

TOURISM COMMITTEE
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2016 @ 5:00 p.m.
Oconto City Hall, Council Chambers

Mission Statement: The Committee shall foster ideas for improving existing facilities and programs to attract tourists to our community. Our purpose is to promote our various community attractions, encourage all community businesses and community based organizations to participation, and assist in the sound development of our tourist facilities of our city.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Feldt at 5:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Diane LeBreck, Jean Feldt, Doug Thompson, Ron Hayes; Advisory Member Dale Mohr

Absent: Tracey Bostedt, Alternate Member John Whittkopf

Excused: Alternate Member Nathan Figueira

Also Present: Bob LeBreck

3. **Thompson moved for approval of agenda as presented. Hayes seconded. (5 Ayes)**

4. **Approval of minutes from the 8/8/16 meeting was moved by Thompson with a second from Hayes. (5 Ayes)**

5. Public Input/Correspondence: Preceding the meeting, Hayes announced the successful but rainy day Convertible Car activity on 8/20/16. It included conversation between attendees and car owners, participation in our local economy, free coffee and doughnuts provided by The Garage, free water, and local food vending. A thank you letter to Hayes/Chamber included compliments on our City/Community/Chamber leadership, preparations made, and that this was one of their most memorable places visited.

6. Discussion/recommendation/updates/progress reports on the following:

Review of the Algoma Report began with direction to prioritize our focus. History of the project was presented by Mohr. It included a summary of our Algoma report and their summary and recommendations to Oconto. RV rental could be an idea for us to focus in on here as lodging is minimal.

Hayes mentioned an issue brought to his attention: After 3 p.m., Sundays, there is no one present at Holtwood to rent out our recreational “toys”. He has an idea to amend that. Next, the Committee agreed it prime to get Main Street thriving... and for young people too. It was noted, to the positive, that the pizza place is returning and that a boutique is moving in. Another Algoma suggestion was to dress up our store fronts/windows. NOTE: Business owners pay by the size of their signs; this should be investigated.

Among Committee suggestions was signage for the Harbor (which will include golf cart/speed limit warnings) and that the Harbor has two entrances. It is of strong agreement that we get the north bound road speed limit lowered.

Hayes suggested we resurrect a “things to do” booklet here in Oconto.

Neighborhoods need a cleanup. Updating homes is a New Cap concern according to its new Executive Director. There is even a fund and paint available.

Thompson brought us back to task by identifying pg. 3 of the Algoma Report holding the top issues with which we must deal:

1. Improvement of the downtown
2. An Oconto map/guide/activity guide*
3. Our gems

* could be committee driven

7. Next Regular Meeting Date: TBA @ Holtwood Park Pavilion

8. Agenda Items: Golf Cart Trail

Gift Store Ideas on River Walkway

Roundabout Ideas

Dick Doren/Copper Nugget Idea

9. Adjournment was summoned by Thompson @ 6:40 p.m. with the support of a call from LeBreck. (M/C)

Minutes submitted by

Susan K. Seidl