

**CLAYTON COUNTY TOURISM AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Damon T. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. Beth Bailey conducted the roll call.

II. ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Damon T. Williams	Chairman	Present	
Miyoshi Bourget	Board Member	Present via Zoom	
Lynda Browning	Vice Chair	EXCUSED Absence	
Myla Chapman	Board Member	Present via Zoom	
Tonya Clarke	Board Member	Present	
Gabe Johnson	Board Member	Present via Zoom	
Bud Smith	Board Member	Present	

Staff: Tamara Patridge, Executive Director; Beth Bailey, Special Projects Manager/Interim Finance Manager

Board Attorney not present: No legal matters for board discussion

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA/CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

1. August 2021

FINANCIAL REPORT

1. June 2021
 - a. Tourism Authority
 - b. Convention & Visitors Bureau

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve, Tonya Clarke; second, Gabe Johnson. Unanimous approval.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Fiscal Year 2020 CVB Audit Report

- a. Presentation by Fulton & Kozak CPAs/Auditors
 - i. Auditor Dan Soles provided a copy of annual financial audit to each board member and delivered the results of the annual audit of the financial operations of the Clayton County Convention & Visitors Bureau for fiscal year ending 2020
 - 1. Provided printed report to Board members with verbal overview of each area
 - 2. As recorded in printed report, Auditor final opinion recorded that CVB met all audit standards and that “financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Clayton County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc., as of June 30, 2020 and 2019, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”
 - 3. Mr. Soles thanked CVB staff for their cooperation in providing documents in a timely manner over the months-long audit process.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Grant Public Relations Update

a. Ms. Patridge reported that each grantee has begun to promote their grant awards via social media. Newman Wetlands Center posted via Facebook and shared story of visitor with a disability who expressed gratitude for soon being able to move about the grounds with greater ease. The Georgia Archives displayed their grant check in their lobby for visitors to view. Ms. Patridge was contacted by an employee of the Clayton County Library System, who is also an avid history buff, expressing his thanks for the support of the Archives, which will benefit users of the facility such as himself. Arts Clayton made posts to inform their followers on social media.

2. Short-Term Rentals, Effects of House Bill 317

a. Ms. Patridge reported that within the first month of the new state law (effective July 1, 2021), Clayton County Government collected \$40,000 in revenue. The Tourism Authority’s restricted portion is \$25,000; the Clayton County Board of Commissioner’s unrestricted portion is \$15,000.00 which is currently used to fund Economic Development.

b. Member Bourget asked if there was a decrease in hotel motel tax in Clayton County hotels since the inception of the bill. Ms. Patridge explained that hotel motel tax revenue was not affected as the short-term rental tax is an additional tax that did not previously exist so it will add to the revenue that traditional hotel motel tax currently generates. Ms. Bourget asked if any Clayton County hotels were receiving guests fleeing from areas affected by Hurricane Ida. Ms. Patridge replied that the hotels had not reported an influx of guests from areas hard hit, but that once more data could be gathered, she would inquire with hotel leadership.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT AND GENERAL DISCUSSION (Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes)

1. Chairman Williams requested that the Tourism Authority purchase a table for Clayton County Chairman Jeffrey Turner's Annual International Ball. Chairman Williams also requested that the Tourism Authority purchase a table for the Arts Clayton Annual Arte' Gras Fundraising Event. Motion to purchase a table for Chairman Turner's International Ball in the amount of \$1,850.00. Motion made by Member Myla Chapman; second Tonya Clarke; unanimous approval. Motion to purchase a table for Arte' Gras in the amount of \$2,500.00. Motion made by Member Tonya Clarke; second Bud Smith; unanimous approval.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No matters of real estate, legal, or personnel for discussion.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

1. Motion Tonya Clarke; second Bud Smith; unanimous approval
2. Meeting ended at 5:26 p.m.