

Meeting Summary
Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC)
July 17, 2019

- TAC Attendees:** Sue Adler, Melinda Allen, Michael Ambrose, Charlie Brazil, Clinton Edminister, Vaughnette Goode- Walker, Bill Lovett, Joe Marinelli, & Michael Owens
- TAC Absences:** Daniel Carey, Mark Dana, & Nichelle Stephens
- City Staff:** Susan Broker, Edward Grant & Rachel Scott
- Guest Attendee:** Mike Naddaeu (Owner of Fleet Feet)

Chair's Report

Chairwoman Melinda Allen opened the meeting by asking for any comments on the May 15, 2019 minutes. The minutes were subsequently passed with no objections.

Special Event Permit Packet and Resource Guide

Eddie Grant prepared packets of the draft Special Event Permit Packet for each committee member to review and help in the editing process. He introduced the Special Event Resource Guide and further explained the proposed Special Event Impact Rating (SEIR). Michael Owens suggested that "if applicable" should be added to the events packet and resource guide and to better clarify "how will the neighbors be informed" when there is an event that will disrupt the area. Clinton Edminister requested a completed sample application for each SEIR.

Michael Owens cautioned there may be an issue with requiring vendor fees and suggested the fees may discourage people from wanting to have events in the city. Owens stated we have to be mindful of increasing fees and the impact on local events.

Tourism Management Plan Update

Responsible Hospitality Institute Proposal

Chairwoman Allen asked if everyone was okay with the Responsible Hospitality Institute (RHI) proposal submitted. All parties support the proposed proposal. Michael Owens spoke about his experience with RHI and said, "the proposal and company would be a great investment." Joe Marinelli mentioned we need a nighttime management plan and posed the question would RHI provide the structure we need to implement the nighttime management plan.

Calendar Demonstration

The Calendar demonstration on today's agenda was tabled and will be discussed next meeting. Susan encouraged everyone to go online and look at the calendar.

Horse Carriage Tour Ordinance

Susan spoke about the Horse Carriage and Tour Service for Hire Ordinances. She made committee aware of the meeting the Office of Special Events, Film, and Tourism had with Speaking Loudly and often for Animals activist group and the Owners of the Horse carriage companies in Savannah. After both meetings a conclusion was made to make no changes to the current Horse Carriage Ordinance. A motion was made by Bill Lovett to keep the ordinance the same without any changes, Michael Ambrose second the motion. All TAC committee members agreed. Susan submitted a memo to City Manager with the recommendation. Melinda will prepare a statement in support of this decision.

Susan touched on the update of the Tour Service for Hire Ordinance and stated the OSEFT is in the middle of redlining it along with the horse carriage and pedicab ordinance. The draft will be sent to members prior to next meeting for review.

Pedicab Changes – Age of Driver, Boundary Extension to Starland Area

There was an overall consensus by TAC members on changing the age to 16 for pedicab operators.

Food Truck Rodeo

Susan proposed changes to the current Food Truck ordinance. Owens mentioned the ordinance is unfair to the food truck owners and the ordinance should reflect the changes in the time period we are in and heading towards. City Market has no business controlling market share and there should be a poll administered; restaurants vs. Food Trucks.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: **August 21, 2019**
 8:30am – 10:00 a.m.
 City Hall Media Room – 2nd Floor