

Allegan County Tourist Council



Allegan County Parks, Recreation &
Tourism
3283 122nd Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
269-686-9088
parks@allegancounty.org
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

Chairperson: Jamie Krupka
Vice Chairperson: Chris Dulac

TOURIST COUNCIL MEETING – DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020 @ 10:00am

Virtual Meeting – Connectivity Instructions **Attached**

**Maria
Albright**
269-686-6595
Allegan

Rick Cain
269-774-7918
Shelbyville

Chris Dulac
269-673-4625
Allegan

Matt Helmus
616-355-1031
Holland

Jamie Krupka
616-886-5568
Holland

**Debbie
Laraway**
269-416-0221
Pullman

Tim Perrigo
269-686-0276
Allegan

**Aspen
Shagonaby**
575-770-8671
Plainwell

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Krupka at 10:13am

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Maria Albright, Matthew Helmus, Jamie Krupka, Debbie Laraway, Aspen Shagonaby

Members Absent: Rick Cain, Chris Dulac, Tim Perrigo

Also Present: Brandy Gildea, Ronda Foreman

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman: A nomination was made by Laraway, seconded by Albright to name Jamie Krupka as the Chairman of the Tourist Council.

With no further nominations, a motion was made by Albright, seconded by Shagonaby to elect Jamie Krupka as the Tourist Council Chairman for 2020. The motion carried.

Yes – Albright	Yes – Shagonaby
Yes – Helmus	Absent – Cain
Yes – Krupka	Absent – Dulac
Yes – Laraway	Absent – Perrigo

Vice-Chairman: A nomination was made by Albright, seconded by Laraway to name Chris Dulac as the Vice-Chairman of the Tourist Council.

With no further nominations, a motion was made by Albright, seconded by Laraway to elect Chris Dulac as the Tourist Council Vice-Chairman for 2020. The motion carried.

Yes – Albright	Yes – Shagonaby
Yes – Helmus	Absent – Cain
Yes – Krupka	Absent – Dulac
Yes – Laraway	Absent – Perrigo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Helmus, seconded by Shagonaby to approve the November 19, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Yes – Albright	Yes – Shagonaby
Yes – Helmus	Absent – Cain

Yes – Krupka
Yes – Laraway

Absent – Dulac
Absent – Perrigo

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Laraway, seconded by Albright to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Yes – Albright
Yes – Helmus
Yes – Krupka
Yes – Laraway

Yes – Shagonaby
Absent – Cain
Absent – Dulac
Absent – Perrigo

REVIEW ITEMS:

Financial Statements

Gildea stated the financial reports are in the agenda packet and displayed on the monitor; to date approximately \$1700 has been expended towards advertising. We are partnering again with Shoreline Visitors Guide with features in the Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter editions. Gildea also signed up for Facebook postings and four seasonal e-blasts with WMTA (West Michigan Tourist Association).

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION ITEMS:

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Heritage Trail Project

Gildea stated during the last meeting in November it was discussed to continue work on the Heritage Trail updates and get everything done and budgeted by today's meeting so she could write a proposal for the Board of Commissioners to review as a capital project for 2021. Due to the February meeting being cancelled, Gildea stated it will not be ready to submit for 2021 but we will continue to work towards submitting for 2022; this will give more time and not be rushed to complete.

In the agenda packet is the trail map and all the notes from previous meetings that are up to date. Gildea asked everyone to review for further discussion at the August meeting such as other locations to add or dividing the trail into area loops. We can also start working with groups and municipalities regarding the signage, information, and funding.

Gildea checked into getting a mobile app however they are very expensive and unaffordable so will continue to make the website better with more features; the website is already mobile friendly.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENTS:

- **Vacancy: term expires 12/20**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

ROUND TABLE:

Laraway reports her restaurant is selling a lot of pizzas and is doing well.

Albright reports DNR State Game Area office is closed; people should be directed to call the Plainwell office.

Shagonaby reports the casino is shut-down and the Gun Lake Tribe is making adjustments and working on plans for how to reopen safely; they are watching and following other casinos. They met with Governor Whitmer and will be following her plan for when they should reopen.

Helmus reports that although Tulip Time was canceled, the tulips look wonderful at Windmill Island which is currently open as a public park; there is no charge to enter however the shops, buildings and tours are not open. Just like everyone else, they are making preparations and waiting to see when they will be allowed to fully reopen.

Krupka reports there are live animals at the Outdoor Discovery Center, so still have staff coming in to care for them. A lot of field trips have been canceled however ODC is posting videos online for kids.

Gildea reports County is still open however most employees have been able to work remotely from home. She reports the parks and campgrounds are open however there is no overnight camping or pavilion rentals, and the playgrounds and restrooms are closed. Allegan County is also following the governor's orders and guidelines of when to fully reopen parks and campgrounds.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Helmus, seconded by Laraway to adjourn the meeting at 11:04am. The motion carried.

Yes – Albright	Yes – Shagonaby
Yes – Helmus	Absent – Cain
Yes – Krupka	Absent – Dulac
Yes – Laraway	Absent – Perrigo

Next Meeting – Tuesday, August 18, 2020 @ 10:00 in **Zimmerman Room (Human Service Building – 3255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010)**