

MINUTES  
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
PUTNAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
PALATKA, FL  
MAY 17, 2022

**Present:** Chairman Pickens, G. Bacon, T. Hill, J. Hodge, M. Myers, T. Smith, and staff D. Jones, and J. Linton.

**Absent:** B. DiCarlo and K. Valentine

**Others Present:** Don Holmes and Lauren Shank

**I. Call to Order.** Chair Pickens called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and thanked those in attendance. He gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Coordinator D. Jones conducted roll call and established there was a quorum.

**II. Matters Requiring Action.**

**A. Minutes.** The minutes of the March 9, 2022 meeting were presented for approval.

ACTION: Motion J. Hodge, second T. Hill to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2022 meeting as presented.

**CARRIED.**

**B. FY 2021/2022 Event Application from the City of Palatka for the Blue Crab Festival.** Officials representing the Blue Crab Festival presented an application for \$10,000 for consideration for an Arts & Culture grant. Jones reminded the Council that all funds in Category A, Events and Activities and Category B, Arts & Culture have been expended for the 2021/2022 budget year, but funds were available Category C, Promotions & Advertising/Large Events, should they want to approve the request. Chair Pickens announced that the Board of County Commissioners requested him to call a meeting to address additional funding for the festival. City Manager Don Holmes and Finance Director Lauren Shank gave a brief overview of the events that would take place during the festival and the cost of the entertainment stating that TDC funds, if awarded, would be used to pay for the entertainment.

ACTION: Motion Hodge, second Bacon to fund the requested amount of \$10,000 (Arts & Culture) for the City of Palatka Blue Crab Festival from Category C, Promotions & Advertising/Large Events 2021-22 budget.

**CARRIED.**

**T. Hill Reclused.**

**III. Coordinators Comments**

Coordinator Jones announced February bed tax collections were second highest of any other month and March come in just over, making it the highest month to date for bed tax revenues. Jones said this resulted from high occupancy rates and increased room costs from the Bass Elite event, two baseball tournaments, numerous golf tournaments and Seminole temporary workers.

**IV. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, Chairman Pickens thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Cameron Jones, Coordinator  
Putnam County Tourist Development Council