory to the list of people to invite to be involved in the hiring process. Linda Ross Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mountain Bike Trail- Steve Caudill:

Steve Caudill presented his ideas and the layout for the Berea Mountain Bike Trail to the Commission.

Caudill explained all of the different tourism opportunities that the Mountain Bike Trail could potentially bring to Berea, and how it would benefit both tourists and locals.

The current bid for the Mountain Bike Trail is \$101,000 total.

Caudill proposed for the Berea Tourism Commission to add \$75,000 in their amended budget on March 2, 2021 for the first reading by the Berea City Council. Caudill reiterated that this would be a Berea Tourism project, and there would be signs at the Mountain Bike Trail, giving credit to Berea Tourism.

David Gregory and Steve Caudill then explained to the Commission that they need a general consensus on their thoughts as a Commission regarding funding the Mountain Bike Trail.

Rick Thomas made a motion for the Commission to have a work session to review current projects and funding specifically for the Berea Mountain Bike Trail. Charles Saunders Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commission agreed to communicate with Donna Angel regarding setting up a time and date for this work session.

Motion to Adjourn

Rick Thomas made a motion to adjourn; Laura Carpenter Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:47PM.