

Louisville Tourism Commissioners June 2023 Special Called Meeting

June 29, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. hosted by Videoconference at Louisville Tourism, 401 West Main Street, Suite 2300, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

Commissioners Present:

Sarah Robbins, Chair
David Greene, Vice Chair
Chris Poynter, Secretary & Treasurer
George Stinson
Guy Genoud
Laura Douglas
Ryan Bridgeman
David Beck
Scott Shoenberger

LT STAFF & GUESTS

Cleo Battle, Doug Bennett, Chris Kipper, Sonia Fong, Nicole Twigg, Stacey Yates, Zack Davis, Mike Shull, Frost Brown Todd, and recording secretary, Stephanie Skinner.

CHAIR WELCOME AND REPORT

Chair Sarah Robbins called the June Special Called Meeting to order at 10:00am. Upon asking for a motion to accept the May 18, 2023, meeting minutes as written. **David Greene** made the motion; **Guy Genoud** seconded. **Motion carried.**

GLLMD COMMISSION – REVENUE COLLECTION

Cleo Battle and Chris Kipper shared a detailed overview regarding the revenue collection startup costs. **Mike Shull, Attorney with Frost Brown Todd** was also asked to share from a legal standpoint on the matter.

The Greater Louisville Lodging Management District (“District”) is authorized to collect certain monies to be spent pursuant to its mandate by Louisville Metro. However, a certain amount of expense must necessarily be incurred while collecting several million dollars in initial assessments. As the District is newly created, it currently possesses no current funds available for the effort of collecting the larger pool of initial assessment funds. Additionally, the ordinance creating the District prohibits it from entering into contracts without appropriate authorization from Louisville Metro Council via its approval of the District’s annual budget. That is, the District currently has no assessment collection mechanism or agent, nor any ability to retain one, nor the initial funding to retain one. The Louisville Metro Revenue Commission has agreed to act as the District’s collection agent, provided the District pays for the creation of a collection database/system that Metro Revenue or its agent can operate. Metro Revenue has spoken with an existing vendor and suggests that this database/system will cost around \$315,000 to design and construct.

Louisville Tourism Commissioners June 2023 Special Called Meeting

To address this initial problem, and in order to facilitate the collection of said monies and allow the District to fulfill its purpose, the District has approached Louisville Tourism and requested that Louisville Tourism advance the funding, up to \$325,000.00, and either 1) directly engage a vendor already approved and utilized by Louisville Metro Revenue to build and create software and infrastructure that will allow the Metro Revenue Commission to collect its assessments from Jefferson County property owners as authorized by statute, or 2) reimburse the Louisville Metro Revenue Commission if they engage the vendor directly. The District has already passed a motion and resolution to this effect on Monday, June 26, 2023, whereby the District resolves to repay Louisville Tourism for the funds it advances in this effort, and to include it in the District's first annual budget plan to be approved by the Louisville Metro Council. After some discussion.

Chair Robbins, do I hear a motion that Louisville Tourism agree to advance up to \$325,000 at the District's request and on its behalf, for the creation of a system designed for the collection of the Greater Louisville Lodging Management District's assessments, with the advancement to take the form of either 1) direct payment to a vendor as requested by the District and Louisville Metro Revenue or 2) reimbursement to the Louisville Metro Revenue Commission for its payment to a vendor for the system, and based upon and in reliance upon the resolution from the District that repayment of these funds will be included in the District's first annual budget, and paid promptly once that budget is approved by the Louisville Metro Council and funds are available to the District. The motion was made by **Laura Douglas**. Seconded by **Scott Shoenberger**. **Motion Carried.**

***David Greene** abstained from vote due to his seat on both boards.

Chair Robbins called on Laura Douglas, Chair of the Nominating Committee to report on their last meeting on June 19, 2023.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Laura Douglas reported the recommendations that were made for the 23/24 Fiscal Year Officers of the Louisville Tourism Commission. One of the recommendations made for an office position on this board, also serves as a member of the Nominating Committee, so the recommendations were done in two separate votes, to allow him an opportunity to vote on the other two officer positions. The recommendation I am putting forth for a vote is David Greene as the incoming Chair and Kate Latts as the incoming Vice-Chair, for 23/24 Fiscal Year. A board member requested additional discussion on the motion. After discussion, **Laura Douglas** called for a vote. **David Greene** asked to be recused from the final vote. **Motion Carried.**

Laura Douglas presented the last recommendation of **Chris Poynter** as Treasurer/Secretary for 23/24 Fiscal Year. ***Chris Poynter** requested to be recused from the final vote. **Motion Carried.**

During the discussion it was agreed that the process of nomination, terms and expiration dates of Commissioners be reviewed and researched to make sure any nomination put forth is done by the statute put in place for this Commission—Robert's Rule of Order is only used as a guide to manage meetings.

Louisville Tourism Commissioners June 2023 Special Called Meeting

Mike Shull, Attorney will review, and report back any information and/or feedback to the Commission, so there is no more confusion moving forward on the process.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sarah Robbins called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by **Laura Douglas**. Seconded by **Scott Shoenberger**. *Motion carried.* Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Recording Secretary Stephanie Skinner

Minutes approved by:



Chair Sarah Robbins



Secretary/Treasurer Chris Poynter