

Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority Meeting

**Special Called Meeting
June 28, 2012- Town Hall**

Present: Candy Presley, Deb Heatherly, Ellen Jenkins, Beverly Mason and Summer Woodard (designated by Sam Greenwood.)

Absent: Karen Bacon, Matt Bateman and Vicki Springer

Guests: David Adams – Franklin Police Chief; Danny Bates – Franklin Police Officer; Warren Cabe – Franklin Fire Chief; David Key – Macon County Emergency Services Director; Derek Roland – Franklin Land Use Administrator; Jimmy Teem – Fire Marshall/ Inspector.

Candy Presley called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Discussion on Security and Safety for the Smoky Mountain Bike Rally

Candy Presley stated that the purpose of this meeting is to address any concerns that the Franklin Police Department, Franklin Fire Department, Macon County Emergency Services Department and the Macon County Sheriff's Department have with the 2012 Smoky Mountain Bike Rally.

Warren Cabe - Are you set on the Highlands Road location?

Candy Presley - Yes.

Warren Cabe – How many vendors will be at the event?

Candy Presley – We are not certain how many vendors there will be. We do know that all the food vendors are local. Sylvia Cochran will have a detailed list of vendors by the next Tourism Development Authority board meeting on July 9, 2012.

Beverly Mason – I rode down to the Helen, Georgia bike rally and I did not see anything that called for alarm. However, parking could potential be a problem.

Jimmy Teem – The vendors will need to follow all fire codes. Tents will need to be a certain square footage and generator cords will need to follow fire code. The promoter needs to provide a site map and vendor lay out.

David Key – How many people are you predicting to be at this event?

Candy Presley - We are uncertain how many people will be in attendance at the event. This is a new event. It's hard to gage how many people will come.

David Adams – What is being done about security?

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Candy Presley – Sylvia Cochran is responsible for security. Ms Cochran has hired the Enforcers of Macon County to work security at the event. Ms. Cochran is also working with Detective Brian Leopard with the Macon County Sheriff's Department.

Danny Bates – I called the police chief in Helen, Georgia. He informed me that the only two (2) problems with the bike rally are parking and the noise of bikes. I believe the bigger concern will be any events that happen downtown. Is the Poker Run and Treasure Hunt going to be held downtown?

Candy Presley – We do not know all the details. Sylvia Cochran will have more information about the Poker Run and Treasure Hunt at the next Tourism Development Authority meeting.

Jimmy Teem – I have concerns about restaurants becoming overcrowded. If restaurants exceed their room occupancy level their ABC permit can be revoked. The Macon County Health Department needs to be brought on board. Portable toilets, trash, and food vendors will all need to be discussed with the Health Department.

Beverly Mason – What do we need to tell restaurants?

Jimmy Teem - Tell restaurants that they must maintain their occupancy load at all times. If they fail to do this, this will be a fire code violation. Will alcohol be sold at this event?

Candy Presley - Yes, Sylvia Cochran is responsible for obtaining the permit.

Summer Woodard – I spoke with Sylvia Cochran earlier and at this time she has not be able to obtain an ABC permit.

Ellen Jenkins – Why has Ms. Cochran not obtained an ABC permit yet? Is there anything the Tourism Development Authority board can do to help?

Summer Woodard – Sylvia Cochran informed me that she was unable to obtain an ABC permit because she is a for profit business. The ABC permit is between Ms. Cochran and the State of North Carolina.

David Adams – Is there a special occasion permit that Ms. Cochran could apply for?

Summer Woodard – I emailed Sylvia Cochran all the forms, phone numbers and persons to contact in order to obtain a special occasion permit the day after the June 11, 2012 Tourism Development Authority board meeting.

Candy Pressley – I would like to thank everyone for coming out tonight.

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Next Meeting

The next Tourism Development Authority board meeting will be July 9, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Beverly Mason motioned to adjourn and it was seconded by Ellen Jenkins. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Candy Presley, Chair

Summer Woodard, Town Staff