

**St. Michaels Tourism Board**

**Public Meeting Minutes**

**October 20, 2009**

**Present:**

Bonnie Booth, Helen Van Fleet, Rosemary Fasalo, Debbi Dodson, Advisor, Talbot County Office of Tourism, Administrative Clerk Sabrenia Yohn, and one member of the public (John Booth) were present. Chairman Jon Mason, Stuart Parnes, April Dean Whitacre and Angela Eade-Spence were absent.

**Call to Order:**

Member Bonnie Booth called to order the meeting of the St. Michaels Tourism Board at 8:45 a.m. in the meeting room of the Edgar M. Bosley, Jr. Municipal Building (Town Office), 300 Mill Street, St. Michaels, MD.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Because there was not a quorum of members present, the vote to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2009 was deferred to the next regular meeting of the Board which will be held on November 10, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.

**Advertising Update:**

Debbi Dodson opened the discussion, noting that per their request, she had provided to the Commissioners of St. Michaels information regarding advertising expenditures for the Tourism Board. So far for fiscal year 2010, \$71,298.58 had been expended and/or committed for advertising with \$19,104.00 remaining. This information was provided to the Commissioners for their public budget discussions. Mrs. Yohn gave an overview of the Commissioners' budget discussions noting that there had been no decision to cut or reduce funding to the Tourism Board or the Fire Department as funding for these entities is set by Resolution.

**Request for Proposal (RFP) - Photographer:**

Member Rosemary Fasolo said that she had received revisions from Chairman Mason to the draft RFP. She will have a revised version available for review at the next meeting.

**Stories of the Chesapeake/Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Grants:**

Copies of correspondence between Member Stuart Parnes and the Commissioners of St. Michaels were distributed. Mrs. Yohn gave an overview of the Commissioners' position that due to the volume of pending issues and budget constraints, the Commissioners are not in a position to participate in the program at this time. Debbi Dodson gave an overview of the opportunities available to the museums through this program. She agreed to draft a proposal to the Commissioners providing additional information on how the program works and the opportunities available and also suggested possibly inviting Richard Hughes to appear before the Commissioners to discuss the benefits of the program.

**Old Business:**

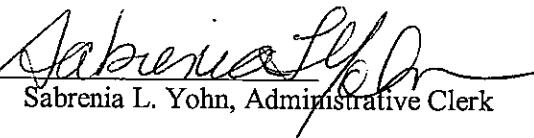
- Gateway Program Update – Member Fasolo advised that additional cards have been printed and the program is proceeding.

**Announcement of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Tourism Board was set for November 10, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Town offices.

**Adjournment:**

Member Fasolo made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Booth seconded the motion which passed on a vote of 6-0 in favor at 8:30 a.m.

Submitted by:   
Sabrenia L. Yohn, Administrative Clerk

Date: 11/19/09