

Tourism Committee Meeting Minutes 10/19/16

Meeting called to order at 9:05

Members in attendance: Carol Lebreck, Tom Krob, Melissa Sculley, Mike Tremblay. Also in attendance Andrea Babcock.

Motion to approve September minutes and October agenda made by Carol, second by Mike. Motion approved.

A discussion about hosting a tailgate party at Tomahawk Park was conducted. The hope was that the party could coincide with getting the grant was discussed. It was agreed that by the time the grant may be approved it would be too late for the party this fall. Deferred to spring timing. Suggestions about a Geocach activity and a grill out were made. Also deferred to spring.

The question of "How do we involve the businesses and clubs in promoting tourism?" was held. Andrea told the committee that the biggest issue holding back tourism was the casinos. She also said that the businesses like moving or rotating events. Obviously, other issues are the fishing, hunting, etc. that the town faces do not help. Other events were discussed. Suggestions of a fishing tournament, winter poker run, movies in the park, Geocaching, a pickle ball tournament and several others were brought up. No action was taken at this time.

Tom communicated that the new town website is up and running. To access it go to visitbarnes.com.

A separate discussion was held on maybe hosting a Movies/Music in the park set of events next summer. Maybe mix up movies, music etc. It was suggested we try it. No more than 3 evenings would be needed. Possibly have food and beverage vendors there. All members were in favor of the idea. No action at this time.

The Vatten Paddlar for next year was discussed. Barb R had to resign as overall coordinator for personal reasons. She will help the new coordinator when one is selected. A motion was made by Mike, second by Carol to pursue hiring someone to coordinate the event. Salary not to exceed a \$1000. Motion Approved.

The committee discussed belonging to the 3 chambers again. There was consensus on the Iron River chamber. The committee wanted to investigate other ways to use the Cable and Hayward fees and put them to better use.

The committee discussed the budget to be recommended to the Town Board. Tom will follow up with the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55