



## Minutes

The Grover Tourism Development Authority  
May 28, 2013 | 6:00 p.m.

### **All meetings are promulgated publicly as The 4th Tuesday of each month**

1. Call to order – Linda Brackett not present. Martin Mongiello, John Ledford and Bill Willis present. Chair Martin Mongiello, approval and acceptance of April minutes. Second by Bill Willis and voted approved unanimously.
2. Financial Report – Bill Willis submitted Excel sheet report that matches all deposits from occupancy tax turned in. Willis mentioned he needs to be able to go to the bank and get a stamped printout balance sheet to bring to meetings. Also put his name onto any envelopes for him dropped into the night depository. The balance is now \$1774.59 which counts the \$750.00 loan from the town to open the account.
3. OLD BUSINESS for action and report review
  - A. Discussion of the by-laws with review of recent updates. Mongiello promised action item. Willis mentioned we need revision number at the top from now on. Revision six (6) completed by Mongiello and presented. A final clause was changed for expenditures with a safety check and revision seven (7) is to be presented at the June fourth Tuesday meeting.
  - B. New Town Park – advancement toward county. Mongiello/Ledford promised action item. Ledford reported that a purchase of the entire park could be made for 12k or possibly offer such idea as a donation to Mr. Keeter as a tax write-off to get the park opened. He would be given an IRS letter for his accountant. Still hopeful to obtain a donation from some citizen to open the park or a grant or a Kickstarter funding platform.
  - C. Murals – Mr. Clive Haynes contacted on bid and drawings. Mongiello promised action item. Mr. Haynes remains ready and will accept payments for some money down to start.
  - D. Town Welcome Signs – completion commitment. Tricia Willis promised action item. Two of the three new signs are up. The third sign is expected to go up in June.
  - E. Painting of Fire Hydrants. Bill Willis promised action item. Moved to Mongiello for program straw man draft discussion. The basic program is allowed but hydrant caps cannot be painted. Any child with an idea to paint a hydrant should contact the TDA at 704-937-2940.
  - F. Painting and awnings of downtown. Nothing new to report.
  - G. May 26 coverage of impending WW II event on CBS in Grover. Moved to Oct. 26 during the Pumpkin Festival.
  - H. Treatment of accountancy, audit and assessment of extraneous or frivolous billing/budget. It was decided to have Mongiello and Ledford call and discuss audits with Boiling Springs, the NC Local Government Commission (LGC) and the NC Treasurers office for further guidance. Willis questioned the extraneous work caused in accounting by the Grover Pumpkin Festival (GPF) as a separate program and all of the additional work such puts onto the accountant. “Why is the GPF not contributing towards paying the extra work/labor billing that Martin Starnes CPA



firm has to do?” “Yet the town just pays that bill out of its tax base and the TDA is being told to pay \$750.00 for its audit?” Mongiello agreed that no contribution was made by the GPF towards all of the audit work completed by Martin Starnes. Mongiello also mentioned, “It is the legal choice of any NC TDA to select and bid for a third party independent, certified audit of its choice. It is also illegal to give any bill to a TDA that never voted for such expense, intimidate a TDA or intimate that expenses will be incurred for any NC TDA on its behalf – without its knowledge and vote.” This topic was strongly debated.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Escalation of downtown business shops and filling them. Nothing new discussed other than Mr. Keeter would like to sell his one building along with the park (cost would be higher). That might be a terrific fit for a gift shop with coffee shop and Wi-Fi node next to the park all felt. Bill Willis mentioned that the Grover Women’s Club has wanted to open a huge thrift shop. Mongiello mentioned this would be terrific.

#### 5. Items from the Board

- A. Ledford mentioned that a special meeting to approve the budget needs to occur soon so we have something to go from, as the Auditor needs a budget to look at.
- B. Utilization of a bonded money handler and collector may be needed by law. The minimum General Statute is a bond for 50k in NC. We are awaiting a final answer from the LGC in July.

#### 6. Announcements

- A. Next Meeting always the 4th Tuesday of the month at town hall, 6 pm.
- B. Grover inn and museum featured in ABC news online blog and front page of Jackson Sun.
- C. Upcoming bus tour to Grover, August 14 to the museum, national park and restaurant.
- D. Upcoming TV coverage of Grover on May 26 on CBS TV (updated date from CBS TV).
- E. Upcoming film debut and release in fall of 2013 of Alone Yet Not Alone Hollywood motion picture that several Grover residents supported including the Grover based American Revolutionary War Living History Center (ARWLHC).
- F. Upcoming Grover Town Hall being used on June 15 for President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill, swing band and swing dancers with The Andrews Sisters and Letters from Home tap dancers and singers. Moved to the GPF in October.
- G. Upcoming Grover Pumpkin Festival

7. Adjourn – the motion was made by Mongiello and seconded by Willis. Passed unanimous.