

Hotel Motel Tax Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

7/10/2019

3:00 - 4:30 PM

SeaTac City Hall Council Chamber

Members Present: Councilmember Stanley Tombs; Brandi Mitchell; Richard

Scherzinger; Jeff Bauknecht; Wendy Morgan

Members Absent: Cathy Heiberg

Staff Present: Steve Pilcher, CED Director; Dan Dang, Economic Development Intern;

Others Present: Katherine Kertzman, SSRTA; Christina Palicka, Boysen & Boysen;

Jim Todd, ACLAC; Rick Forschler, City Council

Commence: 3:05 PM

Adjourn: 4:16 PM

1. Introductions – All	Councilmember Stanley Tombs, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM
2. Review and Approve Minutes of June 12, 2019	⊠Approved as Written
SeaTac Police Department Report	⊠Informational Update No report this month.
4. Seattle Southside Regional Tourism Authority Update	⊠Informational Update Katherine Kertzman clarified that the RTA has not yet asked for funding for the Highline Botanical Garden; there are more issues being explored, particularly with the status of the Port leases. She will be presenting to the Botanical Garden Board this evening.

5. Funding request process	☑ Discussion
	CED Director Pilcher lead a discussion of how to improve the funding process, noting issues of adequate time for evaluating requests, frequency of funding, making payment based upon performance, etc.
	The Committee discussed whether to increase the size of the opportunity bucket fund, perhaps to \$100,000. There was also discussion of how to deal with requests that may surface outside the biennial budget cycle that are of a larger amount than the opportunity bucket.
	Consensus was to increase the size of the bucket to \$100K.
	It was suggested that the rating system should add some preference to events occurring in the "shoulder seasons."
	Discussed whether to have a simpler process for smaller requests, perhaps not requiring a presentation, particularly for new proposals.
	It was noted that the pre-sale of tickets may be a good test to determine the positive impact of an event.
	Staff will firm up the procedures and make them available to the Committee.
6. Announcements	⊠Informational Update
	Wendy Morgan announced the Ice Cream Social to be held at the Botanical Gardens on August 18 at 11:00 a.m.
	Jim Todd related an effort of the ACLAC to recognize the work of Bruce Bickford, a recently deceased, world class claymation artist.
7. Smith Travel Report / WA Department of Revenue Statistics	⊠Informational Update
	General Statistics were presented by Rich Scherzinger. The Committee discussed the problem of conventions avoiding Seattle due to the homeless problem, especially its visibility.
8. City Updates	⊠Informational Update
	Staff noted that over 50% of homes built in the past year included an Accessory Dwelling Unit.
	The Committee discussed the potential impact of AirBnB to hotels and whether it is yet an issue in SeaTac.

9. Other Business	Discussed how people book their travel and lodging in today's economy. Katherine Kurtzman offered to provide information at an upcoming meeting.
10. Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 4:16 PM. The next regular meeting will be held on 8/14/2019 in the City Hall Council Chamber