

## **Tourism Advisory Board Meeting/ Meeting Agenda**

**Tuesday, June 22 – 8:30 a.m.**

**Meeting Call to Order: Judy Heinmiller**

**Roll Call: Present** - Judy Heinmiller, Gregg Johnson, Juanita Lidholm, Michael Ahmuty

**Absent** - John Hunt, Jeff Butcher, Jason Gaffney

**Also Present** - Lori Stepansky, Brad Maynard, Mark Earnest

**Approval of excused or unexcused absences:** Hunt – excused, Butcher and Gaffney - unexcused

**Approval of May Minutes:** Johnson motioned to approve. Lidholm seconded; all approved

**Public Comments:** Maynard reported to the board the permits needed for the waterfront project had not yet been received as Coeur had additional questions. He stated they were waiting approval from the State and the bid process had been extended to July 1; more would be known today. Heinmiller thanked Borough Manager Earnest for the new street flags; Earnest credited the Centennial Committee. Earnest also told the board other positive efforts for the community had been accomplished: work on bathrooms had been completed, disposable doggy bags stations for pet owners have been put in place, cigarette disposal containers and bear-proof garbage cans have been purchased and will be placed around town with focus on the waterfront, and centennial banners are in place around town. Discussion followed regarding improvements to roads.

**Approval of Agenda:** Johnson motioned to approve. Lidholm seconded; all approved.

**President's Report:** Chair Heinmiller commented on the signage project for town. Borough Manager, Earnest, noted DOT permission is needed for some locations chosen. Discussion followed regarding permits, location, removing signs for winter, and safety issues.

**New Business:** ***Cruise Ship Head Tax (Board member Johnson requested this topic be added to the agenda)***

Johnson stated he wanted to discuss the use of cruise ship head tax funds for the Harriett Hall project citing concern about the conflict of interest for what head tax was being used for in other areas of the state. Johnson stated he thought the decision of the Borough Assembly to use head tax funds should be reconsidered. Borough Manager, Earnest, commented he would be recommending to the Assembly to have the funds for the project come from the two sources other than the head tax revenue but noted it would be up to the Assembly to decide. Discussion followed regarding funding sources.

**Old Business:** Lidholm reported on efforts of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee including efforts for the community picnic in August and the theme being included in to July 4<sup>th</sup>

activities. Discussion followed regarding details of the community picnic and timelines for the celebration theme.

**Directors Update: Haines Visitor Survey**

Stepansky reported on the project of the survey and noted many of the forms returned so far indicated the source for finding out about Haines was the Milepost. Stepansky commented there were other interesting sources and was looking forward to seeing results at the end of the season.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** – Stepansky noted Lidholm had already reported on the progress.

**Board Comments:** Lidholm commented on the article in the Chilkat Valley News and expressed finding it upsetting and disturbing as well as concerns for what could happen to someone making comments about issues in the community. Lidholm also stated she didn't understand why the article was written as the issues had been discussed at previous board meetings. Lidholm and Johnson additionally commented the article in Haines News.net was well written and noted the important points. Discussion followed regarding the newspaper article being a personal attack and lack of good journalism and letters being made public.

**Set Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 – 8:30 a.m.  
**Assembly Chambers, Public Safety Building**

**Motion to adjourn:** Lidholm motioned to adjourn. Johnson seconded; all approved.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.