



MINUTES

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 1, 2021

Zoom - Public Telephone Access: (206) 337-9723 or (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID No. 878 4414 8197

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Meeting - 1:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Council Liaison Terry Christensen called the regular Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Attendance:

Council Member Terry Christensen and Committee members, Douglas (Gus) Sako, Lara Watkins, and Sara Davis. Lucero-Montano was absent.

Also, remotely present were Staff Liaison Hollie Logan, Communications and Marketing Manager, Gail Everett, Communication and Marketing Specialist, Hannah Throop, Executive Assistant, Brandon Allen, Finance Director and Ryan Brimacombe, Accountant.

Approval of Minutes:

1. October 10, 2019 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Sako moved and Davis seconded the motion to approve the October, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion carried 4-0.

Budget Overview

2. 2021 Budget

Communications and Marketing Manager, Logan provided an overview of the 2021 available funds and projected 2022 funds. After reviewing and discussing the budget, Ms. Logan requested a transfer of \$300,000 from the second 2% into the first 2% to adequately fund 2021 funding requests.

Sako moved and Christensen seconded the motion to transfer \$300,000 from second 2% to the first 2%. The motion carried 4-0.

New Business

Deliberation and Allocation for 2021 Funds

Christensen requested that the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) review and discuss each application, and to approve requests by a single motion. The committee concurred.

1. Allied Arts Association - Requested \$5,000. Recommended \$5,000.

Project: Art in the Park – Outside the Region Marketing

2. City of Richland - Requested \$6,500. Recommended \$6,500.

Project: 2021 Geocoin Challenge

3. Northwest Power Boat Association – Requested \$17,500. Recommended \$17,500.

Project: Richland Regatta

4. Richland Public Facilities District – Requested \$7,500. Recommended \$7,500.

Project: Marketing for Cultural Tourism

5. Stephens Media Group – Requested \$10,000. Recommended \$5,000.

Project: Live@5 Concert Series

After discussions, there was consensus to approve 50% of the funding request.

6. The Rude Mechanicals – Requested \$10,000. Recommended \$2,500

Project: Shakespeare in the Park

7. Three Rivers Folklife Society - Requested \$4,000. Recommended \$4,000.

Project: 2021 Tumbleweed Music Festival

8. Time of Remembrance – Requested \$15,000. Recommended \$15,000.

Project: 2021 Time of Remembrance Event

9. Tri-Cities Sunrise Rotary Charity Club – Requested \$10,000. Recommended \$10,000.

Project: See3Slam

10. Tri-Cities Water Follies – Requested \$15,000. Recommended \$15,000.

Project: Unlimited Hydroplane Racing - The Columbia Cup

11. West Richland Chamber of Commerce – Requested \$18,800. Recommended \$18,800

Project: Cool Desert Nights

12. 2020 Pro-Am Circuit Event – Requested \$15,000. Recommended \$15,000.

Project: Wild West Bass Tournament

After discussing each application, a final motion was made by Christensen and seconded by Sako to approve Live@5 for \$5,000 and Rude Mechanicals for \$2,500 and fund the remaining requests at their requested amount. The motion carried 4-0.

Capital Improvement Projects

1. City of Richland – Requested \$20,000. Funded \$20,000.

Project: RPD Range and Training Facility Upgrades

LTAC discussed the funding request. Christensen conferred with Finance Director, Allen regarding the itemized list.

MOTION: Christensen moved and Sako seconded the motion to approve the entire funding request. The motion carried 4-0.

2. Friends of Badger Mountain – Requested \$110,000. Funded \$110,000

Project: Ice Age Floods Interpretive Trail

After discussions were held, project manager David Comstock was contacted to obtain definitive information and confirmation regarding the transfer of deed to the City of Richland. It was also confirmed that a ten-year trail maintenance agreement will be in place with the City of Richland.

MOTION: Christensen moved and Sako seconded the motion to approve the entire funding request. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Richland Babe Ruth Baseball Association – Requested \$719,000. Funded \$0

Project: Installing Turf on Four Infields

LTAC carefully reviewed and discussed this request in detail and provided suggestions to share with the applicant. LTAC denied funding for this request.

4. Horn Rapids Motor Sports – Requested \$300,000. Recommended \$300,000

Project: Stadium and Track Lighting

MOTION: Christensen moved and Sako seconded the motion to approve the entire funding request. The motion passed 4-0.

5. Tri-City Kart Club (TCKC) – Requested \$367,500. Funded \$367,500.

Project: Track Expansion

MOTION: Sako moved and Christensen seconded the motion to approve the entire funding request. The motion carried 4.0.

Christensen requested Staff to provide an end of year report to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee to review results generated by the granted projects and to aid in future requests.

Christensen adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

Approved: Terry Christensen
Council Liaison Christensen

Minutes Prepared By: Hollie Logan
Hollie Logan, Communications & Marketing Manager

Date Approved: April 19, 2021