

**TOURISM EXPENDITURE REVIEW COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 8, 10 a.m. via Conference Call**

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members in Attendance (either in-person or via conference call): Dan Blumenstock, Doug McFarland, Toni Nance, Mark Nix, Ed Riggs, Tony Tam, John Taylor, Spencer Wetmore, Olivia Young

Staff in Attendance: Damita Holcomb, TERC Staff.

Guests in Attendance: Jason Rapp, SC Arts Commission. Current SCAC recommendation to the Governor to fill TERC vacancy.

CALL TO ORDER /ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS/UPDATES:

1. Call to Order: Chairman Ed Riggs called the meeting to order.

2. Minutes: Doug McFarland made a motion to approve the minutes from the TERC meeting on March 2, 2020. Dan Blumenstock seconded and minutes were approved.

3. Committee Vacancies: Toni Nance gave an update that she had contacted the Governor's office earlier in 2020 regarding committee vacancies for SC Arts Commission (who has recommended Jason Rapp to the Governor's Office) and the vacancy left by Kevin Yokim who is recommended by the SC Association of Counties. Ms. Nance stated that most activities with the Governor's office has been redirected to Covid actions.

4. Website Re-design: Damita Holcomb announced that TERC now has a new website design. The web address remains the same at www.atax.sc.gov but the new design will allow us to upload and edit content.

5. Statehouse Updates:- Toni Nance updated the Committee and reminded TERC members that this update was for informational purposes only. She reported on Accelerate SC, which is the Governor's Covid action advisory team. There has been some discussion that local accommodations tax and local hospitality tax should be diverted to local governments specifically for the use of boosting the local economy. Ms. Nance reported that no actions have been finalized regarding this. There was some discussion among Committee members about the use of these taxes and in some cases in order to receive federal relief funds government must show that they have used local funds or have a local match.

6. Communication with Local Governments Regarding Covid Shutdown: Mrs. Holcomb conveyed to the Committee that she has received many questions from local governments about whether or not the statute will be changed because of Covid. An email was sent by TERC to local governments telling them the options that are currently part of the statute (carrying forward funds and having two years to spend funds).

Review of 2020 Reporting Forms

TERC asked for more information from the following, including questions about 30 percent and 65% funding, mathematical errors, additional information to determine validity of funding and

the local governments' accommodations tax committee list and composition. **After receiving the additional information, TERC members approved the reporting forms:**

Reviewed and Questioned by Olivia Young and and John Taylor: City of Aiken, City of Anderson, Beaufort County , City of Beaufort, Bluffton, Greer, Jasper County, Lancaster County, Newberry, Newberry County, City of North Augusta, Oconee County, Seneca, Simpsonville, Traveler's Rest, York, York County.

Reviewed and Questioned by Mark Nix:

Blythewood, Cayce, Cheraw, Cherokee County, Lexington County.

Reviewed and Questioned by Daniel Blumenstock and Tony Tam:

City of Clinton, Conway, Darlington County, City of Dillon, Easley, Fort Mill, Georgetown County, City of Georgetown, Hartsville, City of Orangeburg,

Reviewed and Questioned by Douglas McFarland, Edward Riggs and Spencer Wetmore:

Berkeley County, City of Charleston, Charleston County, City of Chester, Town of Edisto Beach, Isle of Palms, Kiawah Island, Moncks Corner, Mount Pleasant, Walterboro.

Review of 2020 Forms Not Reviewed in March. The Team questioned various items as noted below but after receiving additional information approved these forms:

Reviewed by Ed, Spencer and Doug:

Goose Creek (report approved); Summerville (Team questioned various festivals)

Reviewed by Dan, Tony:

Chesterfield (report approved) Florence County (report approved), Orangeburg County (need to find more lodging people for committee.

Reviewed by Mark Nix: The Town of Springdale asked TERC to allow them to carry forward \$87,000 for park improvements. Mark Nix made a motion that TERC allow them to carry forward the funds. The motion was seconded by Dan Blumenstock and approved by the full Committee.

Reviewed by Olivia and John:

Greenwood County (report approved), Ridgeland (TERC questioned a motor coach benefit put on by the Chamber) Pickens County (report approved)

The next meeting of the Committee will be determined after reports are received and processed by TERC staff.

There being no other business, Spencer Wetmore made a motion to adjourn with Doug McFarland making a second to the motion. The full committee approved the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Damita S. Holcomb