

Board of Director Minutes

Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting November 16, 2007 @ Council Conference Room

Roll Call

Attendees:

David Balfour, Chairman
David Richards, Member
John Lefrancois, Member
Len Clingham, Member
Paul Eno, Member
Robert Cahill, Member
Helen Moroney, Member
Robert Billington, President
Natalie Carter, Director of Operations

Absent:

Louise Boulanger, Member
Sam Butera, Vice-Chairman
Robert Conway, Member
Anthony Capuano, Member
David DePetrillo, Member
Louis Yip, Member
Richard Murphy, Member
Sue Tessier-Mackenzie, Secretary
Jackie Boudreau, Treasurer

2. Minutes

On a MOTION by Robert Cahill seconded by Paul Eno, the Minutes of the September 21st 2007 meeting were approved as submitted. Unanimously approved. (Copies attached)

3. Treasurer's Report

David Balfour explained that the Treasurer was at a conference out of state. On behalf of the Treasurer the following reports were presented. The Profit and Loss statement dated 11/13/07 for the BVTC for the period from July 2007 through September 2007 was presented. The Transaction Detail for the Annual Meeting dated 11/13/07 was presented. On a MOTION by Robert Cahill seconded by Paul Eno, the Treasurer's Reports above were approved as submitted. It was suggested that a thank you letter be sent to Sue Tessier Mackenzie for her success with the Tourism Council Annual Auction.

4. President's Report and Old Business

Mr. Billington updated the Board on the following:

a. The Place Making Conference staged by the Tourism Council's Sustainable Tourism Development Laboratory. The Conference attracted 80 people

b. Boat Operations

The Explorer attracted 500 more people than last year. Several news articles were submitted that drew additional attention to the operations

We are still waiting for a meeting regarding Water Cruises of Rhode Island LLC and Peter Conway of Conway Tours and Navigant Credit Union. The Credit Union would like to help the BVTC financial situation regarding the debt on the boats.

c. Billington updated the Board on an upcoming training of our Volunteers and Dunkin Donut staff at the 295 Visitor Center.

d. A discussion of the Point Counter Point boat coming to the Blackstone Valley was discussed.

5. New Business

a. John Lefrancios and David Balfour suggested that a Committee be formed for next year's Annual Meeting. He suggested we move the meeting to a new location that would suit the Tourism Council better. John Lefrancois suggested that we accept advertising for the Auction Booklet next year to raise more funds.

Billington spoke about the Civic Tourism Conference that we are hosting in October of 2008. The Board was then given a presentation on what the Civic Tourism is.

Dave Balfour was concerned about the fact that many of BVTC's initiations are taken over by others and that they then forget that BVTC should be credited. Geo Tourism is an example.

Dave Richards suggested we continue to do our good work. Other organizations will continue to take the good ideas and we should be prepared to generate even more good ideas.

Paul Eno noted that he met with Len Ladarro of URI recently and Paul raised the question about what we should be doing to hedge ourselves against severe budget cuts. Billington spoke about being prepared for the potential loss of a \$9,000 grant from the state legislature.

6. Adjournment

With no further business before the board, the board adjourned at 1:15 PM upon a motion by Paul Eno and a Second by Dave Richards.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Tessier-Mackenzie
Recording Secretary